

Aldo Mondino***Raccolto in preghiera***

Galleria Riccardo Crespi | via Mellerio 1 | Milano

Preview 14th November 2012**14th November - 22nd December 2012****BookCity Milano**

Palazzo Serbelloni | corso Venezia 16 | Milano

17th - 18th November 2012

Riccardo Crespi Gallery, in collaboration with **Archivio Aldo Mondino**, presents **Raccolto in preghiera**, a solo show by Italian artist Aldo Mondino.

On show, works from the 1960s to 2000 spanning the entire production of the artist: from sculptures to paintings, from installations to jewels. His work, created as part of the research related to the investigation of European Conceptual Art, soon discovers a strong relationship, although very personal, with the painting and the appeal of apparently distant worlds and cultures, without losing the surrealist taste absorbed during the training in Paris, nor the subtle irony and eclecticism that we can find in every work.

In the central room of the gallery will be presented some of the artist's most famous works, generally known as **Turcata**, as well as a few pieces from his production of **jewels**.

A large floor installation will be created on the lower floor of the gallery: the work **Mekka Mokka**, a carpet made out of coffee, designed by Mondino in 1988.

On the walls, with the same oriental inspiration, will be shown enamel paintings on glass from the series **Iznik**, and one of his first paintings on linoleum, **Charmeur**.

Raccolto in preghiera, the artwork that gives the title to the exhibition, will be installed at Palazzo Serbelloni on the occasion of **BOOKCITY MILANO**.

This ephemeral artwork from 1986, which has already been presented at the 1993 Venice Biennale, consists of a carpet made of different kinds of grain, from rice to beans and from peas to chickpeas. It was conceived by Mondino during a trip to Tangerang, when he had the opportunity to meet the Moroccan writer Mohamed Choukri, and it sums up the main characteristics of his art: his passion for ironic word games, his openness towards different cultures and specifically his fascination with oriental influences, the eclectic and experimental use of any means to make art, up until performance.

Raccolto in preghiera is a work of public art that with its lightness draws attention on social themes of particular interest.

Aldo Mondino was born in Turin in 1938, where he died in 2005.

After the interlude of training in Paris at the Atelier 21 by William Heyter and the Ecole du Louvre, he returned to Italy in 1960 and began to show his work in various Italian galleries. The meeting with Gian Enzo Sperone, at the time director of the Gallery Il Punto in Turin, will be fundamental to his artistic career and to access the international scene. Among his major exhibitions, can be mentioned two participations at the Venice Biennale in 1976 and 1993, and the solo shows at the Für Museum Moderne Kunst - Palais Liechtenstein in Vienna (1991), at the Suthanamet Topkapi Museum in Istanbul (1992, 1996), at the Jewish Museum in Bologna (1995), at the Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna di Trento (2000) and the participation at the XIV Quadrennial of Rome.

His work is part of some of the most important national and international museum and private collections.

Thanks to **Segafredo Zanetti** for the production of the installation *Mekka Mokka* and to **Fondazione Serbelloni** for hosting the installation *Raccolto in preghiera*.

For more information about **BookCity Milano**: <http://www.bookcitymilano.eu/luoghi/palazzo-serbelloni-napoleonica/>

