

ITAI DOSHIN: MOSAIC ACCORDING TO FELICE NITTOLO

Solo show of the artist at ASCOM – Lugo, in the Lino Longhi rooms

The opening of Felice Nittolo's solo show *ITAI DOSHIN* will take place on Saturday 13 September at 6:30 pm, in the setting of the commerce building of Lugo (RA), via Acquacalda, 29.

The exposition, curated by Paolo Trioschi, concludes the *exhibition triptych* of the Ravenna artist this summer.

Itai Doshin, i.e. unity of intention and action according to Japanese culture, which the artist loves so much, retraces some of the more extensive themes in this versatile experimenter artist's forty years' of activity. It creates an exhibition itinerary in many ways unedited. In these works mosaic goes beyond conventional technique and breaks into the language and techniques of contemporary art. A poetic, lyrical reinvention: a continuous challenge to the past so as to update it and make it personal, evocative, between reflection and lyricism, without schematisms.

The show is articulated starting with the early 1980s, the restless years of the *Aritmismo* [*Arythmism*] series where the artist smashes the tiles, crushes and pulverizes them, enlarges and narrows the spaces between them, captures and repels the light. Then come the 1990s where the *Coca Cola* brand is combined with the historicity of Ravenna. The little glass coke bottle with a sip of mosaic tiles is deformed with a flame and becomes a fossil of the consumer society, an ironic and syncretic citation that unites and amalgamates the past with the present.

Finally we come to the *tracce* [*traces*] of the 2000s. Here the mosaic is explicated more by subtraction and absence than by compact material and physical forms. He gets down to the sole imprint of the tiles. Here the artist dialogues with space, according a rare modernity to an ancient art. The surface is deliberately left empty to indicate the precariousness and fragmentary nature of our existence, while light and colour are the protagonists. Wounds and scars are recomposed, the traces become poetic verses, anger is transformed into kindness, violence in reflection, a sort of elegy of the void replaces the full, the absence of the tile is replaced by its imprint that advances in a pictorial material both light and powerful.

With Nittolo the fascination of the mosaic lies in the ludic power of the fragment.

The exhibit is accompanied by a trilingual catalogue, Capit editions.

Itai Doshin: 13 September - 26 October 2014

Opening hours: Saturday, Sunday and holidays 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm, Tuesday and Thursday 3 pm – 6 pm

Free entrance

The exhibit is promoted by Confcommercio ASCOM Lugo with the patronage of the municipality of Lugo and is part of AscomArte. Info www.ascomlugo.it tel 054530111

The exhibit has a second section in Ravenna at the niArt Gallery in via Anastagi 4a/6. www.niart.eu

The exhibits are included in the X Giornata Nazionale del Contemporaneo [10th National Day of Contemporary Art] 11 October 2014.