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March 5, 2024

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by *Redazione*, published on 05/03/2024

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Magazzino Italian Art in New York presents from March 23 to August 9, 2024 an exhibition on the works of Mario Schifano presenting them with a completely new and different vision.



New York, Magazzino Italian Art presenta le opere di Mario Schifano con una visione completamente nuova

Magazzino Italian Art in **New York** presents a new exhibition of the works of **Mario Schifano** (Homs, 1934 - Rome, 1998), artist, filmmaker and musician. Curated by **Filippo Fossati**, director of Magazzino, in collaboration with the Mario Schifano Archive and the Maurizio Calvesi Foundation, the exhibition entitled *Germinal* will be on view from March 23 to August 9, 2024 in the Robert Olnick Pavilion.

The exhibition opens with a series of monochrome paintings with which Schifano presented himself in 1960: single-color, enamel-painted backgrounds. The titles, designed to stimulate the visitor's imagination, highlight the versatility of Schifano's thinking, which ranges from jazz to movement and contemporary Rome to art history. In addition to the monochrome paintings, the exhibition displays works from the early 1960s in which the monochromatic surfaces, as Fossati notes, "began to be populated with signals, numbers, letters, signs, shapes, marks and notes." These include the paintings that incorporated the famous **Coca-Cola** logo, considered by Schifano to be "propaganda" for the penetration of U.S. industrial consumerism into Italy. *Germinal* continues with works made between 1965 and 1970, a period when Schifano reached the status of superstar of Italian pop art. Prominent among these works are paintings from the *Futurismo rivisitato* series, in which Schifano looks to the Italian avant-garde movement of the early **20th century** for inspiration, arguing that the Futurists were "pioneers in capturing silence, noise or the essence of a state of mind." Taking up this challenge, as Fossati recalls, Schifano wonders if it is possible to "represent life as a kaleidoscope" and at the same time "indicate the intrinsic structures of this apparent chaos."

The *Germinal* exhibition celebrates the memory of the art critic and historian **Maurizio Calvesi** (Rome, 1927-2020) and his wife, the writer, editor and museum director **Augusta Monferini** (Ancona, 1934 - Rome, 2022), forerunners of an exhibition on Schifano in the US. Magazzino took up this project with the exhibition *Mario Schifano: The Rise of the '60s* curated by **Alberto Salvadori** and held from September 14, 2023 to January 8, 2024. Presenting many of the same eighty works, *Germinal* aims to offer a completely new and different view of Schifano's work, seen from Filippo Fossati's perspective.

"This exhibition presents 'germinal' works made over a decade, from 1960 to 1970, a period of great social, economic, political and artistic ferment, in which Schifano actively participated," said the curator. "In those years, with his strong charisma and effervescence, Schifano distinguished himself as one of the most famous artists in Italy and as a figure equally appreciated abroad. His is an art conceived for everyone and not only for a small elite."

Photo by Marco Anelli - Tommaso Sacconi

Informazioni sulla mostra

Titolo mostra	<i>Germinal</i>
Città	New York
Sede	Magazzino Italian Art
Date	Dal 23/03/2024 al 09/08/2024
Artisti	Mario Schifano
Curatori	Filippo Fossati
Temi	Novecento