

GALLERIA VALENTINABONOMO

RÄ DI MARTINO

“The cities of bolo”

introduced by Lorenzo Benedetti



February 22nd - April 2nd 2022

Via del portico d'Ottavia 13, Rome

PRESS RELEASE

Galleria Valentina Bonomo is proud to announce the opening of Rä di Martino's solo exhibition *Le città di Bolo* (The Cities of Bolo) introduced by Lorenzo Benedetti on 22 February 2022 at the Portico d'Ottavia from 12 to 9 p.m.

Right from her earliest works Rä di Martino (Rome, 1975) has focused her interest on the relationship between reality and fiction, and the absurdity of their representation. Drawing on her background in theatre and cinema, di Martino analyses the mechanisms behind make-believe in order to lay them bare and test their resistance when their deception is exposed. Through an articulated production of photographic and video work and with the help of a substantial literary and musical repertoire of citations and literary references, the artist observes the relationship that memory and the private and mental dynamics of the contemporary individual establish with the low culture spread by the media.

Le città di Bolo holds a series of surprises for the visitor. With the site-specific project at Portico d'Ottavia, Rä di Martino presents a planetary system simply made with beams of light and old cannonballs on which imaginary cities are painted with bolus (clay used in gilding to emphasise the brightness of the metal leaf).

Also on display are works from the *Allunati* cycle in which Rä di Martino investigates and reworks the moonscape in a wholly original way. The lunar surfaces no longer narrate an epic conquest but a familiar, everyday reality. Simple geometric shapes and human figures of gold are inserted into the emptiness of the landscapes.

VIA DEL PORTICO D'OTTAVIA 13 ROMA
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GALLERIA VALENTINABONOMO

BIOGRAPHY

Rä di Martino (Rome, 1975) studied at Chelsea College of Arts and the Slade School of Fine Art in London then lived in New York between 2005 and 2010. she currently lives and works in Rome. She has exhibited in Italy and abroad at MOMA-PS1 New York, Palazzo Grassi, Fondazione Sandretto, MACRO in Rome, Mart in Rovereto, HANGAR|BICOCCA, Museum of Contemporary Arts of Chicago, the Bronx Museum, Artists Space NY and in exhibitions such as the Mardin Biennial, Busan Biennial, Turin Triennial and Manifesta. She has participated in international festivals including Festival del film Locarno, VIPER Basel, Transmediale, New York Underground Film Festival, Kasseler Dokfest and Turin Film Festival and participated with the medium length docufilm "The Show MAS Go On" at the Venice Film Festival in 2014 winning the SIAE Award and the Gillo Pontecorvo Award, the docufilm also received a special mention at Salina DocFest, a Nastro D'argento for best docufilm 2015. In 2017 she participated again in the Venice International Film Festival with her first feature film "Controfigura" with which she won the Eurimages Lab Award in the same year and was selected for the Nastro D'argento for best docufilm 2018. In 2018/2019 she developed the video installation AFTERALL with the support of the Mibac – Italian Council award in collaboration with the Fondazione Volume! with two exhibitions at the Mattatoio in Rome and the Kunstmuseum St. Gallen (2020). In 2020 she participated in the following exhibitions: Metamorphoses Overdrive, Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, Zurich; Wall Eyes: Looking at Italy and Africa, Auditorium Parco della Musica, Rome; Swimming Pool-Troubled Waters, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin; Around the World in 128 Minutes, Townsend, New York; Loneliness at the Time of Covid, Spatiu Intact, Cluj Napoca; Unstilled Life Artist Animations 1980-2020, Ron Mandos Gallery, Amsterdam; Stardust: Convergence - 5 Exhibitions, American Academy in Rome, Rome. In 2021: Il sogno di Antonio, Fondazione Ratti, Como; Io dico io, Galleria Nazionale D'arte Moderna, Rome; Io poeto tu, MACRO, Rome; Around the World in 83 Minutes, Harabel, Tirana. In 2022 she will participate to: the group show The Floating Collection, Mambo, Bologna; solo show on Carmelo Bene archive at Otranto; Museo Castromediano Lecce /Torre Matta, Otranto; a retrospective show at Forte Belvedere, Florence; "What a wonderful world" at MAXXI Museum in Rome.

Thanks to:

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Opening hours:

Tue– Sat h. 3PM - 7PM or by appointment