

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

PRESS RELEASE

MONICA BONVICINI *Our House*

via a.stradella 7 - 1 - 4

Opening reception with the artist thursday march 23rd, h. 19.00 - 21.00
march 24th | april 26th 2017
tuesday – saturday h. 10.00-13.00 | 15.00-19.30 and by appointment

Galleria Raffaella Cortese is pleased to present Monica Bonvicini's first exhibition in the gallery's spaces. The show is spread across all three exhibition venues and also displays works conceived and produced specifically for the occasion.

Known primarily for her large sculptural installations, Monica Bonvicini is an artist with a complex and complete artistic activity, which includes drawings, collages, neon works, videos, photographs, sculptures and spray paintings. Her research has always been strongly connected to architecture as a language to build structures and concepts that reflect upon the pressures and the physical and mental conditioning that we are subject to, gender differences, the relationship with the intimacy of our own body, and the dynamics of power that outline the world we live in.

After exhibiting its first two versions in Hamburg and New York, for her exhibition at the gallery Monica Bonvicini will present the third variation of *Structural Psychodramas (Structural Psychodramas #3)*, an installation in which the artist positions a temporary wall within the exhibition space to create new spatial connotations. With this gesture Bonvicini undermines the architectural functionality of the gallery or the institution in which the work is placed, which loses the characteristics of its original design, rethinking at the same time the same space, suggesting new possibilities of usage and rapport.

A selection of drawings will also be part of the show. Often conceived as drafts for her installations, they offer an intimate vision and exploration of themes such as art history, architecture, sexuality, power and history. The drawings on view are part of the *Hurricane and Other Catastrophes* series, which includes black and white drawings from 2006 and drawings related to Katrina, Sandy and Irene hurricanes. The catastrophes depicted in these works lead us to question just how 'natural' these disasters may be, as studies have definitely proven their connection to man's influence on the environment through global warming, pollution and environmentally irresponsible behaviour.

Sculptures from the *Diener* series, made from industrially produced props to support architectural structures, will be placed against the gallery's walls. The artist gives them, with a process similar to that of *Structural Psychodramas*, a new aesthetic and functionality, transforming them in furniture and design objects. Each time different and linked to the place they are thought for, The *Diener* sculptures conceived for the gallery in Milan are covered with four different materials specific to the territory.

For further informations contact Nicla Calegari +39 02 2043555, info@galleriaraffaellacortese.com.

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