La Via della Carta – Grafica Italiana Contemporanea

On Thursday December 1st at 6 p.m. will open the exhibition "La Via della Carta – Grafica Italiana Contemporanea", works by the artists of Associazione Nazionale Incisori Contemporanei (National Association of Contemporary Printmakers). The title refers to the road that paper has traveled to get from China where it was invented to Italy, which was the land of important paper makers. Thursday's exhibition hosts the works of a selection of artists from the National Association of Contemporary Printmakers, an extremely dynamic reality with which we have been collaborating for some time now; in fact, they hold one of their annual meetings at the headquarters of our Foundation and it is an occasion for conviviality that offers us a precious moment to meet many artists and discuss our language of choice. So why the reference to China? Because this exhibition was born ideally in dialogue with a group of works by Chinese artists from the Guanlan Printmaking Museum. The original idea of this project envisaged that it was a single exhibition that included the works of Chinese and Italian artists, to allow an immediate comparison between two languages significantly adhering to such distinct cultures. Unfortunately, for reasons of space, Il Bisonte was unable to host the event in that form, so we had to arrange the works in two different exhibitions.

The first one, Contemporary Chinese Graphics: the masters of Guanlan, opened at Il Bisonte on September 22nd, 2022, an insight into a way of making graphics that is also very different from ours, than the words of Gianfranco Schialvino for the future edition catalog capture perfectly: "And here I anticipate the comparison with the group of engravings by Italian artists for an extemporaneous notation on a fundamental difference in the relationship between the two cultures with tradition: in our country, respect in the active conservation of an academic way of thinking and acting, even technically, sometimes in an anachronistic way, due to a hidden and unfounded fear of external criticism, which goes to cover a lack of security in one's means and in one's possibilities which remain untried; on the other hand - without prejudice to respect for who and for what is "old" with the respect and deference inherent in the customs linked to oriental civilization -, there is the desire to try, to risk, to cheat even, trying to confuse the techniques used in engraving with new and often inappropriate or at least confused denominations, to strike the observer with the surprise effect, with provocations and sometimes brazen references to art brut and pop, but also, there is to be specified, with not always brilliant results."

The second exhibition, Via della Carta, in a few days will give us the opportunity to admire the work of well-established artists alongside that of aggressive young people, concentrated on extracting the marrow from the bones of this language that is still feverish. Artists in the exhibition:

Cesco Magnolato, Vincenzo Gatti, Francesco Geronazzo, Nino Triolo, Stefano Minutella, Umberto Maggio, Simona Saladino, Daniela Sobetchi, Giovanni Dettori, Gianna Bentivenga, Alessandro De Bei, Pier Giacomo Galuppo, Arianna Loscialpo, Nicholas Perra, Angelo Rizzelli, Vittorio Manno, Raffaello Margheri, Patrizia Flaccomio, Chiara Pasqualotto, Marina Ziggiotti, Irene Di Oriente, Erico Kito, Paola Lucrezi, Umberto Giovannini.

The exhibition will remain open until January 13th, 2023 from Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 1p.m. and from 3p.m. to 7p.m.

Galleria Il Bisonte in via San Niccolò 24/rosso, Firenze Associazione Nazionale Incisori Contemporanei <u>https://www.incisoricontemporanei.it</u>