

“Et je fus plein alors de cette Vérité:  
Que le meilleur trésor que Dieu garde au Génie  
Est de connaître à fond la terrestre Beauté  
Pour en faire faillir le Rythme et l'harmonie.”  
Charles Baudelaire

### Farewell to the memories of a lifetime

The transfer of the Archive to Museion is my farewell to the world of art. I regret it, but there is a logic to it, as today's realities are certainly not the ones I knew when I was twenty years old. And it couldn't be otherwise as everything changes and there is no point in remaining in a context that you no longer feel is yours.

Besides, I see this handover as something positive, as Museion, with its experts, is part of this investigation into the relationship between word and image. It is a problem that dates back to time immemorial, but with Futurism it took on a new level of importance.

Numerous valid Italian artists were involved in it, including a significant number of women. The perspective was to create situations and events aimed at investigating the themes and modes of expression of the individual artists.

Today, there are very few initiatives like this. And there are many reasons why. Today, the choices that are made tend to favor appearance and form over substance, and fashions over concrete, valid realities. In practice, no one has had the courage or will to make a critical assessment of what to do and present it to the public to build loyalty for this particular form of visual art. Instead, safe proposals and solutions have been embraced - nothing that breaks with the past or opens up to the future, but focuses on a consensus that doesn't lead anywhere.

This is not the case with Museion.

And today we remain stunned by this Nothingness that is presented to us. There is no skill, professionalism or desire to do something. Everyone seems to hide behind the slogan of a lack of resources. It is true. But that has always been the case as there are never enough resources for our goals. In any case, the problem can be solved with hard work, often hard physical work. Many people talk about “Italian excellence”. And it exists, but it only makes sense if we compare it with other excellences, like English or German excellence and so on. On that note, I remember a newspaper columnist once claiming that

our excellence does not extend beyond Chiasso.

If I go back to when I was twenty, I can remember films and plays and literary works. As well as all the events that took place in Milan. I don't recognize this country anymore and I'm sorry about that. I think that change is coming because there is a Hunger and Thirst to go back to living and creating. To putting ourselves to the test in a serious and responsible manner. Museion has everything that handling this change requires.

Beyond, and in spite of all this, the Archive exists and must not be wasted. It is a launchpad that projects us into the future while exploring our recent past. It is the History and Memory of a life experience that belongs to us and which we should be proud of. And I'm not saying that in a competitive sense or in reference to its financial value. As I see it rather as an intangible asset that

can be referred to when researching or exploring the secrets that this vast collection of documents conserves. It is worth it. New, previously unimagined scenarios can be opened and discovered because Virtual Poetry was, I wouldn't say underestimated, but rather seen as a by-product of other forms of artistic expression. I believe, on the other hand, that it is an entity that had, and still has, its own specific worth that is recognized in the general art context, even at an international level. At the end of the day, it involved a vast group of artists. Both men and women who wanted to transmit a new message and language inspired by the turmoil created by the emergence of new realities that required a new approach to be understood. They were full of enthusiasm and ideals and open to outside, and even international influences. They wanted to move away from the past and they presented themselves as bearers of an impending future. There is no trace of violence, hate or malice in their works. Their poetic was the word declined in a wide variety of forms and via the Word they communicated their Dreams to us. In their works there are no hidden conceptual and/or intellectual ideas, but only alphabets for decoding thoughts, words and lives. The Archive contains a vast amount of material created by these figures. Its size defines its value as it allows us to penetrate deep into their world and poetic. It is an Intangible asset. And there is no point in attaching a financial value to it. Becoming part of a Museum has removed it from the market, thereby eliminating the problem. I don't have any preferences amongst these artists as if I collected them, it was because they aroused my interest. Ultimately, they were all welcome.

And now I'm passing the torch onto Museion.

What matters is to be clear about what is going to happen.

There are endless possibilities, but hopefully one will be the satisfaction of achieving results that will allow this Museum to be a reference point for those who love ART.

Keep up the good work.

Monza, 27th February 2021