Press release. November 18. 2011:





Stefano Cagol

54th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia Chiesa di San Gallo (San Gallo Church), Venice Until November 27, 2011

This is the last week for visiting Stefano Cagol's show CONCILIO at 54th Venice Biennale, that already had almost 30.000 visitors.

About the show, held in San Gallo church and curated by Gregor Jansen, Arte magazine wrote: "Don't miss it!". While Marie Claire selected Stefano Cagol's show for its list of 8 names from this edition of the Venice Biennale.

On next year, Stefano Cagol will present his new monograph PUBLIC OPINION at Artium in Spain, at Laznia in Gdansk and at Kunsthalle Düsseldorf. The monograph, curated by Andrea Viliani and produced by Fondazione Galleria Civica-Center of Research on Contemporaneity of Trento, contains texts by Viliani, Iara Boubnova, Gregor Jansen and Michele Robecchi, and a dialogue between the artist and more than 20 curators; graphic design is by Thomas Desmet, Ghent (232 pages, paperback, 30 x 23 cm, ISBN 978-88-8158-820-6, CHARTA, Milan).

Cagol will open the medial façade of Museion in Bolzano in May, and in June will realize a solo project at Kunstraum Innsbruck.

The show is on view on Youtube: <u>http://www.youtube.com/user/CONCILIOVenezia</u>

They wrote this about the show:

"C'è chi lavora con le nubi (Ho Tzu Nyen di Singapore), e chi va a 300 chilometri dal circolo polare artico, a meno trenta, come Stefano Cagol, per superare confini mentali e fisici. Da lì lanciando, in stile metropolitano primitivo, segnali di fuoco e di luce in una simbiosi fra vita e ghiacci." (*There is who works with clouds { Ho Tzu Nyen from Singapore', and who goes 300 kilometers over the Polar Arctic circuit – 30 degrees under zero – like Stefano Cagol did to cross mental and physical borders. From there, he spread – with a metropolitan manner – signals of fire and light in a symbiosis between life and ice*) Francesca Pini, "L'arte del mondo arriva a Venezia ed è Biennale," **Sette – Corriere della** *Sera* # 21, May 26, Milan

"...the artist illuminates symbols of power such as pyramids with essential signs, just as essential as the elements he has used: fire, smoke, light... "54. Biennale di Venezia. An international plaza," *Lapiz* # 267, Madrid "An installation from the Italian artist, who hails from Trento, the meeting place for the Council of Trent, historic hub of the Counter Reformation – hence the exhibition's title "Concilio", Cagol explores borders natural, mental, political with a pyramidical sculpture and a video filmed at the Arctic interface of Norway, Finland and Russia." "Biennale Guide", **The Art Newspaper**, May 31, London

"Da non perdere!" (Don't miss it)

Chiara Pasqualetti, "54.Biennale di Venezia 2011. La guida ragionata," Arte, July, Milan

"8 nomi per la Biennale d'Arte di Venezia: Luigi Ghirri, Matteo Rubbi, Maurizio Cattelan, Stefano Cagol..." (8 names for the Venice Art Biennale) Manuela Ravasio, "Otto nomi per la Biennale d'Arte di Venezia," **Marie Claire**, May 31, Milan

"L'artista impugna la fiamma e si muove adagio nel tentativo di sciogliere gli spigoli, forse di smussare gli angoli,: (*The artist handles a flame and moves slow with the aim at dissolving edges, maybe at rounding corners off*)

Chiara Casarin, "Cento gironi a Vnezia. Stefano Cagol torna performer alla Chiesadi San Gallo", *Artribune*, Rome

"Stefano Cagol con Concilio alla Chiesa di San Gallo, dal 31 maggio al 27 novembre, propone le sue videoinstallazioni che indagano confini politici, naturali, mentali." (*With Concilio at San Gallo church from May 31 to November 27, Stefano Cagol proposes his videoinstallations that reflect on political, natural and mental borders*) Laura Larcan, "Eventi collaterali e contromostre. L'altra Biennale della Serenissima," *La Repubblica*, May 27, Rome

<u>Also on:</u>

They wrote about the show also on: **Beez and Honey, Art a part of Culture, Espoarte, Non Solo Cinema, VDV-Venezia Da Vivere, La Nuova Venezia, L'Adige, II Trentino, II Corriere del Trentino e dell'Alto Adige, Sentire, Landeshauptstadt Düsseldorf**.

They spoke about the show also on the Tv program: Kulturzeit di Rai Sender.

The info of the show has been published also by: E-Artnow, Artfacts, Undo.net, Glob Art Mag, Kunstaspekte, My Biennale Guide, Agenda Venezia, Sognoelektra, Pikene pa Broen, Iscp Journal. CONCILIO Stefano Cagol Chiesa di San Gallo San Marco 1103, Campo San Gallo, Venice May 31 – November 27, 2011 Opening hours: 10 am – 6 pm. Monday closed. Free entrance

Curated by: Gregor Jansen

Scientific Direction: Gabriella Belli, Andrea Viliani

Stefano Cagol has realized the video more than 300 km north from the Arctic Circle in Kirkenes, Norway where he was invited by the curatorial team Pikene på Broen as artist in residence at BAR International on last winter.

In that desolate twilight, the artist has done an expedition in total solitude, accompanied only by a video camera with tripod (which was covered with ice with the rigid temperatures of the Arctic area) and by some means of signaling, danger, flares, headlights and a normal aerosol can of hairspray that gangs use to put on fire as act of identification and of demonstration of power.

By these means, and in these places he has triggered a series of attempts of communication: communication across the border between fire and ice, between human presence and nature, the balance between dark and light, earth and water, high and low tides, as well as the political boundaries between the extreme edge of Norway, Finland and Russia, cultural borders, and borders of mind.

As backdrop, there is the sculptural landscape exposed inside the church. Three complex pyramid shapes by steel, three crystals as symbols of the power that creates boundaries: ones of the extreme Arctic nature, but also ones of the city of Trento, which has hosted the *Concilio di Trento*, the Council of Trento. The Roman name of the city is Tridentum, which means three teeth, three mountains. Trento is the birthplace of the artist, who has chosen to evoke the Council as a past event whose effects are present even today on a planetary level, and strongly influence the balance and the current cultural borders. An event that creates an oxymoron between its denomination and its actual results, because not reconciled, not united, but divided.

Stefano Cagol was born in Trento, Italy and lives and works in Trento and in Brussels, Belgium. He just ended an artist in residence at International Studio and Curatorial Program (ISCP) in New York and an artist in residence by BAR International of Pikene på Broen in Kirkenes, beyond Arctic Circle in Norway.

Gregor Jansen is director of Kunsthalle Düsseldorf and former head of department at ZKM | Museum of Contemporary Art Karlsruhe.

Promoting institutions:

Mart – Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Trento and Rovereto Fondazione Galleria Civica-Center of Research on Contemporaneity of Trento

Web Site: <u>www.concilio-biennalevenezia.org</u> Video Channel: <u>http://www.youtube.com/user/CONCILIOVenezia</u>

