BANCA SISTEMA ARTE

COMUNICATO STAMPA

"CASABARATA", SOLO EXHIBITION OF THOMAS BERRA,

HOST OF NOT-FOR-PROFIT PROJECT BANCA SISTEMA ARTE

IN BANCA SISTEMA FROM APRIL 16TH TO JULY 16TH 2014

Milano, 7th April 2014

Thomas Berra is the new artist hosted by not-for-profit project Banca SISTEMA ARTE, devoted to the creative heritage of youth Italian artists (www.bancasistemarte.it).

The solo exhibition "Casabarata" represents the outcome of a path started in December 2013 in Tangeri, Morocco, where Thomas has just ended a residency program for artists. Exchange, research and interaction are the main lines of his job that, supported by the energy communicated to the artist by the country, are carried in Milan, in Banca Sistema's spaces.

The exhibition, occupying two floors of the bank's offices, is made of 28 framed paper drawings, characterized by subjects and colors strongly influenced by Morocco; 32 free drawings in the shades of blue; and a big triptych with trees and "liars", symbol of Thomas Berra since 2012.

A totemic work completes and summarizes the whole exhibition: "Casabarata", a real house higher than 2 meters, made of wood and post-consumer materials. A symbol brought to Milan from Casa Barata, the Tangeri popular market.

The exhibit represents the result of a trip, whose influence clearly emerges in the works by the artist, never forgetting his starting point but enriching his consciousness.

On the occasion, Banca Sistema also publishes a catalogue of the exhibition, with texts by Michele Bonuomo and an article by Matteo Zinesi. The catalogue is printed and distributed by Vanillaedizioni.

The access to the opening (April 16th at Banca Sistema, Corso Monforte 20 – Milano) is by invitation only. The solo exhibition will remain in Banca Sistema's headquarters until July 16th 2014.

Not-for-profit project Banca SISTEMA ARTE was born from the will of Banca Sistema to promote and support emerging young artists, offering them opportunities of visibility also through exhibits in the Bank's offices in Milan and Rome. "Casabarata" is the ninth exhibition hosted and promoted by the project since its launch in autumn 2011.

Biography

Thomas Berra (Desio, 1986). Various exhibitions and projects in his career: *Liberarea*, his first solo exhibition in Milan in 2005; a collective show in Paris at the Galerie Marie-Claude Goinard in 2006; a joint show with the artist Enrico Manera at the Ars Italica gallery in Milan in 2007. That same year, he also took part in the *Treno dell'Arte* (Art Train) project, and Cow Parade chose one of his cows with black and white patterns for the Arch of Peace in Milan. In 2008 he had a solo exhibition at Villa Litta in Milan, and collective shows such as *Premio Italian Factory* at the Fabbrica del Vapore in Milan or *Vuoti a rendere* (*Return the empties*) at the Art Due gallery. He presented his works in China, Shanghai, with *Masters of Brera*. 2008 was also the year of *Sold Out*, a collective exhibition of young emerging and established artists, staged by Berra in an abandoned supermarket near Limbiate. In 2009 he had two different shows together with Paul Kostaby; he exhibited in Taormina, at the Mazzullo Foundation, and with the Bag Art Factory collective, of which he was a member. Again in 2009, he participated in the first edition of Step09, which he also attended the following year at the Science and Technology Museum in Milan. In 2010, he was one of the speakers at the Art Attack conference: how art is invading the world of communication, at the Circolo della Stampa in Milan, together with Valerio Berruti and Bros; he had a solo exhibition at Villa Durazzo in Santa Margherita Ligure. In the spring of 2011, he took part in the first edition of Arte Accessibile (Accessible Art) in Milan, and in early October staged a collective exhibition entitled EX at the former Church of San Carlo dei Barnabiti in Florence. CIAO, February 2012, was a solo exhibition which marked the start of the partnership with Room Galleria in Milan; in March 2012, they worked together to present his works at MiArt. *Crises & Rises*, October 2012: an exhibition by 5 Italian artists curated by Rossella Farinotti and held at the art gallery of the French Institute at Palazzo delle Stelline in Milan. In 2013 he won the Unicredit award and held a solo exhibition at Superstudiopiù in Milan, following a competition in Rome, *Contemporary times. Alla ricerca del tempo perso e guadagnato (In search of time lost and gained).* He converted his own studio into an exhibition space, called LabRouge, for experimental projects by young artists and designers. In April 2013, *I'll be your mirror*, a solo exhibition at the Wilson Project, Sassari. In June 2013, *Lost Shelf*, a joint exhibition with the Polish sculptor Monika Grycko, at the gallery of Bianca Maria Rizzi and Matthias Ritter. In October 2013, he was a resident artist at the Tabadoul space in Tangier, where he held an exhibition in December 2013 with another young Italian artist living in the Moroccan city, Matteo Zinesi, called *2 e mezzo. Corrispondenze d'innumerevoli sensi (2 ½. Correlations among countless senses)*. Since 2012, Thomas has been involved in the Subculture fanzine, a publishing project in collaboration with Altavia Italia.

Exhibits

Due e mezzo /Corrispondenze di innumerevoli sensi, Tabadoul, Tangeri, Marocco - 2013
Enzo, The Wilson Project Space, Sassari - 2013
Last Young, Villa Brivio, Nova Milanese - 2013
64° edizione premi Michetti, Francavilla al Mare - 2013
I'll be your Mirror,The Wilson project Space, Sassari - 2013
Improbabili Connessioni, Superground, Milano - 2012
Crises and Rises, Palazzo delle Stelline, Milano - 2012
Alla ricerca del tempo perso e del tempo guadagnato, Unicredit, SuperStudio - 2012
CIAO, Room Galleria, Milano - 2012
MiArt, Room Galleria - 2012
Myland, Zangbieri Galerie & Kunsthandel, Basel, Germania - 2012
EX, Chiesa di San Carlo dai Barnabiti, a cura di Rossella Farinotti, Firenze - 2011
Giudizio Universale, The Bag Art Factory, Milano - 2010
Silenzi, Galleria San Lorenzo, Villa Durazzo, Santa Margherita Ligure - 2010
San Lorenzo Porject / Step09, Museo della Scienza e della Tecnologia, Milano - 2010
Personale, Fondazione Mazzullo, Taormina - 2009
Sold Out, Limbiate - 2008
Masters of Brera, Museo Liu Hai Su, Shanghai, Cina - 2008
Premio Italian Factory, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milano - 2008
In NOVE, Circolo Arcibellezza, Milano - 2007
I Peccati del III Millennio, Palazzo della Regione, Trento - 2007
Cow Parade Milano, Corso Sempione, Milano - 2007
Il Treno dell'Arte, mostra itinerante per l'Italia - 2007
Liberarea, Milano - 2005

Banca Sistema is an independent bank, created in 2011. Its founders include three banking foundations from the North, Centre and South of Italy, as well as the Management and a private equity fund managed by the Royal Bank of Scotland. Headquartered in Milan, with offices in Rome and London, Banca Sistema specializes in financing and managing trade receivables owed by the Italian Public Administrations (PA's).
www.bancasistema.it

Banca SISTEMA ARTE

Within the field of no-profit activities, Banca Sistema decided to give life to Banca SISTEMA ARTE, a project devoted to art and creative heritage of youth Italian artists, appraising in such a way their emerging value within the artistic field and giving them privileged ways of visibility. The project, born at the end of 2011, offers to artists the opportunity to exhibit their own work at the headquarters of the Bank in Milan and Rome: a significant appointment where are promoted creativeness and work of each artist through a new logic of support, pointed at increasing their potentiality.

www.bancasistemarte.it
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