**FONDAZIONE CARISBO**

Art and History Collections

Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Foundation

San Giorgio in Poggiale

Bologna, Italy

**Il Nuovo Rit-ratto d'Europa - Identità dell'arte italiana degli ultimi 40 anni**

**The new Por-trait of Europe - Identity of Italian art in the last forty years**

curated by Vittoria Coen

16 January 2004 - 15 February 2004

After the great success of **Il Nuovo Rit-ratto d'Europa - Identità dell'arte italiana degli ultimi 40 anni/The new Por-trait of Europe - Identity of Italian art in the last forty years** at the Académie Royale de Belgique in Bruxelles, (October-November 2003), the exhibition is hosted in Italy at the Art and History Collections of the Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Foundation, San Giorgio in Poggiale, from **16 January to 15 February 2004**. The show will be open to the public during **"Bologna Art Fair 2004"**.

The exhibition curated by Vittoria Coen opens a window on the art world in Italy from the last forty years which, in addition to important expressive outcomes, made possible a more effective communication within the European and international scenes. The artistic development starts from the aesthetic ideology of Poor Art (at the end of the '60s) to go to the Transavanguardia (end of the '70s), up to the poetical experimentations of the '90s.

Twentytwo artists best represent the scopes and the tendencies of contemporary art: **Enrico Castellani, Carla Accardi, Fabio Mauri, Giulio Paolini, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Luigi Ontani, Aldo Mondino, Sandro Chia, Luigi Mainolfi, Mimmo Paladino, Enzo Cucchi, Francesco Clemente, Gianni Dessì, Giuseppe Gallo, Marco Lodola, Gian Marco Montesano, Sabrina Torelli, Gian Luigi Toccafondo, Sabrina Mezzaqui, Luca Pignatelli, Alberto Zamboni and Paolo Chiasera.**

Among these, eleven artists document the heritage of the artistic research between the '60s and the end of the '80s, five express the artistic visions linked to the experimentation of the '90s and the six youngest are witnesses of the current reflections. Each one exhibits two works: one owned by the artist himself or belonging to a collection and the other made specifically for the occasion. So the exhibition highlights the road taken by some of the most important representatives of Italian art and through the richness of their ideas it goes deep into the artistic journey of each one.

"The word 'rit-ratto' - says Vittoria Coen in the catalogue - through a [Italian] pun [where the word 'ratto' means 'kidnap/rape'], refers to the ancient Greek myth which sees Zeus kidnapping Europe after transforming himself into a bull and taking her to Crete, where he had three children, among which there was Minos, King of Crete".

**The Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Foundation**, which has always been a supporter of the heritage and cultural development of its own region, offers the occasion of understanding the important creative role of Italian art in the 20th century. In this particular case, the exhibition presents the part of the Collection of the Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Foundation that is linked to the contemporary artistic research, as testimonial of their real and innovative commitment.

A bilingual Italian-French **catalogue** completes the exhibition, curated by Vittoria Coen, with the reproductions of the displayed works and biographical files, and published by Compositori Editore, Bologna.

**Press office: Irma Bianchi Comunicazione**