

PRESS RELEASE

Starting on Wednesday 28 April, 2021, Lia Rumma Gallery is pleased to present "The Communicator" (2012), and "Ecstasy II" (2012), an installation of eight sculptures and a photographic work by Marina Abramović, at Via della Spiga 31, Milan.

The Serbian artist's works symbolise the transformation and revitalisation of empty spaces and places. In the wake of the Viavài project, and in parallel with the ATO Art Takes Over initiative, the owners of the empty storefronts of one of the main streets of the Fashion District host contemporary art exhibitions, visible every day and at any time, underlining Via della Spiga's eventful history and its link with the arts.

Two years after the performance "The Artist is Present", which took place on the occasion of her retrospective at the MOMA in New York, Marina Abramović has produced the series of sculptures "The Communicator", created from wax casts of her head. The face, placed on glass pedestals, appears to be pierced by malachite, black, white and pink quartz crystals. In a process reminiscent of the genesis of sacred icons, the artist's face becomes a catalyst of forces thanks to the stones, which in meditation are considered receivers and emitters of energy.

The installation is completed by: "Ecstasy II", a photographic work belonging to the cycle "With Eyes Closed I See Happiness". The images represent silent trials of ecstatic contemplation in order to find the balance and energy necessary to amplify perception. The emptiness, which surrounds Abramović's figure, indicates the need for clarity, and is a necessary premise for any concentration.

Abramović's works will thus dialogue with the installations by Monica Bonvicini and Ariel Schlesinger, presented by ATO Art Takes Over @art.takesover at number 48, and with Nathalie Du Pasquier's installation at Via della Spiga 52, presented by VIA Visiting Installation Art @via.exhibit

Marina Abramović is unanimously considered "the Mother of Performance Art". Since her beginnings in Belgrade in the 1970s, she has been one of the undisputed protagonists of the international art scene. The body has always been the instrument of her performances, self-control and physical and mental limits her parameter. She created actions centred on physical, psychological and emotional resistance to pain, exhaustion and danger, understood as agents of a personal transformation that enables the activation of channels of communication beyond the rational. In 2023, Abramović will be the first female artist to host a major solo exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

For inquiries on works by Marina Abramović: info@liarumma.it

For inquiries on the rental of the property: viaspiga31@viaspiga31.it