

PRESS RELEASE

Rachel Whiteread  
Study for Room  
MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna – Museo Morandi

24<sup>th</sup> January – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Curator: Gianfranco Maraniello

promoted by Istituzione Bologna Musei | MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna / Museo Morandi

MAMbo presents an exhibition of **Rachel Whiteread**, with a series of works set within the spaces of the **Museo Morandi**, running concurrently with ART CITY and for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Giorgio Morandi.

The British artist has explicitly declared her interest in Morandi, with whom she shares a ceaseless metaphysical tension and artistic research that transcends the chronological progression of the avant-garde movement or theoretical perspectives as concerns language.

Renowned for her resin and plaster sculptures, and for her casts in which she explores architecture, space, absence and memory – including the famous *House* of 1993, a monumental cement cast of a Victorian house that was subsequently demolished, made to stigmatise building speculation in London's East End – Rachel Whiteread shares with Morandi an interest in intimate spaces and everyday objects, emphasising the negative and revealing the empty spaces around it.

Under the artist's gaze, everyday "things" seem to be absorbed in space, suspended between presence and absence, leaving a trace of themselves in the mould enveloping them.

At the MAMbo, Rachel Whiteread is presenting a selection of works dating between 1991 and 2010 and two small works made for the occasion that fit in perfectly with the rooms of the Museo Morandi, creating a poetic dialogue with the paintings on display, provoking a two-way projection of perspectives, emphasising the systematicness and coherence of both artists' approach. Morandi's pictorial volumes find a correspondence in the monochrome boxes and essential parallelepipeds placed on the shelves; Rachel Whiteread's sculptures seem to exist in the same suspended time as Morandi's paintings and watercolours.

For the exhibition of the British artist's work, the **layout of the Museo Morandi** has been varied, in part to enable the display of five new works

by the Bolognese artist, dating from between 1950 and 1957, on temporary loan from private collectors. All the painterly techniques that Morandi used until the end of his life are here present in their highest expression: there are three *Still lifes* in oil (flowers and compositions of objects), another in watercolour and a fine pencil drawing. Both the canvases and the works on paper are almost wholly unpublished. The still life of 1957 is quite exemplary: it is almost wholly monochrome and characterised by a tight sequence of bottles. This picture has always been in the same family, which received it directly from the artist.

The video section of the Museo Morandi has also been renewed: there will be public screenings of *Exit Morandi* (1964) - Roberto Longhi's valediction for the artist - and a dialogue by Riccardo Bacchelli with a 1913 landscape by Morandi.

**Rachel Whiteread** was born in 1963 in London, where she lives and works. She studied painting at Brighton Polytechnic and sculpture at the Slade School of Fine Art. She has won several international awards, including the Turner Prize in 1993 for *House*, and represented Great Britain in the 1997 edition of the Venice Biennale. Many important institutions, including the Tate Modern (London), the Kunsthalle of Basel, the Reina Sofia (Madrid), the Serpentine Gallery (London) and the Deutsche Guggenheim (Berlin) have dedicated personal shows to her. Her work is to be found in museums and private collections throughout the world.

#### Further information

[www.mambo-bologna.org](http://www.mambo-bologna.org)

#### Opening times ART CITY Bologna

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014: 9 am - 8 pm

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2014: 9 am - midnight

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2014: 9 am - 8 pm

#### Usual opening times

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 12 noon - 6 pm

Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays: 12 noon - 8 pm

Mondays closed

#### Price

Full € 6.00 - reduced € 4.00

during the days ART CITY Bologna is open (24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January), free for holders of Arte Fiera tickets.

**RACHEL WHITEREAD WORKS**

*Untitled*, 1991

acquerello e correttore liquido su carta millimetrata / watercolour and correction fluid on graph paper  
cm 42 x 29.5  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Study for Room*, 1993

inchiostro, acquerello e correttore liquido su carta millimetrata / ink, watercolour and correction fluid on graph paper  
42 x 29,5 cm  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Study for Room*, 1993

inchiostro, acquerello e correttore liquido su carta millimetrata / ink, watercolour and correction fluid on graph paper  
42 x 29,5 cm  
courtesy l'artista e / of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York

*Antwerp*, 2002

inchiostro su cartolina / ink on postcard  
cm 14 x 9  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Untitled*, 2005

collage e gouache su carta per acquerello / collage and gouache on watercolour paper  
15,2 x 10,5 cm  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Deposit*, 2006

gesso, legno e acciaio / plaster, wood and steel  
(8 unità / units)  
cm 80 x 37 x 50  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Hoard*, 2006

gesso e legno / plaster and wood  
(41 unità / units)  
cm 84 x 76 x 25  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Model IV, 2006*

gesso, legno ed alluminio / plaster, wood and aluminium  
(1 mensola, 6 unità / 1 shelf, 6 units)  
20,5 x 40 x 20 cm  
collezione privata  
courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Model II, 2008*

gesso, pigmenti, legno e metallo / plaster, pigment, wood and metal  
(1 mensola, 5 unità / 1 shelf, 5 units)  
24 x 40 x 20 cm  
courtesy l'artista e / of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York

*Can I, 2010*

gesso con ossido di ferro, bronzo, legno e metallo / plaster with iron oxide, bronze, wood and metal  
(1 mensola, 2 unità / 1 shelf, 2 units)  
11 x 40 x 9 cm  
courtesy l'artista e / of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York

*Clouds (A), Valley - rural (B), 2010*

cartoline con gouache e intaglio / postcards with gouache and punched holes  
10 x 14,2 cm  
Courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Untitled, 2013*

foglia d'argento, cartone, celluloid e grafite su carta / silver leaf, cardboard, celluloid and graphite on paper  
41,5 x 29,5 cm  
Courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

*Untitled, 2013*

foglia d'argento, cartone, celluloid e grafite su carta / silver leaf, cardboard, celluloid and graphite on paper  
41,5 x 29,5 cm  
Courtesy Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Roma

**GIORGIO MORANDI NEW WORKS**

*Fiori, 1950 (V. 724)*

olio su tela / oil on canvas

20 x 22,5 cm  
Collezione privata / private collection

*Natura morta*, 1952 (V.833)  
olio su tela / oil on canvas  
35 x 40 cm  
Collezione privata / private collection

*Natura morta*, 1957 (V.1025)  
olio su tela / oil on canvas  
32 x 40 cm  
Collezione privata / private collection

*Natura morta*, 1956 (P.1956/6)  
acquerello su carta / watercolour on paper  
16 x 24 cm  
Busto Arsizio (VA), Collezione Merlini

*Natura morta*, 1951 (n.c.)  
matita su carta / pencil on paper  
24 x 33 cm  
Collezione privata / private collection

#### NEW MUSEO MORANDI VIDEO EXCERPTS

Roberto Longhi  
*Exit Morandi*, 1964  
7' 20"

Riccardo Bacchelli  
*Bacchelli e... il "Paesaggio, 1913" di Morandi*, 1972  
regia di Luciano Emmer  
13' 80"

## MAMbo Press Office

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