

SIMONE

NEGRI





CATALOG

SIMONE NEGRI



How architecture feeds the imagination of art. Despite the fundamental functions that architecture must perform, the best examples continue to inspire artists across all genres with their masterful use of space, harmony and proportion. Modern Shapes Gallery presents architectural ceramic art by the Italian ceramist Simone Negri

ARTISTIC APPROACH

As self-supporting architectural structures, the sculptures selected for the Belgian exhibition are part of the series entitled “happenings”. The essence of the title moves us in the direction of an even more evident, if possible, search for synthesis. This new trend marks the abandonment of the representation of space through sculptures which are composed of two, three or more elements, in favour of a single object, solitarily deployed. In the past it had often been necessary for the author to recreate places that acted as “guardians of time”, special areas which had an almost sacred function. Now however, it is almost as though his sculptures have become aware of the creative process and are participating in it by the part that they play in the space that surround us. This is the latest evolution of the language

that the author has refined during his twenty plus years of activity. Negri started his journey with clay processing techniques at school, procedures that he later developed by following courses and workshops. However, it was his continuous personal research that led to select materials and executive processes. Over the years his experiments in firing the clay through a process of smoking have developed into a distinctive trait that have been combined with a synthesis that evokes the essential elegance visible in the Nordic and Far East cultures. His irresistible attraction to minimalism, lacking in naturalistic or baroque decorations and any vivid colour, has remained constant throughout his work, which captures the primordial sense of matter. Upon the usually shiny, refined surfaces, you can see the ostentatious choice of a chromatic palette made of just a few colours; black and white blended together with ochre tones and subtly refined through the decorative touch dictated by the fire. The period of firing at 980°C has passed and these new works challenge on a technical level the potential of clays that are brought to high temperature. In the author’s expressive research, ceramic material has become a preferred, but not exclusive choice, and a number of resin sculptures have been developed to recall once again the tension of man in his conscious evolution.



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THE WORKS

The universal classicism ardently desired by Simone Negri stands out for its penetrating diffusion of the element of time. In his interpretation and representation of the present ideal, once again, what must happen, will happen.

Marco Maria Polloniato

ACCADIMENTO #7

2018

H 38 x W 36 x D 36 cm



ACCADIMENTO #10

2018

H 31 x W 32 x D 16 cm

€ 2.100



ACCADIMENTO #15

2018

H 21 x W 29 x D 18 cm

€ 2.000





The solitary sculptural entity, in the work of Simone Negri, is linked to an epic vision of the present. There is the precise sensation that the white matter so forged, in which we can recognize elementary geometric elements, is one of the elements that make up existence. A thin layer of black, which traces and encodes its identity is poured on it and indelibly fixed. On the one hand we are left with no doubt that the sculptures are the work of a human being; it could only be a human hand that gives them such shape and decoration. On the other hand, it appears as though the long, slow passing of time itself has tattooed upon the surface its inevitable legacy. It is not randomness that determines the gesture of the artist, but rather it is through that precise tonal contrast that one can see the strength of a thought that, even if not explicit, calls attention to the possible interactions between rational and irrational activity. The solidity with which these sculptures stand in space is given weight by their symmetry and their clear outlines. The only trait that compromises any presumed perfection is the way that they become part of the history, in the recent present, through a technical and decorative process that marks the surfaces in a unique, original and unrepeatable way.

ACCADIMENTO #24

2018

H 25 x W 24 x D 24 cm

€ 1.850



ACCADIMENTO #25

2018

H 37 x W 36 x D 20 cm



ACCADIMENTO #30

2018

H 29 x W 33 x D 33 cm

€ 2.850



SIMONE NEGRI

Simone Negri was born in Milan in 1970. He graduated from the Istituto Statale d'Arte of Castelmassa (RO) and then deepened his research in the field of artistic ceramics by attending workshops and following numerous seminars. It develops its own interest in the creative processes in which the active interaction with the fire element is to contribute in a decisive way to the aesthetic-expressive result through a personal re-examination of the techniques of smoking with sawdust cooking. From 1998 he began to exhibit his works in public spaces and art galleries. His work gets notoriety in the Italian panorama of ceramics by the author thanks to the awards received in prestigious events, including the first prize won at the VI International Exhibition Albissola City of Art and Ceramics in 2008 at Albissola Marina (SV) and the first prize won at the IV National Competition of Ceramics in Cornaredo (MI) in 2010.



Education

- 1997 Graduated in Art - National Institute of Art, Castelmassa (RO), Italy
- 1995 Specialization in Applied Arts - National Institute of Art, Castelmassa (RO), Italy

Solo exhibition

- 2019 Simone Negri - Modern Shapes Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2018 Al tempo stesso - GulliArte Gallery, Savona, Italy
- 2016 Eterno presente - Dodici Studio, Brescia, Italy

Main group exhibitions

- 2018 Contemporary expressions from Italy - Cultural Center, Andenne, Belgium
Keramòs - GulliArte Gallery, Italy
Artisti della ceramica - Pasquinucci Furnace Association, Capraia (FI), Italy
- 2017 Extra Murum - Ezzelini Castle, Bassano del Grappa (VI), Italy
Costruire la forma - Dodici Studio, Brescia, Italy
Terre in vista - Enotri Museum, Cosenza, Italy
- 2016 Keramikos - Alessandri Palace, Viterbo, Italy
Terra condivisa - Officina delle Arti Association, Siena, Italy
Terre in vista - Sukiya Gallery, Lamezia Terme (CS), Italy
- 2015 Scultura ceramica contemporanea - National Gallery of Modern & Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy
Terra / La ceramica nell'Informale e nella ricerca contemporanea - Vitelli Palace, Città di Castello (PG), Italy
- 2014 Keramikos - National Archaeological Museum, Tarquinia (VT), Italy
Forme antiche nuove idee - Episcopio Castle, Grottaglie (TA), Italy
Maestri della ceramica - Pasquinucci Furnace Association, Capraia (FI), Italy
Incontrinterra - Ceramic Museum, Deruta (PG), Italy

- 2013 Ceramic: Black&White - RB Contemporary Gallery, Milan, Italy
Ceramica d'uso, abuso e riuso - Ceramic Museum, Montelupo Fiorentino, Italy
Arte ceramica oggi in Italia - Necchi Campiglio Villa, Milan, Italy
- 2012 BACC / Biennale d'arte ceramica - Aldobrandini Museum, Frascati (Rome), Italy
Change - Pagliero Furnace Ceramic Center, Castellamonte (TO), Italy
- 2011 Lo Stato dell'Arte / Italian Pavilion of 54th Venice Biennale, Mantua, Italy
La tradizione della materia - Luna Art Gallery, Borgo San Dalmazzo (CN), Italy
- 2010 Creatività Ceramica Italiana - Dailininku Sajungos Gallery, Vilnius, Lithuania
- 2009 Ritorno alla terra d'Albissola - Museum of Contemporary Art, Albissola, Italy
- 2008 Terre d'Arte - Public building, Lodi, Italy
- 2006 Terry Davies, Simone Negri, Park Soh Young - Ricciardelli Palace, Faenza, Italy
- 2005 Terra Acqua Fuoco Aria - Sforza Castle, Soncino (CR), Italy

Awards and selection

- 2018 Selected for CICA 2018 / Concours International de Ceramica, Ceramic Museum, L'Alcora, Spain
- 2016 Honourable Mention at 10th International Contemporary Ceramic Meeting, Albissola Marina (SV), Italy
- 2014 Selected for 21th Mediterranean Ceramic Competition, Ceramic Museum, Grottaglie (TA), Italy
- 2013 Selected for 5th Triennale of Ceramic, Public Palace, Este (PD), Italy
- 2010 First prize at 4th National Ceramic Competition, Public Palace, Cornaredo, Italy
- 2008 First prize at 5th International Contemporary Ceramic Meeting, Albissola Marina (SV), Italy
- 2002 Special prize at 2nd International Competition of Ceramic, Ceramic Museum, Nove (VI), Italy

Public collections

Ceramic Museum, Andenne, Belgium
Ceramic Museum, L'Alcora, Spain
Ceramic Museum, Nove (VI), Italy
Public Palace, Albissola Marina (SV), Italy

Main publications

2018 Archivio delle Arti, Magazine - Simone Negri, al tempo stesso
Exhibition catalog - CCA / Ceramic Art Andenne
La Ceramica Moderna, Magazine - Espressioni contemporanee d'Italia in Belgio
Exhibition catalog - CICA 2018 / Concours International de Ceramica

2017 Textbook, Amazon publishing - Ceramica Artistica: materiali, tecniche, storia
Exhibition catalog - Extra Murum

2016 Exhibition catalog - 10th International Contemporary Ceramic Meeting

2015 Exhibition book, Silvana publishing - Terrae
Exhibition book, Castelvecchi publishing - Scultura Ceramica Contemporanea

2014 Exhibition catalog - Incontrinterra
Exhibition catalog - Keramikos
Exhibition catalog - BACC / Biennale Arte Ceramica Contemporanea
Exhibition book, Lo Stato dell'Arte / Italian Pavilion of 54th Venice Biennale

2011 La ceramica in Italia e nel mondo, Magazine - S. Negri. Abilità, rigore, raffinatezza

2010 Exhibition catalog - Creatività Cermica Italiana

2008 Exhibition catalog - 5th International Contemporary Ceramic Meeting

2004 Stile Arte, Magazine - Simone Negri. Forme pure

2002 Exhibition catalog - 2nd International Competition of Ceramic

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Kloosterstraat 16 - 2000 Antwerp - Belgium - info@modernshapes.com - www.modernshapes.com