

From **October 15th, 2009**, to **February 7th, 2010** **MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna** will host one of the most relevant names in Italian contemporary art: ***Gilberto Zorio***.

The works on display explore the different themes which have always characterized Zorio's work, and fully cover an arc of time stretching from 1966 to 2009. Reaching beyond a mere retrospective selection, the works are catalysts for reflections and discourses centered on their own practice: they compose much more than a simple chronological reconstruction, and – according to the artist's specific design – they set up a dialectical relation with each other.

Among the show's key features are the broadness of the selection of works – which rarely has been equaled in a single Italian museum – as well as the spectacularly magical exhibition setup, allowing Zorio's art to exceed passive visibility and act within the museum's context.

The pivotal piece of the exhibition path is *Torre Stella Bologna*, a work specifically realized by the artist for the present show: a dramatic architectural intervention, a tower with a five-pointed star layout rising like a fortress in the Sala delle Ciminiere.

The work, taking up Zorio's recurrent symbolism, has a somewhat mysterious dimension: its star-like shape, "the universe's projection in our consideration of things", isn't immediately evident, but can only be grasped by following its perimeter.

The space absorbs its strong impact and is modeled by it; the star's points cut through the exhibition space and radiate energy in the museum's various areas, often reaching out of the rooms themselves.

Many other big-sized works in the exhibition involve constant elements of Zorio's artistic language: the canoe, the javelin, the crucible in his intentions all gain an archetypal status as forms chosen by the human being to measure the incommensurable.

The exhibition path underlines Zorio's deep fascination for physical, chemical and alchemical processes, traceable to his early works from the late Sixties and early Seventies, as well as his interest in all those modifications, aggregations, tensions and contrasts within matter itself that can lead to the revelation of new possibilities.

Alongside the exhibition, the second volume of the **INSTANT BOOK** collection will be published, after a first book on Giuseppe Penone: a supple reader including a conversation between Gilberto Zorio and Gianfranco Maraniello as well as a photographic selection of the artist's work.

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