

TRIENNALE DI MILANO

Press Conference Extract

Conversazione con Philippe Daverio

"La nuova città che sale" di Maria Cristina Carlini/

A Talk with Philippe Daverio

"The new rising city" by Maria Cristina Carlini

featuring:

Gino Di Maggio, President of the Mudima Foundation

Camillo Fornasieri, Managing Director of the Art and Culture Department at the Stellite Foundation

Tuesday, 16 December 2014 at 11.30am

Sala Triennale Lab

press release, 16.12.2014

Fiera Milano Rho, also in anticipation of **Expo 2015**, welcomes to stay a monumental sculpture by **Maria Cristina Carlini**, a prominent figure on the international scene.

The work, which is **10m tall** and made of corten steel and wood, has been placed on the stretch of water facing the **South Gate**, the main entrance to the expository area, next to the Convention Centre, which is the venue for seminars, conventions and events.

The monumental sculpture by Maria Cristina Carlini which is named "La nuova città che sale/The new rising city" portrays the connection among all the people on the planet, joined in their endeavour towards a unique and revolutionary aim, a progress in harmony with nature.

The huge piece represents a staircase, characterized by an asymmetric and twisted structure, endowed with several steps which reduce in size while ascending up to the infinite, like a sort of transit among past, present and future.

According to **Philippe Daverio** the work is endowed with a tribal heart, an aesthetic balance that makes it appealing. In this regard he puts in contact the work by Maria Cristina Carlini with the artistic work by Kounellis and Spagnulo, and calls for a group exhibition for the three artists at the Expo, as an important proof for culture.

"There is no progress without culture" claims the president of Fiera Milano, Michele Perini. "We are, therefore, happy to host this work by Maria Cristina Carlini in a place devoted to business, but which also lives on the encounters among people. Culture and economy can and must represent moments of growth, not separated and even less like opposites, in a vision of man in regard to all his complexity".

The work is inserted within an architectural landscape which is very contemporary and is characterized by the presence of *La Vela/The Sail* by Massimiliano Fuksas. Surfacing from the water, it has a strong visual and symbolic impact, and presents a vertical movement which recalls the positive evolution of progress and the change advocated for all the world in the message of Expo 2015. In this context the staircase is a metaphor of ascension, unification and communication towards the future and the evolution of man and society with respect to the environment.

It is a process that starts from water, the source of life and energy, a primeval element to which the city of Milan is very attached and which makes research advance in its search of

a new balance among man, nature and technology. These are very up-to-date themes, linked to the investigation of the available resources and environmental sustainability, in concert with the topics of Expo Milan 2015.

As **Camillo Fornasieri** points out, the work conveys the perception of silence and of that thought from which the meaning of life takes form, where all the people can identify themselves according to their own emotional sensibility.

In this *site specific* work by Maria Cristina Carlini, which is strictly linked to the contemporary context, one can detect a strong reference to the tradition and specifically to the painting *La città che sale/The rising city* by Umberto Boccioni made in 1910-11. Both these works, even though they belong to two very different moments in time, interpret the beginning of two centuries characterized by strong technological innovations, in one case with the whirling beginning of the Modern Age and in the other case with the changes linked to the consistent cross-disciplinary innovation. In this regard **Gino Di Maggio** highlights Maria Cristina Carlini's audacity in experimenting, in the selection of the materials and in the choice of the name given to the work displayed at Fiera: the sculptress is self-aware and doesn't look for confrontation, but she expresses her thought on the work she made.

The futuristic vision of the sculpture "La nuova città che sale/The new rising city" reveals the wish for growth, rebirth and search for new kinds of energy, the will of finding a turning point for a new life on planet Earth.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

The sculptress Maria Cristina Carlini began to work with stoneware in Palo Alto, California, and after that expressed herself using different materials, such as iron, corten steel, wood and resin.

Her artistic career holds many solo and group exhibitions in several public and private venues, nationally and internationally. Her monumental sculptures are permanently on display on three continents: Europe-Italy (Rome, Milan, Cosenza, Loreto, Reggio Calabria, Varese, Paris, Madrid), America (Denver, Miami) and Asia (Beijing, Shanghai, Jinan, Rongcheng - Shandong, Tianjin).

Several publications have marked the artistic career of Maria Cristina Carlini over the years; it is worth mentioning those published by **Mudima** and **Skira**.

Many important critics wrote about her, such as: **Luciano Caramel**, **Claudio Cerritelli**, **Martina Corgnati**, **Gillo Dorfles**, **Carlo Franza**, **Flaminio Gualdoni**, **Yakouba Konaté**, **Elena Pontiggia**.

Venue Fiera Milano Rho - entrance from Porta Sud/South Gate - Strada Statale 33 del Sempione 28, Rho (MI)

Opening Hours The sculpture can be seen during the fair events (10am-5pm)

Entrance fee Free admission

How to get there

- **MM1** (underground red line) stop at Rho Fiera Milano
- from Milan: take the A8 towards Varese-Como, exit fieramilano / A4 towards Turin, exit Pero-fieramilano
- from the A7-Genoa, A1-Bologna and A4-Turin: take *tangenziale ovest* (West belt) Northbound, exit fieramilano / from the A4-Venice: exit Pero-fieramilano / from the A8-Varese and A9-Como: from *Barriera Milano Nord* towards A4-Venice and exit fieramilano

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