

NAKED FIGURES, DRESSED FIGURINES Dominik Lang

opening: 09.10.2015, h.6.30 pm

10.10.2015 – 05.12.2015

The Gallery Apart, Via Francesco Negri 43, Roma

The Gallery Apart is proud to present the second solo exhibition by **Dominik Lang**, who two years ago inaugurated the current gallery space in the Ostiense neighborhood with a monumental work that beautifully captured and exalted the internal geometries of the gallery architecture, thanks to a language and to a research committed to the interpretation of space and time through works always physically framed in a given context and evocative of experiences and personalities from the past. Arrived in Rome on the wave of the great success of *The Sleeping City*, the large-scale installation presented in the Czech and Slovak Pavilion during the 54th Venice Biennale, between the first and the second Roman shows Lang debuted an impressive series of exhibitions in well-known public and private institutions worldwide, such as the solo shows hosted at the National Gallery in Prague, at the MUMA in Melbourne, at INHOTIM's Galeria Lago in Belo Horizonte, at the Czech Center New York, at the Kunsthau Dresden.

Naked Figures, Dressed Figurines - the title of the exhibition – suggests a new slight, though meaningful, shifting of the centre of gravity in the artist's interest. In Lang's works, the human figure has always been the main element around which the context revolves. The relationship between man and surrounding space, built or evoked through unsettling architectural modifications, and the relationship between man and time, through the ideal, and at times even factual, reference to the artworks of predecessor artists, find new life in a research that this time investigates the relationship between man, as sculpted figure, and the artist himself. The field of investigation, so universal but also so intimate, drives Lang to consider and therefore to use once again the sculptures of his late father artist Jirí Lang (1927–1996), with an approach to the sculpted figure that highlights the theme of the exhibition, which is the relationship between the model and its representation, between sculpture and space, between the art-making process and the artist.

Dominik Lang develops the theme by interconnecting the sculptures with each other, working on the idea of copy and playing with scale representations, skillfully manipulating the humane figure through interventions of segmentation and fragmentation, providing the viewer with the perception of new coordinates and never-seen-before compositions, presenting sculptures related to different phases of the creative process. Aim of the artist is to create and show a whole range of figures which as duplicates draw life from the real model, wherefrom the creative process started to the formless and abstract mass of clay, through a series of sculpted figures that seem to return to the real original model.

While the small figures inhabiting a shelf and entitled *Study of a pre-determined movement* show one figure being reconfigured, changing its pose, gestures that allow her to dress or take off the clothes, the work *Reconstruction* translates a small sculptural model of a man-painter on a ladder into an actual situation in the gallery space in which the only indicators pointing back from the reality to the world of sculptural models and artifacts is a bucket and brush made of plaster, tools that become their sculptural representation. The same happens to sculptor's tools made of plaster and laid on a table desk. Other figures are represented through clothes and their arrangement in concrete spaces-the wardrobe or a column. A walk down the stairs is emphasized by the imprints of a hand touching the plaster on the banister. The author acts as a choreographer of figures in the space, as a sculptor or a surgeon that gives the sculpted figures a different shape as well as a performer himself when he, in a moment prior to the start of the exhibition, takes off his clothes and walks through the gallery naked as if a change of roles was needed-the author becoming a model.

Naked Figures, Dressed Figurines is therefore an aesthetic experience and at the same time it is a keen re-evaluation of the humane figure, whether it is real or sculpted, whether it is an original or a copy, whether it comes from the artist or from his father. Lang urges the viewer not to perceive the works individually as a series of static figures, but rather as artworks that provoke a physical sensation and create an interplay between the viewer and the sculpture, in a sort of a continuous movement of the figures through the exhibition space.

A project supported by **Czech Centre** Milan.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EXHIBITION: Dominik Lang – Naked figures, dressed figurines

VENUE: The Gallery Apart – Via Francesco Negri, 43, Roma

OFFICIAL OPENING: 09/10/2015

EXHIBITION DURATION: 10/10/2015 – 05/12/2015

OPENING HOURS: Tuesday – Saturday 3:00 – 7:00 pm or by appointment

INFO: The Gallery Apart – tel/fax 0668809863 – info@thegalleryapart.it – www.thegalleryapart.it

DOMINIK LANG

Born 1980, Prague, CZ, 1980; he lives and works in Prague

From 2011 co-head with Edith Jeřabková of the sculpture studio, Academy of Art, Architecture and Design in Prague

- 2015 Stipendium, Akademie der Kunste, Berlin
- 2014 Residency stipend, ISCP, New York
Artist of the Year, awarded by Art & Antiques Magazine, Prague, Czech Republic
- 2013 Winner of the 2013 Jindřich Chalupecký Award for Young Artists in the Czech Republic

Selected solo exhibitions

- 2015 *Dominik Lang: Girl with a Pigeon*, MUMA, Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne (AUS)
Bone Collectors, hunt kastner, Prague (CZ)
JINDRICH CHALUPECKY AWARD: Dominik Lang, Waiting Room, National Gallery in Prague (CZ)
- 2014 *JINDRICH CHALUPECKY AWARD: Dominik Lang*, Czech Center New York
Sleeping City, Galeria Lago, INHOTIM, Brumadinho, Minas Gerais, (BR)
Wasteland, (con Eva Kotátkova) curated by T. Giblin, Projects Art Centre, Dublin
Eva Kotátková - Dominik Lang, residency and double solo show, curated by T. Giblin, Project Arts Center, Dublin
- 2013 *Dum umeni ceske budejovice*, Ceske Budejovice House of Art
Missing parts, curated by Lýdia Pribišová, The Gallery Apart, Rome
Expanded anxiety, curated by Annette Südbek, Secession Wien, Vienna
- 2012 *Dominik Lang. Humble Objects*, Kunsthaus Dresden
The Lovers, Galerie Krobath, Vienna
Documentation, Hunt Kastner Artworks, Prague
Investigation of the case, National Gallery, Prague
- 2011 *Private Collection*, Galerie Krobath, Berlino
Local Museum, Galerie Kabinet T, Zlín
The Sleeping City, Czechoslovak Pavilion, 54th la Biennale di Venezia, Venice
- 2010 *Wall*, Gallery 99, Brno House of Arts, Brno
- 2009 *Storage*, Karlín Studios, Prague
Architect (a selection of works), Gallery 99, House of Art, Brno
Place for a Viewer, Moravian Gallery, Brno
- 2008 *Between*, Ujazdowski Castel, Varsavia
- 2007 *Things for Viewing and Walking Around*, IMPEX, Budapest

Selected group exhibitions

- 2015 *Silver Lining 25 Anniversary of the Jindřich Chalupecký Award*, curated by A. Budak, National Gallery of the Veletzrni Palace, Prague
Notes on Sculpture, curated by F. Nymphius, Galerie Krobath, Vienna (A)
The Tectonics of Memory, curated by A. Vartečková and L. Machová, DUMB: Brno House of Arts, BRNO (CZ)
Kdo na moje místo | Who in my place, curated by Z. Baladran and M. Pokorný, Galerie Gong, Ostrava (CZ)
- 2014 *Coming to Reality*, curated by F. Maede, SVIT Praha, Prague
Ce que raconte la solitude, a cura di E. L. Scipioni, Musée Cantini, Marseille
Zacatek Století | Beginning of the Century, Ostrava Regional Gallery, Ostrava
White Darkness, curated by R. Langer, Etc. Galerie, Praga
Zacatek Století | Beginning of the Century, Ostrava Regional Gallery, Ostrava
- 2013 *Images for images. Artists for Tichy - Tichy for Artists* curated by Z. Felix, ASK, Kutna Hora
From Now On All Things Will be Beautiful, Kisterem Gallery, Budapest
Collection Joseph Koulí, Mains d'ouvres, Saint Ouen
- 2012 *Intense Proximity*, La Triennale, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR
Between the First and Second Modernity, 1985-2012, National Gallery, Prague
- 2011 *Final, Jindřich Chalupecký Award*, DOX- Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague
Les amis des mes amis sont mes amis, hommage a Ján Mančuška, Galerie Jocelyn Wolff, Paris, FR
Sculpture in the Street, , House of art, Brno
- 2010 *5th Biennale of Young Artists*, House of the Stone Bell, Prague City Gallery City, Prague
Dziewiec tytulow, BWA Zielona Gora, PL
- 2009 *White Paper, Black Bride*, Prague Biennale 4, Karlín Hall, Prague
Easy Actions Without a Clear End / Azioni molto semplici senza uno scopo preciso, Artra, Milan, IT
Lived In Spaces, Krajska galerie Zlín
Brno Art Open 2009, House of Art, Brno
After Velvet, City Gallery, Prague
- 2008 *Bewohnte Orte*, Illusionen über die Stadt und das Land , Kunstverein Springhornhof, Neuenkirchen, Neuenkirchen, DE
Love at First Site, , Gallery Futura, Prague
Archive, (with Jiří Hůla), inaugural exhibition of DOX - Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague
- 2007 *Leif Rumke Award*, ZKMax, Munich, DE
Glocal Outsiders, Praguebiennale 3, Karlín Hall, Prague
- 2006 *Finalist of the 2006 Jindřich Chalupecký Award*, Dům umění v Brně, Brno