

Simon Starling
F as in Foglia

Site Specific – Piazza Santa Giulia 5
May 27th – October 22nd, 2011

Galleria Franco Noero is pleased to present the fourth solo exhibition at the gallery by Simon Starling.

F as in Foglia continues Simon Starling's interest in the redeployment of the manufacturing and design history of Turin pursued over his 10 year long relationship with Galleria Franco Noero, as well as his ongoing interrogation of the processes used in the making of his own work - from the age-old crafts of boat building or mask making, to the high-tech world of steel fabrication or computer-guided milling.

In this new work produced specifically for the small shop-front space on Piazza Santa Giulia in central Turin, Starling has collaborated with the sign writer Laura Panfani, who is continuing to nurture the tradition of sign making established in large part by her teacher's, the celebrated sign makers Insegne Cucco who throughout the 20th century did much to shape the feel of Turin's characteristic retail signage.

Simon Starling's six hybrid glass 'signs' track the processes used in this traditional form of sign making. The six images that constitute the final work, document the initial production of a single black and gold glass panel that evocatively spells out the Italian word 'foglia' (leaf) in reference to the gold leaf (foglia d'oro) used in a process known as 'finta incavatura' (fake indentation) that creates elegant, seemingly three-dimensional letters on a flat sheet of glass.

Starling's somewhat abstracted photographic images have been "feed back" into the sign making process through the additional use of silkscreen printing that is in turn underscored by Panfani's subsequent application of layers of gold leaf and paint.

Simon Starling (Epsom, UK 1967), won the Turner Prize in 2005. He lives in Copenhagen and teaches fine arts at the Staedelschule in Frankfurt. Among his recent solo exhibitions in public institutions: Tate St. Ives, St. Ives, UK, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, Japan (2011), Recent History, CAC Malaga, Malaga, Spain, (2010) THEREHERETHENTHERE (Works 1997 - 2009), Musee D'Art Contemporain Du Val-De-Marne (MAC/VAL), Vitry-sur-Seine, France, and Parc Saint Léger - Centre d'Art Contemporain, Pougues-les-Eaux, France, Inverted Retrograde Theme, USA (House for a Song Bird), Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach (2009); Simon Starling: The Nanjing Particles, MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA, Simon Starling: Three Birds, Seven Stories, Interpretations and Bifurcations, Ludwig Muzeum, Museum of Contemporary Art, Budapest, Hungary, and Galleria Franco Noero, Torino, Italy (2008).

Among his participations to biennials: 'Fare Mondi/Making worlds', 53rd Venice Biennial (2009), 26a Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil (2004), Biennale de Lyon e 8th Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah, UAE (2007), Individual Systems, 50th Venice Biennial, Venice, Italy

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