

GILBERTO ZORIO

late night opening: Thursday May 9, 2013, h. 9.30 pm - 11.00 pm

gallery opening times: Tuesday- Saturday h. 11.00 am – 2.00 pm/ 3.00 pm - 7.00 pm

The Lia Rumma Gallery is pleased to announce the solo show by the artist Gilberto Zorio at the space of the gallery in Via Stilicone in Milan. The exhibition will be developed on the three floors of the gallery, which will alternate between light and darkness. Gilberto Zorio explores space by dealing with themes that oscillate between experience, contrasts and the unknown.

The exhibition begins in the large room on the **ground floor** with “Torre Stella” (Star Tower), a construction of Gasbeton blocks arranged in a star-shaped plan. Since antiquity, the star is an instrument that has been linked both to orientation and desire. The points of the star will get longer and spread clockwise within the radial area. The interior of the tower will be partly visible and the luminescence caused by the sudden darkness will be clearly visible.

Alchemic signs, which are usually not visible, will appear throughout the room.

The foundry ladles are vessels used for the manual transport of crucibles containing incandescent molten bronze which is ready to be poured into the negative mould-valve of the sculpture. The ladles normally act as the tools used to make a sculpture but in Zorio’s show they are transformed into actual art works themselves.

On the **first floor** the show continues with another Star Tower. In the space illuminated by sunlight, the construction spreads into the outdoor area going along the terrace while the work *Luci*, 1968, (*Lights*, 1968) tries to complete with the glare of the Sun and is ready to illuminate itself and the ensuing darkness.

On the **second floor**, which is in darkness, there will be Pyrex containers, rubber containers, signs and works that are visible thanks to the use of coagulated materials which are frequently employed in Zorio’s work.

The luminescence and the discharges, the Tesla coils, will occupy privileged positions on the three floors. Light, darkness and exploration are inter-connected themes like the elements that indicate the vessels, the star, the chemical reactions and forms of energy.

They are forms of energy that have stories to tell.

Gilberto Zorio was born in 1944 in Andorno Micca, Biella. He lives and works in Turin. He was a leading member of “Arte Povera”, the movement that formed in Italy during the mid sixties. From 1967 to the present, besides shows of his work in private galleries, Gilberto Zorio has exhibited in many solo exhibitions in public venues such as the Kunstmuseum in Lucerne (‘76), the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam (‘79), the Pinacoteca in Ravenna (‘82), the Venice Biennale (‘78, ‘80, ‘86, ‘95, ‘97), the Kunstverein in Stuttgart (‘85), the Centre d’Art Contemporain in Geneva and the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris (‘86), the Tel Aviv Museum and the Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven (‘87), the Philadelphia Tyler School of Art (‘88), the Museu Serralves in Porto (‘90), IVAM in Valencia (‘91), the Centro per l’Arte Contemporanea Pecci in Prato, Documenta in Kassel and the Musée d’Art Moderne et d’Art Contemporain in Nice (‘92), the Galleria Civica d’Arte Contemporanea in Trento (‘96), the Dia Center for the Arts in New York (2001), Le Creux de l’Enfer Centre d’Art Contemporain in Thiers and the Institut Mathildenhöhe in Darmstadt (2005), the Milton Keynes Gallery in Milton Keynes (2008), MAMbo in Bologna (2009), CGAC in Santiago de Compostela (2010), and MACRO in Rome (2010).

