



MAGAZZINO **ITALIAN ART**

2700 Route 9
Cold Spring, NY 10516, USA
Tel +1 845 666 7202
info@magazzino.art

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For more information on Magazzino,
please visit <http://magazzino.art>.

Media Contacts

Rachel Rees
SUTTON (USA)
rachel.rees@suttonpr.com
+1 212 202 3402

Ambra Nepi
AMBRA NEPI COMUNICAZIONE (Italy)
ambranepicomunicazione@gmail.com
+39 348 654 3173

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Magazzino Italian Art **Celebrates Its Official Opening In The Hudson Valley**

Inaugural Opening: June 28, 2017
Press Preview: June 24, 2017

The new warehouse art space in Cold Spring opens with 'Margherita Stein: Rebel With A Cause' — an exhibition dedicated to the leading Arte Povera pioneer

Cold Spring, NEW YORK – Magazzino, the new private warehouse art space in the Hudson Valley devoted to Postwar and Contemporary Italian art, officially opens to the public on June 28, 2017, with an inaugural exhibition paying homage to Margherita Stein. *Margherita Stein: Rebel With a Cause* celebrates the historic founder of Galleria Christian Stein (Turin, Italy), one of the pioneers of the Arte Povera movement. The exhibition focuses on honoring Stein's legacy in the United States by fostering a renewed dialogue around Post-war Italian art.

"We are delighted to be opening Magazzino in the Hudson Valley," states Director Vittorio Calabrese. "*Margherita Stein: Rebel With a Cause* not only focuses on the core group of artists associated with the Arte Povera movement but also incorporates artists from the generation that followed. Almost all the works in the show have never been previously exhibited in the United States. We are not presenting the works chronologically, but rather want to highlight the individuality of each artist's distinctive approach. What unifies them is the relationship to Stein, whose support of these artists was unflinching for over 40 years. Our goal is to support Italian art, as well as international contemporary artists with strong ties to Italian culture with the same vigor as Stein demonstrated during her lifetime."

Located in Cold Spring, New York, Magazzino will display works from the Olnick Spanu Collection, with the mission to create further recognition of Post-war and Contemporary Italian Art in the United States through its exhibitions and programs. The building itself draws architectural components from the existing structure—originally designed as a farmers' warehouse, then converted to a dairy distribution center and most recently a rugged computer factory—repurposed within a larger design conceived and led by Spanish architect Miguel Quismondo. Quismondo doubled the square footage of the former space by completing the original L-shape into a rectangle, leaving a courtyard in the center, and creating a dialogue between the existing and the new addition. The state of the art facility features more than 18,000 square feet of exhibition space as well as a library, which will comprise more

than 5,000 publications on Italian art. The library will be accessible free of charge, by appointment to residents, students, scholars or anyone who wishes to conduct research in this field.

“The project pays tribute to Magazzino’s name - *magazzino* means “warehouse” in Italian - by reiterating its integrity as an industrial warehouse,” explains Quismondo. “The existing building has been stripped to its basic components, while the addition is built with structural cast-in-place concrete and metal girders, creating a modulated repetition. The balance of natural light, the contrasting shell and versatile height of the new component establishes a harmonious dialogue between the existing and the addition.”

Margherita Stein: Rebel With a Cause will display a curated selection of approximately 70 art works created by artists whose careers Stein fostered. Margherita Stein was born and raised in Turin. In 1966, when she decided to open her own gallery, she assumed the alias “Christian Stein”, borrowing her husband’s first and last name in order to gain acceptance in the Italian art world. Due to her passion for art and exquisite aesthetic eye, she went on to become one of the leading Italian gallerists of her generation. Throughout her career, Stein was dedicated to supporting artists associated with Spatialism, the Zero Group and most significantly, Arte Povera, bringing early recognition to this movement, first in Italy and Europe, and later in the United States. Continuing this mission, Magazzino’s inaugural presentation and programming aims to further the historical dialogue and research on Italian art, both past and present.

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Italian art critic and curator Germano Celant coined the phrase “Arte Povera” for his celebrated 1967 exhibition at La Bertesca gallery in Genova. Meaning “poor art” in Italian, the phrase grew out of the radical stance artists were taking in response to their dissatisfaction with the values established by political, industrial and cultural institutions. The movement features impressive sculptural installations, illustrating artists’ preoccupation with history and myth and their preference for humble, mundane materials. These young Italians opposed the commercialization of the art object and aimed to eradicate the boundaries between media as well as between nature and art. For several years, Stein’s gallery was in her home, where she could live with her art, and where many of these artists would come to participate in philosophical debates on the changes that were taking place in contemporary art. Her commitment to their vision has proven to be an essential part of the history of Arte Povera.

Based on Stein’s legacy, the inaugural display at Magazzino will showcase over four decades of historic works by artists including Giovanni Anselmo, Alighiero Boetti, Pier Paolo Calzolari, Luciano Fabro, Jannis Kounellis, Mario Merz, Marisa Merz, Giulio Paolini, Pino Pascali, Giuseppe Penone, Michelangelo Pistoletto, and Gilberto Zorio, as well as Marco Bagnoli, Domenico Bianchi and Remo Salvadori, representing the next generation following Arte Povera.

In October, a photographic publication will be launched, documenting the construction of Magazzino from start to finish, by photographer Marco Anelli. Anelli’s work, titled *Building Magazzino*, portrays the workers on site through the realization of Quismondo’s design that transformed an industrial space into one dedicated to Italian art.

Magazzino’s mission, though, is not just to promote Italian art and Italian contemporary artists, but to exhibit works that start a wider conversation about Italy and its cultural identity. For instance, Magazzino sponsored a project by Melissa McGill, an artist based in the Hudson Valley, whose last project, “The Campi”, was shown in various venues during the opening of the 2017 Venice Biennale. The Campi is a sculptural sound project that invokes the Venetian squares, reproducing the sound and therefore the life of these iconic cultural centers. Magazzino will continue to support offsite projects by established and emerging artists both in Italy and the U.S.

Magazzino Italian Art will also feature a range of educational programming for visitors and the local community, as well as rotating temporary exhibitions in one of its gallery twice a year.

Urban Arts Partnership

Magazzino is proud to gift any donations received in lieu of admission to Urban Arts Partnership (UAP). Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu will match, dollar to dollar, the amount of each donation.

Founded in 1991, UAP advances the intellectual, social and artistic development of underserved public school students through arts-integrated education programs that seeks to close various achievement gaps. UAP serves more than 15,000 students and 500 teachers in over 100 public schools across New York City and Los Angeles. UAP's mission is to unlock student potential through partnering with schools and communities where the need and potential for change are the greatest and we inspire education through various programming to meet the needs of diverse learners to develop character, ignite curiosity and create pathways to success. For over 25 years UAP has improved academic outcomes, graduation rates, artistic growth, and social-emotional learning through our arts-integrated approach to education in and beyond the classroom.

Learn more about Urban Arts Partnership at urbanarts.org. To donate to Urban Arts Partnership, please visit: donate.urbanarts.org/uap

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Notes to the Editor

About Magazzino

Magazzino is a private warehouse art space in the Hudson Valley devoted to Postwar and Contemporary Italian art. Meaning warehouse in Italian, the 20,000 square-foot structure is designed by architect Miguel Quismondo and dedicated to select works from the Olnick Spanu Collection. Co-founded by Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu, and directed by Vittorio Calabrese, Magazzino is free to the public by appointment. In addition to its curatorial program, Magazzino serves as a resource for scholars and students to utilize its extensive library and archive of Arte Povera, as well as a cultural hub for the vibrant Hudson Valley community.

Magazzino bridges collaborations with American and Italian organizations to support contemporary Italian artists and foster discussions about Postwar and Contemporary Italian Art in the United States. For example, Magazzino Italian Art is a donor for the 57th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia and Documenta 14 in Athens (2017).

Magazzino's offsite programming included sponsoring *Artecinema*, a screening of Italian films on contemporary art and architecture curated by Laura Trisorio (December 9, 2016, in collaboration with Casa Italiana Zerilli Marimò at New York University), and *Ornaghi & Prestinari*, the New York premier of Milan-based artist duo Valentina Ornaghi and Claudio Prestinari (October 24 – December 9, 2016, in collaboration with Casa Italiana Zerilli Marimò at New York University and Galleria Continua in Italy).

About Olnick Spanu

Olnick Spanu is a private initiative established by longtime art advocates Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu. With a focus on Italian art, it is comprised of the Olnick Spanu Collection, Art Program, publications, and commissioned architectural projects. Olnick Spanu and Magazzino will continue to support the current generation of Italian artists through temporary presentations in its project space as well as in other venues.