****

**  **

**Chiesa San Giuseppe**

**Alba**

**Laura Zeni**

**L’esperienza del risveglio / The Experience of Awakening**

*Curated by Fortunato D’Amico*

**April 7th- 27th 2013**

**Opening on Sunday, April 7th, at 12:00 am**

*Press Release, 28.03.13*

In the Church of St. Joseph (Chiesa di San Giuseppe) in Alba, on Sunday April 7th, the exhibition entitled “Laura Zeni. L’esperienza del risveglio” (“Laura Zeni. The Experience of Awakening”), curated by Fortunato D’Amico, will be opened at 12:00 am in the magnificent setting of the exhibition space Arte nella Grotta.

The show is set within the Roman underground archaeological path of the Church of St. Joseph, where you can admire the works of Laura Zeni: heads and bodies motionless in strokes, but moving in space and animated in their inner awakening and relationship with the world.

These are original works, including several ones **on display for the first time**, which continue the artist’s creative discourse, which focuses on the theme of awakening - of the mind and body - with heads that live on flickers and dim flames and slender figures intertwined in thousands of possible relations. The heads are one of Laura Zeni’s beloved topics: the static nature of the outer traits, each with well-precise reality and features, contrasts with the semantic variability of what they contain; a catalogue of endless possibilities, which is the image of moods and thoughts, from which the viewer is given back his own identification. It is an elaboration of an inner meaning which is also the main fascination to be found in Laura Zeni’s work. The works on display express thoughts and emotions on the concept of awakening.

Endless variations interpretable by the sensitivity of each of us are also those expressed by these elegant figures, freely dressed in colour and more or less randomly oriented in space, which represent another metaphor for many possible meanings of awakening and the ways to interpret and manifest it.

At the end of the exhibition, on Saturday, April 27th at 5:00 pm, a **finissage** will take place with tasting of local wines of Langa of Tenuta Cavallotto. On this occasion the exhibition catalogue, with critical text by Fortunato D'Amico accompanied by pictures of the works on display, will be presented.

The event takes place under the aegis of: Piedmont Region, Province of Cuneo, Municipality of Alba, Tourist Office of Alba Bra Langhe - Roero.

The exhibition is organized by the non-profit Cultural Centre San Giuseppe Onlus - president Roberto Cerrato – and Art & Wine Club Italian Top Style - president Fabio Carisio -, as well as art director of the exhibition space Arte nella Grotta, in collaboration with Tenuta Cavallotto – Castiglione Falletto (Cn).

Bio

Laura Zeni was born in Milan in 1962. She attended the Brera Academy under the guidance of Raffaele De Grada. After completing her studies, she worked for a short time at the publishing house De Agostini as well as at some companies as a designer, cultivating her passion for art and design.

Since the 1980s until today, she has taken part in several exhibitions and trade fairs in various Italian cities. In parallel with her pictorial works, in the 1990s Laura Zeni began to create artist’s books, jewellery and home furnishings. In January 2007, she participated as a guest in the group of RistorArte, at the Macef, where she was known and appreciated for the originality of her creations. With the team of RistorArte she also realized, in October 2007, the artist’s book entitled “Il mondo di Will” (“Wills’ World”), which was presented in Milan. In April 2008, she was at the fair ‘Fuori Salone del Mobile’ with Jannelli & Volpi. In 2010 was released by the publishing house Italia Press Edizioni the book “Un cuore a quattro zampe” (“A heart on all fours”), presented at the Press Club. In September 2012, on the occasion of the fair ‘White’, she opened the solo exhibition “Laura Zeni. Illuminazioni”(“Laura Zeni. Enlightenments”), curated by Fortunato D'Amico, at the MyOwnGallery of Superstudiopiù in Milan, accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue published by Skira. In November 2012 she realized, at the historic Sala Colonne (Hall of Columns) in the premises of Banca Intermobiliare, in Via Meravigli (Milan), the solo exhibition “Laura Zeni… che Meraviglia!” (“Laura Zeni ... How Wonderful!”), followed in February 2013 by the solo exhibition “Laura Zeni. Indian Pattern”, at the Spazio Tadini gallery in Milan, both curated by Fortunato D'Amico. In March she participates to a collective show entitled “Be on the move. Il movimento del corpo e della mente” presso at Macs – Mazda Con-Temporary Space in Milan and to the review “Arte da mangiare” (“Art to eat”) in the cloisters of Umanitaria in Milan.

Exhibition details

**Title: Laura Zeni. L’esperienza del risveglio/The Experience of Awakening**

**Curator:** Fortunato D’Amico

**Venue:** Alba, Chiesa San Giuseppe (St. Joseph’s Church), Exhibition Space Arte nella Grotta

Piazzetta Vernazza, 6 – car park P.za Senatore Cagnasso at a distance of 150 m

**Period:** April 7th – 27th 2013

**Concert:** *Preludi e arabeschi (Preludes & Arabesques)*, Sunday, April 7th, at 11:00 am

**Opening ceremony:** Sunday, April 7th, at 12:00 am

**Finissage:** Saturday, April 27th, at 5:30 pm, tasting of local wines of Langa – Tenuta Cavallotto, Castiglione Falletto (Cn)

**Opening hours:** Thursday – Sunday, at 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm (open on April 25th)

**Getting there**: by motorway from Turin: A6 (Turin-Savona) exit Bra-Marene

From Milan: motorway A21 (Piacenza-Turin) A33 (Asti-Alba) SS231 Alba centro

From Genoa: motorway A26 (Genoa-Voltri)- A21 - A33 (Asti-Alba) SS 231 Alba centro

**Visitor Information:**  Fabio Carisio 366 1565872 galleria@art-wine.eu

**Press Office**

**Irma Bianchi Comunicazione**

Phone: +39 02 8940 4694 (PBX system) – Fax: 02 8356467 –  info@irmabianchi.it

Text and images available for download: [www.irmabianchi.it](http://www.irmabianchi.it)