

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GIOVANNI MORBIN

Ozionismo, manifesto orizzontale

Rethinking Idleness

18.11.2023 – 05.01.2024

Opening: 18.11.2023, 5 – 9 PM

6.30 PM: Performance Giovanni Morbin

Renowned Italian conceptual and performance artist Giovanni Morbin presents a new exhibition and performance in Vienna.

In a world perpetually in motion, where ceaseless productivity is extolled as the ultimate aspiration, the notion of idleness emerges as a curious anomaly. Yet, Italian conceptual artist Giovanni Morbin, born in 1956, invites us to thoroughly reevaluate our perspectives on repose, contemplation, and the very essence of creativity. His latest exhibition, hosted at galerie michaela stock, serves as an intriguing portal to this transformative exploration.

The centerpiece of Giovanni Morbin's exhibition is his latest series, "Ozionismo, manifesto orizzontale." It's a profound exploration of retirement, including a manifesto on the subject. The concept takes on even greater significance when considering that the conceptual artist is retiring from his position as a professor at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Verona this year. For Morbin, retirement doesn't signify the end; rather, it's a transformation, a shedding of one layer to reveal another, an evolution that continues to captivate, provoke, and inspire.

In his series "Ozionismo, manifesto orizzontale," Morbin takes exhibition visitors into the realm of idleness. In this new work, Morbin weaves a complex narrative around the paradoxical relationship between rest and creation, prompting us to question the nature of artistic retirement. Can an artist ever truly step away from his creative calling? Is artistry an innate part of one's identity that cannot be relinquished, even in the face of retirement?

The exhibition features 5 large-scale photographs and "Useful Devices for Idleness" by Giovanni Morbin. This collection showcases meticulously crafted tools that, in their performance, simulate activities that are not what they seem. Each of these sculptural objects, to which the artist imparts special significance, invites us to contemplate the profound meaning of moments of idleness in our lives. In a world where constant busyness tends to overshadow the importance of taking a moment to reflect, these tools serve as a poignant reminder that idleness has its own deep value. In a world that rarely slows down, Morbin's exhibition prompts us to reevaluate how we perceive idleness, transformation, and the ongoing significance of creativity, even in the most contemplative moments of retirement.

The exhibition in Vienna marks the start of a series of solo exhibitions by Giovanni Morbin in three prestigious institutions. Curated by Alenka Pirman and Daniele Capra, these exhibitions will span the next four months, taking place from Ljubljana to Venice and concluding in Bologna.

About the artist: Giovanni Morbin

Giovanni Morbin is a prominent figure in the Italian performance and body art scene. With a career spanning several decades, Giovanni Morbin born in 1956, has consistently pushed the boundaries of artistic expression and continues to inspire contemplation and dialogue through his art. His work draws deep influence from both Italian and global avant-garde movements, employing a visual metalanguage as a medium for critique and political commentary on contemporary society. His work often starts with the intent to displace and surprise the observer, and it frequently engages in playful linguistic experimentation, which tends to highlight the unexpected and contradictory aspects of human actions.

Morbin established in 1995 TOTAL SURFACE, a platform that presents a series of performances known as "Hybridizations." These performances provide a captivating glimpse into his exploration of the human experience and the often-blurred boundaries between art and life.

Notably, a comprehensive monograph of his artistic journey has recently been released by Centrale Fies, a leading performance center in Italy.

Exhibitions / selection: Lazareti Art Center, Dubrovnik; Mart, Rovereto; Villa Croce Museum, Genoa; Quadrennial, Rome; MMSU Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Rijeka; Marino Marini Museum, Florence; Cabaret Voltaire, Zurich; Civic Gallery, Trento; MACRo, Rome; Centrale Fies, Dro; KBC Beograd Cultural Center, Belgrade; Berengo Foundation, Venice; Pink Factory Ex Szeemann Archive, Locarno; Palazzo Forti, Verona; MAGA Museum, Gallarate; Mestna Galerija, Ljubljana; Viafarini, Milan.

Event Details

Giovanni Morbin **Ozionismo, manifesto orizzontale** *Rethinking Idleness*

Exhibition Dates: 18.11.2023 – 05.01.2024

Location: galerie michaela stock, Praterstraße 17, 1020 Vienna, Austria

Opening Reception: 18.11.2023, 5 – 9 PM / 6.30 PM: Performance Giovanni Morbin

PRESS RELEASE

We would appreciate a report/mentioning in your medium.

We hereby confirm the approval for the free of charge publication of all sent images / text.

Courtesy: Giovanni Morbin / gallery michaela stock

PRESS IMAGES

Image 1

Ozione 1, 2023

Digital print on pure cotton paper, mounted on dibond , set of 5 different images

Unique piece , 150 X 100 cm

Image 2

Manomissore / Tamperer, 2023

sculptural object for performance

Marble, stainless steel, aluminium, electronic circuit and wooden case

Unique piece

43 x 25,5 x 25,5 cm

Image 3

Autogiarapollici / Autothumbturner, 2023

sculptural object for performance

Aluminum and stainless steel

Unique piece, 38 x 8 x 8 cm

For media inquiries, high-resolution images, or interview requests, please contact:

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galerie michaela stock

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opening hours: Wednesday to Friday: 3 - 7 pm, Saturday 11 am – 3 pm