

GIULIANO DAL MOLIN

Opening Thursday 25 January 2024, 6.30 pm

Galleria Lia Rumma | Via Stilicone 19 | MILAN

Gallery opening times: Tues-Sat, 11.00 am – 1.30 pm | 2.30 pm – 7.00 pm

The Lia Rumma Gallery in Milan is pleased to announce the opening, on Thursday 25 January 2024, of the second solo exhibition of the artist Giuliano Dal Molin (his first solo show was held in the Naples gallery in 2016).

Form and colour are the common thread running through the work of Giuliano Dal Molin (Schio, 1960) which has been characterised since the mid-eighties by the constant quest to move beyond sculpture and painting. *“There is a desire to break the mould, to go beyond the boundary marked by the painting/window that contains the story in order to free the form/colour in space”* states Dal Molin.

For the solo exhibition in the Lia Rumma Gallery, the artist, as if embarking on an upward poetic journey (from the bottom-up), has completely redesigned the three floors of the gallery, combining forms and colours with an extraordinary degree of lightness, according to a tonalism of the spirit that modifies the visual perception of the architectural space which thus opens up to multiple, kaleidoscopic optical and emotional effects. *“The design idea – explains Dal Molin – revolves around several recurring concepts which have always been a central feature of my artistic inquiry and work: form, colour, light, space, essentiality and rigour. The works are all specifically devised for the rooms of the gallery and are influenced by the light that naturally enters the spaces, modifying them throughout the day and enabling a story about them to be created”*.

Beginning from the ground floor of the gallery, the visitor encounters a series of large modular forms strewn across the wall which move like dance steps along an ideal line. The rhythmical quality is determined both by the structure and the chromatic matches. *“Their spatial distribution,”* says Dal Molin, *“takes as a reference point the arrangement of the figures in medieval frescoes and paintings. In this case, the works seek to express the very essence of painting”*. Moving up to the first floor, twelve three-dimensional elements have been installed, painted with primary and secondary colours, half-tones and greys, which draw on the concept of the classical frieze, reimagined with a contemporary twist. *“While the first two floors involve a fast-paced visual journey and extremely strong visual stimuli, a very different time-frame and attentiveness are required on the top floor in order to perceive the minute variations in the surfaces”* continues Dal Molin. Indeed, the room on the second floor is entirely devoted to white and light with a sequence of small rectangular white works of the same size, interrupted by one single work in slate grey.

Giuliano Dal Molin was born in Schio (Vicenza) in 1960. He currently lives and works in San Vito di Leguzzano (Vicenza). The turning point in his work took place in the late 1980s when Dal Molin chose to pursue the path of abstract art. His works initially presented a dialogue between different materials, such as metals, dust particles and pigments. Reliefs and basic forms – concave/convex shapes – almost tend to cancel the paint of which only a thin patina remains, *“traces of the act of painting”*. In 1984, 1989 and 1991, his works were selected for participation in the collective exhibitions held at the Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa in Venice; in 1992 a room was devoted exclusively to his works at the same foundation and in 1993 he took part in the 45th Venice Biennale. From 1997 onwards, colour burst onto the scene, initially with monochrome fields and subsequently with stark contrasts and profound dissonances. During this period his works expanded into the surrounding space, often becoming a polyptych that is no longer attached to the wall but placed on the ground, based on a continuous relationship between the different elements. The vertical and horizontal forms represent a search for dialogue between the planes, curves and lights in a continuous, close relationship between painting and sculpture. The 2000s saw an evolution in the ideas of the previous years, with research based on three-dimensionality, which led the artist to explore architectural forms. The works are devised on the basis of a strong link both between each other and the surrounding environment, in a mutual and continuous form of reinforcement. This phase was accompanied by careful experimentation with colour which stemmed from the history of painting before manifesting itself in designs and drawings, the result of a process of synthesis intended to remove any trace of excess or superfluousness in order to allow colour and forms full expression. In 2016 Giuliano Dal Molin had his first solo exhibition held at the Lia Rumma Gallery in Naples. In 2017 he took part in the collective exhibition entitled *“L’emozione dei colori nell’arte”* (The emotion of colours in art) held at Castello di Rivoli (Turin).

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