

PRESSRELEASE

St. Moritz, 18.12.2017

SALVO – IN ENGADINA

Salvo (born as Salvatore Mangione in 1947 in Leonforte, Sicily) belonged in the 1960s to the Turin circle of Arte Povera, being particularly close to Boetti with whom he shared the studio. In the early 1970s he began to carry over the themes of his art into painting, whereby the genesis of Western painting became a decisive aspect of his considerations.

Picking up on different *genres* of historical painting, he works on mythological subjects, there are series of *Capricci* with temples and ruins, and finally he embraces the classical theme of the landscape in all its variations. Salvo's interpretations of landscapes are places of solitude, houses without windows, clouds like cotton balls, timeless compositions. His works are neither comforting nor pleasing, but put us in front of a crazed and amazing universe made of dematerialized images, façades painted in luminous colours, dramatic atmospheres quietly covering up a sense of underlying anxiety and discomfort.

In the summer of 2011 Salvo visited the Engadine for the first time, where he witnessed the intensity of light and colours, as well as the monumentality of the local architecture. This visit gave birth to a series of 19 works of the Engadine villages and their surrounding landscape and mountains, painted between the fall of 2011 and spring of 2013. This unique body of work will be exhibited for the first time this winter at Galerie Andrea Caratsch in St. Moritz.

DOKOUPIL – WILD FOAM

At the same time, Galerie Andrea Caratsch will be presenting *Wild Foam* a group of new foam paintings by Dokoupil (b. 1954). Defying any stylistic signature, these works are representative of the artist's ongoing quest for a sincerely contemporary practice of painting. Dokoupil started developing his *soap bubble* - and *foam* technique in the early 1990's. Whereas in previous series the differentiation between the two techniques is blurred, the present cycle demonstrates a radical distinction. A conceptual Impressionist and inspired by the *foam – theory* of Sloterdijk, which analyses the construction principles of the human existence, Dokoupil applies foam onto the canvas in a laborious and repetitive procedure. The characteristic of his method is reflected in these paintings, which seem to weightlessly float on the gallery walls. Their impressive size and vibrating luminosity exerts an almost mystic magnetism on the beholder.

Born 1954 in Krnov (former Czechoslovakia), Dokoupil and his family came to Germany over Austria in 1968. He studied art in Cologne, Frankfurt and at Cooper Union in New York. Dokoupil lives and works in Berlin, Madrid, Prague and Rio de Janeiro. His conceptual oeuvre comprises dozens of series, devised techniques and iconographies.

The gallery is open from Monday to Saturday from 2 to 7 p.m.