

# MANUELA FILIACI

## MUSEO NAZIONALE DI VILLA PISANI

via Doge Pisani 7 • 30039 Stra (VE)

**opening Saturday 30th of May 2009 from 4.00 pm**

**the exhibition will be open to the public from Tuesday to Sunday from 9 am to 7 pm  
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The National Museum of Villa Pisani rooms in the eighteenth-century halls of the Villa an exhibition of works by the artist **Manuela Filiaci**.

Space and time, memory and places are the subjects of the works of Manuela Filiaci, issues that resonate with the phases of her life: born in Vicenza, she spent a few years in Nigeria, then transferring to New York where she studied and currently resides.

Since the eighties she participates actively in the New York art scene, exhibiting in various galleries, working with the theater *La Mama* and being herself the curator from 1979 to 1987 of *Parallel Window*, a space where artists of various nationalities have been presented.

For Filiaci, the making of art is a way to signal our fragile location in a broader universe whose appearances are elusive and ever changing.

Well aware of their ephemeral and artificial nature, Manuela Filiaci's images are so strong that they offer their selves as moments of epiphany vision in our daily life.

Filiaci's work reveals the equilibrium with which the artist balances and contrasts space and color, using a rich vocabulary of architectural fragments and solid geometry. Lightness, irony and light are used as an antithesis to a sometimes too onerous materiality. The subject of the tree suggests a reflection on the sense of precariousness and fragility of what is around us, but also an opportunity for transformation and regeneration. The implicit nomadism in the sense of transitoriness of her work takes shape in the repeated and constant use of painted large rolls of paper.

In parallel with her painting production, preponderant part of her research, Filiaci constantly expressed herself with three-dimensional works, sculptures and assemblages of paper and wood, as the work *Real Cubism*, an installation of painted cardboard boxes, presented at the Castello di Rivoli within the exhibition *Collecting* in Turin in 1996, or *The Boxcase* in 2000 in New York curated by Marina Urbach. In 2007 for the exhibition *Divagazioni* at the Studio Miscetti in Rome, she presented a series of bronze painted boxes, confusing them with those of paperboard: weight, appearance, balance, everything is brought into play in a continuous search for mental spaces, for stability that never comes to an end.

For the spaces of the Museum of Villa Pisani, the artist will present a new installation from *The Boxcase* cycle and a series of new works on canvas and on paper rolls of large size. **On the occasion of the exhibition a book about the artist will be published, from CHARTA editions**, in which the art historian **Doris von Drathen** identifies with her brilliant essay the philosophical roots of the artist's creative process.

The exhibition is realized in collaboration with **Studio Stefania Miscetti, Rome**.

### How to reach the Museum of Villa Pisani

#### HIGHWAY

**from Padua:** Statale n ° 11 direction Venice (immediately after the center of Stra); **from Venice:** Statale n ° 11 direction Padova (immediately after the center of the Arctic Fiesso); **from highway A4:** exit Padova East, direction Ponte di Brenta. Exit Dolo, direction Padua.

#### BUS

The Villa is also reachable by courier from Padua, SITA line by stopping the Stra terminus . ACTV bus (from Padua or Venice, No. 53, stop Stra). From the center of Stra you reach the villa on foot in 5 minutes.

## Biography

Manuela Filiaci was born in Vicenza. Currently lives and works in New York.

**Major solo shows** 2009 “Manuela Filiaci” Museo Nazionale di Villa Pisani Stra(Ve); 2007 “Divagazioni” Studio Stefania Miscetti, Roma ; 2004 “Tutto è foglia”, Studio Stefania Miscetti, Roma; 2003 Installazione ,Bergdorf Goodman 57th Street, New York City, a cura di Marina Urbach; 2000 Kouros Gallery, New York ; "Other Projects", Marina Urbach, New York, installation: the boxcase; 1998 “Noumenon”, Small Works Gallery, Las Vegas; 1997 Studio Stefania Miscetti, Riparte, Roma; 1995 Studio Stefania Miscetti, Roma; 1992 Studio Cristofori, Bologna; Galleria Ponte Pierra, Verona; 1989 Studio E. Roma 1987 Marina Urbach Gallery, New York ; 1986 Galleria Il Cavallino, Venezia; 1985 Studio E.Roma; Limbo Gallery, New York ; 1981 Galleria 2000,Bologna

**Major collectives** 2007 “Paths Real and Imagined” Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild; 2006 Group Show Kouros Gallery,;NyCoo Gallery; 2005 A.I.R. Invitational Show; 2004 “Wish you were here” , A.I.R., New York; 2003 “The Byrdcliffe Outdoor Exhibition”, The Woodstock Guild, Woodstock, New York; 2001 “A Shriek from an Invisible Box”, Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo; 2000 “Looking back, Looking Forward”, Kouros Gallery, New York; "Group Show", Studio Cristofori, Bologna; “Anableps”, Studio Stefania Miscetti , Roma, a cura di Mario De Candia; “A Survey of Women Artists at the Millenium”, A.I.R. Gallery, New York; 1997 “Connections and Disconnections”, Nuova Icona, Venezia; “Ordinary and Extraordinary”, Wood Street Gallery, Chicago, a cura di Nancy Azara; 1996 “25th Anniversary: 25 Artists”, John Weber Gallery, New York “Collezionismo a Torino”, Museo di Arte Contemporanea,Castello di Rivoli, Torino, a cura di Ida Giannelli; 1995 AIDO Gallery, Vilnius, Lituania, a cura di Gabriella Cardazzo; 1994 “To enchant (Blue)”, C. McCalliver Gallery, New York; “Art into Architecture”, Tribeca 148, New York; “Boxes”, Ken Gallery, New York 1991 "Artae", Ferrara-Roma-Milano, a cura di Achille Bonito Oliva; “Pentagonale Plus”, Richard De Marco Gallery, Edimburgo;"Nel più ampio cerchio",Centro Museografico, Taverna, Catanzaro; 1987 "Group Show", Jerrie Marcus/ Jill Jornblee, Dallas, a cura di Gill Kornble; 1986 “Il Cangiante”, Padiglione d’Arte Contemporanea, Milano, a cura di Corrado Levi ; “New Polverone”, Castello di Volpaia, Siena;"Art at Theater", Limbo Gallery, New York;1985 “Anni Ottanta”, Museo di Arte Moderna, Rimini, a cura di Renato Barilli e Flavio Caroli; “New York New Art”, San Francisco, a cura di Stephen Westphall;" Recommendation Eight-Five”, Kamikaze, New York, a cura di Carlo McCormick ;1984; “New York New Studio”, Corrado Levi, Milano; "Group Show", Centro de Arte y Comunication, Buenos Aires, a cura di Luis Frangella; “Artist Call”, Rosa Esman, New York; 1982 "Group Show", Vista at Club 57, New York ; “Gallery Artists’Choice”,GruenebaumGallery,NewYork; “Book Gatherings”, New York; 1981“Whitney Counterweight 3”, New York .

Manuela Filiaci was nominated for the Richard Diebenkorn Fellowship