



THE ROOTS OF SIGNS HANS HARTUNG. THE GRAPHIC WORK

Roma, Palazzo Poli (Fontana di Trevi) from 13 December 2013 to 2 March 2014

Preview 12 December at 12.00 noon

Opening 12 December at 5.30pm

The exhibition that the ING dedicates to the graphic work of Hartung was set out by the donation The Hartung-Bergman Foundation made to the MIBACT.

The heart of the donation, which consists of 138 papers is displayed on the premises of Palazzo Poli, next to paintings and drawings, the latter on display for the first time and focusing upon the graphic production by the French-German master, making evident how much painting owes to graphic art. The key word that defines the exhibition is *Hartung, graveur peintre*. This definition, coined by Rainer Michael Mason, one of the most perceptive interpreters of Hartung's graphic work, overturns the traditional connection between painting and etching.

The graphic production, widely documented here, offers a range of stylistic solutions, and executive processes which seemingly only contradict the artist's fast and spontaneous *modus operandi*. As such, the diagnostics laboratory of the matrices of the Institute provided innovative in-depth analysis of the techniques used both for the matrices and the prints, showing the constant dynamism of the research of mere abstraction, from *Blitzbücher*, or "lightening books", he never gave up on drawing the reality trying to "fix the dynamism and the force of energy" (Hans Hartung) through the *still action*, as defined by Achille Bonito Oliva.

Hans Hartung's art has been much appreciated by the public and followed by Italian critics throughout the years since 1948, when Giulio Carlo Argan, introduced him for the first time during the 24th Biennale di Venezia, in the Peggy Guggenheim collection, until the latest retrospective exhibition.

This exhibition has been realized thanks to the support by Direzione generale per il paesaggio, le belle arti, l'architettura e l'arte contemporanea of the MIBACT and with the collaboration of Fondation d'Antibes. It highlights Hartung's strong integration into European nineteenth century culture, embedding Italy in the virtuous network of public collectors of the master's graphic work, along with other prestigious institutions; such as the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, the Kupferstichkabinett at the Staatlichen Museen in Berlin and the cabinet des Estampes of the Musée d'art et d'histoire of Genève.

When: 13 December 2013 to 2 March 2014

Where: Palazzo Poli (Fontana di Trevi) Via Poli, 54 – 00187 Roma

From 10.00am to 7.00pm daily

Closed on Monday

Free entrance

Information: in-g.ufficiostampa@beniculturali.it

Catalogue: Hartung-Bergman Foundation

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