Press Release

THE INTERIOR DESIGN
The Network for Design Lovers

Italia VS America

Performance Art, Music and Design at Spazio TID

Where: Spazio TID, via Monte Pordoi, 8 – Baranzate (Milan)
When: 29 September 2016
Time: From 7pm to 11pm
Artists: Ilaria Bochicchio, Greta Di Lorenzo, Giuliano Cataldo Giancotti, Maurato **VS** Joanie Wolkoff, John Cleary, Jay C Lohmann, Ko Smith.
Follow the event: http://www.theinteriordesign.it/italia-vs-america.php

Just like art, design offers a range of forms that allows us to create connections between forms and their sense. To build a new culture. (Absalon)

On next **29 September 2016** from **7pm**, **Spazio TID** opens its doors to an exclusive unusual exhibit named **Italia VS America**, an exhibition path including art, live performance and music, amid the peculiar environment of unique design items that represents the core of Theinteriordesign.it (TID www.theinteriordesign.it/en/showroom-tid.php).

During the event, Italian artists will *challenge* American and Canadian artists with innovative contemporary art expressions and interpretations, creating new visual languages that will build a unique contemporary multicultural experience for the public.

Once again Spazio TID will host a *happening* with multiple contents where the *duel* becomes a playful occasion to further stress the surprising effects of combining Italian and overseas artists together. Each of them will tell their own personal experience by using painting, sculpture, music or a performance, to offer a piece of inner/outer reality, a specific visual code, a diverging/similar art that walks hand in hand with design.

Italy VS America represents a time where artists from different nations and continents gather to create a continuum that turns upside down the supposed cultural, geographical and generational diversity, thanks to each one's background and experience. Far places will find themselves close in a unique melody made of visual and sensory chords, just like ancient times when artists from different regions used to gather to enrich one another. Cultural exchange will be the tool that will make both artists and public live a unique enriching experience.

The exhibition will present art in its absolute form, with no category tags, yet including the Italian and overseas culinary side too. During the exhibition you can taste **the wines** of the winery **Cascina Montariolo** that stands out to give life to an excellent production of Barbera d'Asti DOCG, Piemonte Grignolino DOC, Monferrato Dolcetto DOC and Monferrato Freisa DOC. During **Italy VS America** could not fail the love for good food, for tradition and attention to detail here represented by **trattoria Bertamé**, which on this occasion left his space in via Lomonaco, 8 in Milan to give a special food entertainment to represent Italy at the event. Representing America, the beer by **Brooklyn Brewery**, a true institution that has been writing "brewing history" in the States and around the world. Beers with a strong character and determination, just like the spirit of the Williamsburg district, where they were born in the early 80s. Since then, Brooklyn Brewery has become one of the most important independent breweries in the world.

Italy VS America will be a unique artwork, a knowledge mosaic that gets mutually emphasized. Hosting American and Canadian artists in Italy is a chance to make them live a mutual moment of bonding and knowledge that each one will be free to experience from their own perspective.

The exhibition is the first of a series of artistic and cultural happenings that will be hosted at Spazio TID, located at via Monte Pordoi 8 in Baranzate, as well as an occasion to merge Italian and international art.

VERSUS is a playful challenge with no winners or losers. It represents the act of sharing something both real and personal, amid a unique environment that is **Spazio TID (The Interior Design),** the ideal setting for such a challenge.
Versus puts in place two contrasting realities: the first match will be featuring America and Italy. It will represent a new way to live art and take down geographic and cultural barriers, giving international artists the opportunity to come to Italy and participate in the event, with the aim of making far different worlds connect.

Such encounter will lead to a tangible exchange, a positive contamination that will affect the artworks produced after this deep moving experience. American artist **Ko Smith** is the first to have experienced the idea of **VERSUS**, by residing in Italy for artistic purposes, visiting the country for the very first time. His works now display a fusion of ideas, images, sounds between himself and Italy. **Jay C. Lohmann**, on the other hand, have been embodying the idea of VERSUS for a longer time, as he's been living and working in Italy and New York for the past 20 years. The music by **Joanie Wolkoff** and **John Cleary** will be the perfect frame to an exhibit-happening that puts the exchange in the spotlight.

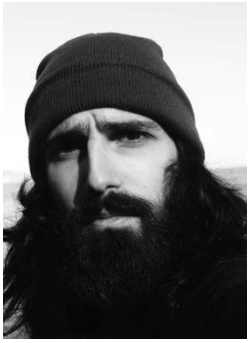
ItaliaVSAmerica represents the starting point of the whole **VERSUS** project that will take many Italian artists to different countries around the world, to meet the most different cultures. The aim is to communicate the widest artistic openness of Italy towards new different influences from all over the globe.
VISITING ITALY_On August 28, 2016 American artist **Ko Smith** lands in Italy for the first time. The huge backpack on his shoulders only holds canvases, that look like batiks and lie beside one another, wrapped like scrolls. They are the surface where to leave a mark, a trace of his Italian journey. He goes from one place to another, following an artistic path thanks to his host Ilaria Bochicchio: Ko Smith visits her studio in Milan, then the Rovello's mansion in Basilicata where Gruppo Cobra stayed in the Seventies, then Rome. Each stop-over results in a complete immersion: in the landscape, the items, the colors.
This is the creative premise that led Ko Smith realize the three artworks that will be displayed during the show.

Italy VS America artists

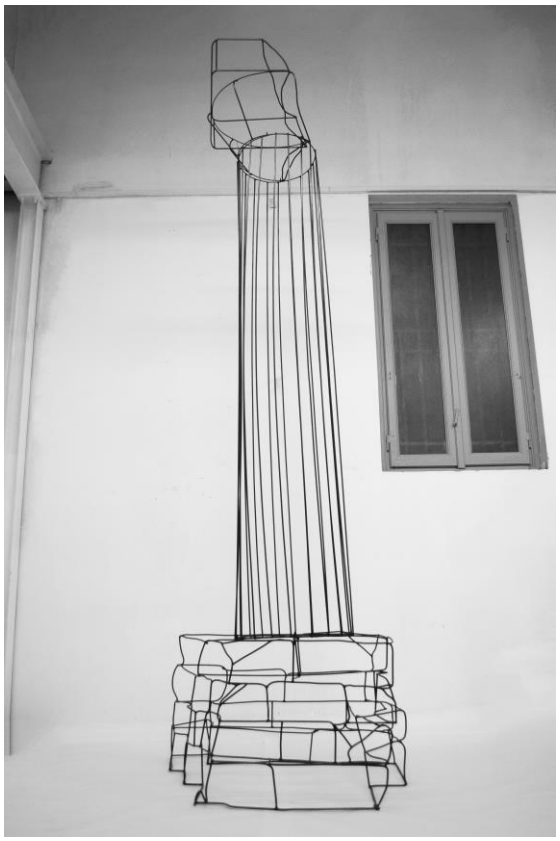
Music

Joanie Wolkoff, Brooklyn-based Canadian composer and singer, uses a unique style of music that tells a vibrant sensual universe. With two published electro-pop albums that embraced the *moniker* trend, she is currently finishing her next EP. Joanie is glad to perform in Milan as Italian culture won her heart, stomach and soul over.
John Cleary is a New York composer, producer and a all-round musician. As composer, he signed over 100 short films, 20 video games and a movie in collaboration with legendary hip-hop producer Dj Premier. His music is often minimalist and eclectic, inspired by composers like Steve Reich and Morton Subotnich (his composing fellow) and producers like Just Blaze.

You Tube: Joanie Wolkoff



Giuliano Cataldo Giancotti is a Milan-based Italian artist. His artistic research comes from a deep interest towards man, architecture and nature. Giuliano is one of the Italian artists who employ iron – his leading material - in a cutting-edge way. His artistic production is made of actual sculptures that interact with light flows, 3d landscapes coming out of travel book's drafts. His artistic path involves designing sculptures/architectures that investigate Italian architecture transformations by creating symbolic buildings called "time architectures". The artist collaborates with architects and firms to fulfill environmental projects both in Italy and abroad: his works belong to many private collections in Italy and Hong Kong.
http://giancottigiulianocataldo.jimdo.com



Omaggio a Capocolonna, 2015
430 h x 150 x 120 cm, ferro

Flussi III, 2016,
125 x 125 cm, ferro

Di-visione III, 2015
90 x 90 cm, ferro

Ko Smith is a painter who finds inspiration in mythology, mnemonic, personal memory and the way they communicate individual experience. Smith aims at building a work style that links themes and ideas implicitly associated, working on the connections between ideas to create a synthesis by using visual associations. In this way Ko Smith rebuilds a memory collage through a inner filigree.
http://kosmith.org/

Madonna and Child, 2014,
152.5 X 81 cm, oil and enamel on canvas

να-κάνουμε-λίστα, 2012
51 X 40,5 cm, oil, gouache on canvas

David, 2011
91.5 X 76 cm, ink, oil on canvas

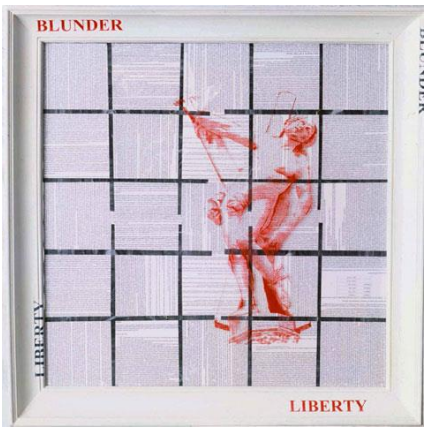
Works done by Ko Smith during the residency in Italy

Division of the Sacrifice, 2016
148 x 88 cm, oil on canvas

μπαστούνια φωτιά, 2016
148 x 84 cm, oil on canvas

Offering, 2016
147 x 81 cm, oil on canvas

Jay C Lohmann is a Milan and New York based "multi faceted" artist. His works are scattered all over the world. He earned a Philosophy BA in Religous Studies at the Fordham University of New York in 1990. His ever-going effort to solve the contradictions of his intimate world leads Jay C. to use his artistic side to answer the questions he constantly ask himself. Why are we here? What does art have to do with it? What's the source and the meaning of the passion of an artist? His paintings, installations and decorations always represent a significant way to answer these questions, with an additional purpose of remaining aesthetically unique, to bring a personal echo in the future. His next exhibit will be in October at Salomon Arts Gallery, NY. A collective exhibition with Ilaria Bochicchio, Natvar Bhavsar and Loren Dunlap.
www.jayclohmann.com



No oh no, 2004
120 x 120 cm, mixed media gold filament on canvas

Quadrifoil, 2004
120 x 120 cm, mixed media gold filament on canvas

Maurato's creativity constantly intersect design and art. Born in Treviso and based in Milan, he is an engineer, copywriter and unstoppable dreamer. His artistic background belongs to the hip-hop world and Aerosol Art, with a special focus on "puppets", the little men that decorate graffiti lettering. He carries a Bic pen and a block-notes everywhere he goes. During the Eighties, drawing on paper turned into colorful sketches on the suburban walls, to soon gain an actual plastic form: this is how "Plastic Puppetz" came to life.
http://www.plasticpuppetz.com

C.I.S.A. (Cavalcando Il Suino Albino), 2011
25 x 20 x 15 cm, plastica

Il Bonzo, 2009
22 x 22 x 15 cm, plastica

Quattrokkien, 2009
18 x 15 x 7 cm, plastica

Party Hard, 2013
38 x 38 x 39 cm, plastica

Ilaria Bochicchio is an artist, illustrator and writer. She studied at Istituto Europeo di Design and worked for Hestetika art magazine. She is currently the head of the art section at Aware magazine. This year she was selected for the Biennale Giovani Artisti, Mediterranea 17 at Milan's Fabbrica del Vapore. Her research focuses on the body, as the matter she employs to paint destroys descriptive forms. The body becomes an excuse to tell an inner state. The artist also performs with her own pictorial research. Her #chambre performance hit Milano, Alessandria, Messina and New York. She collaborates with American artist Jay C Lohmann: they created the itinerant exhibit No.Body. They both work on the idea of the body. No.Body was showcased in Rome, Milan, Catania and in Studi Festival in Ameno (Lago d'Orta) where it was hosted in an artistic mansion. Her next exhibit with Jay C Lohmann will be in October at Salomon Arts Gallery, TriBeCa, New York, together with two renowned artists, Natvar Bhavsar and Loren Dunlap.
www.ilariabochicchio.com

#chambre jour, 2016
50 x 50 x 4 cm, acrilico e materia su tela

#chambre soire□e, 2016
50 x 50 x 4 cm, acrilico e materia su tela

#chambre nuit, 2016
50 x 50 x 4 cm, acrilico e materia su tela

#chambre 17L, 2013/16
100 x 100 x 4 cm, acrilico e materia su tela

Greta Di Lorenzo, born in Milan in 1994, studies Modern Literature and just finished the first academic year at Quelli di Grock dramatic art school. Since the age of 13, she has been attending many acting classes. Theater is the biggest constant of her life, the chance to create different possible worlds. Three years ago she first met Ilaria Bochicchio, and they've been bonded by their "general feeling" ever since. She participated in Bochicchio's performances in Milan, Alessandria and Messina.

Music for Ilaria Bochicchio art performance #chambre

Irene Loddo was born in Milan in 1994. She's about to graduate in Modern Literature and she's been passionately studying music since the age of 6, when she started violin lessons. She had the chance to study with several techers, learning many different interpretative approaches. She mainly focuses on classic music, yet she also experimented other genres; she played as a solo, in an orchestra, in a trio, in a ProgressiveRock band. She attends masterclass periodically. Over the past two years, she's been teaching violin to children, to pass her love and dedication on to them.

For further information

TID Press Office: Beatrice Pazi beatrice@beatricepazi.it +39.3495534768