

Press Release

Studio Guenzani presents, at its headquarters in Via Eustachi 10, an exhibition of American artists **Allan McCollum** e **Allen Ruppertsberg**.

Inaugurazione: Monday, April 14, 2008 from 6 pm



A. Ruppertsberg-A. McCollum, detail view of the Studio Guenzani exhibition, 2008. Photo © Roberto Marossi. Courtesy Studio Guenzani Milan

ALLEN RUPPERSBERG - ALLAN McCOLLUM

For the first time, Allan McCollum and Allen Ruppertsberg, peers and friends for many years, exhibit together. The work on show is the result of the union of two works: *The Shapes Project* by Allan McCollum and *The Never Ending Book* by Allen Ruppertsberg.

The Shapes Project, a work in progress, started in 2005, involves the creation of "shapes", abstract shapes, computer-processed and then printed in the form of silhouettes, in a number that could give each inhabitant of the earth the possibility to own one unique work until the world population has reached its peak of maximum growth which according to the statistics should be between 8 and 20 billion around the middle of this century.

The Never Ending Book, and an installation composed of a series of specially constructed multi-colored scenographic objects, on which, in the version presented at the 2007 Basel fair, cartoons containing photocopies that freely assembled by the public could create an unlimited number of books, one different from the other.

In the exhibition at Studio Guenzani the two works dialogue in an environmental installation, which will occupy the whole space of the great hall of the gallery. The objects created by Ruppertsberg, reconstructed for the exhibition, will serve as support for a number of McCollum's "shapes", framed and carefully arranged according to a precise pattern.

The exhibition therefore presents an unpublished work, which combines the characteristics of both works, which have conceptual plans in common despite being visually very different: the sense of a design that does not have a precise term, decided by the artist but that regards the spectator, understood as the one who will make the work unique. Instead of the books that everyone can assemble at will, there are now the forms, almost portraits or better than the identity markers, of personal logos.

A way to exalt individuality through the repetition of the gesture, of the form always similar but never the same.

Allan McCollum and Allen Ruppertsberg are two of the most important American conceptual artists of their generation. They developed, with different languages, the dialectics that exist between the work of art, the multiple and the objects of everyday use.

The work of Allen Ruppertsberg critically and ironically investigates the languages of media and artistic forms such as cinema and literature, deconstructing their codes, making them slip away in favor of a different and more direct use of the work of art. art.

For many years, Allan McCollum has concentrated his research on the relationship between the object and its transfiguration in a work of art through its "production" in almost industrial quantities and yet obtaining forms and subjects never identical to each other. For some projects the artist has collaborated with American and European historical and scientific museums.

Allan McCollum was born in 1944 in Los Angeles. Lives and works in New York.

Allen Ruppertsberg was born in 1944 in Cleveland. Lives and works in New York and Los Angeles.

The exhibition continues until May 31, 2008

Exhibition times: from Tuesday to Saturday, from 3pm to 7.30pm. In the morning by appointment.

For information: 0229409251

Studio Guenzani, via Eustachi 10, 20129 Milan www.studioguenzani.it