



Biography

Manfredo Massironi (Padua 1937-2011) completed his studies in Venice, where he graduated in architecture. In 1959 he joined Gruppo N in Padua.

His first works, "Struttura Dinamica", were created between 1960 and 1961, and were compositions of mirrors that could be moved in order to combine and reflect light.

In 1962 he took part in the show "Arte Programmata" organised in the Olivetti showroom in Milan by Bruno Munari and later seen again in Europe and America.

Gruppo N participated in the 1964 Venice Biennale and in large group shows in such venues as Nova Tendencija, Zagreb, and San Marino, Paris, and New York.

At the end of the same year the group broke up once its artists realized that the end had come to the utopia of creative group work.

Massironi, from the end of the 1960s, devoted himself to the scientific side of his research and became increasingly interested in studying the psychological aspects of visual perception. He began to teach general psychology at the universities of Bologna, Rome, and the Verona.

In his mature work there can be found a playful element, though one always based on his studies of possible gestalt analyses, that wrong-foots the viewers in relation to the art object, whose conventional structural elements - such as the surface, the frame, and representational possibilities - are examined, but also rejected.

Massironi works with such aspects as emptiness and transparency, progressively conferring on his works lightness and aesthetically fascinating possibilities, partly due to the new attention he pays to colour.

Massironi has stated that his area of study is to be considered infinite, as with any field of research, and Getulio Alviani himself has described his friend's work in this way: "Manfredo Massironi has always loved to explore, investigate, discover, and escape. He has never bothered with repetition, and on those few occasion that he has wanted to make variations, it has been because he intuited that they would lead him to find new paths."

From 2008 to 2009, Padua devoted to him an exhibition in the Cavour gallery: "Manfredo Massironi. La dinamica dell'oggetto visivo. Antologica". This exhibition with some sixty works, together with the historical/critical contents of the catalogue published by Allemandi, highlighted that close relationship between art and science that Massironi has always pursued as a genuine structural element of his creative career.

The most recent exhibitions in which the artist has participated are:

2012

Ghosts in The Machine, New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, US
Arte Programmata e Cinetica, Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, IT

2013

Percezione e Illusione, Arte Programmata e Cinetica, MACBA Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Buenos Aires, AR
Percezione e Illusione, Arte Programmata e Cinetica, MACLA Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Latinoamericano, La Plata, AR

2014

Le Nuove Tendenze. Rivelazioni di un'arte percettiva e sensoriale, costruttiva e interattiva, Galleria 10 A.M. ART, Milan, IT
Global Exchange, Astrazione Geometrica dal 1950, MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome, IT
Occhio Mobile: Lenguajes del arte cinetico italiano anos 50-70, Corporacion Cultural Las Condes, Santiago of Chile, CL
Arte Cinetica, Museo di Santa Giulia, Brescia, IT
Kinetic Art, Yamanashi Prefectural Museum of Art, Kofu, JP
Arte Cinetica e Programmata in Italia 1958-1968, Sompo Japan Museum of Art, Tokyo, JP
Occhio Mobile: Lenguajes del arte cinetico italiano anos 50-70, MAC Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Lima, PE
Azimut/h continuità e nuovo, Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, IT

2015

Occhio Mobile: Lenguajes del arte cinetico italiano anos 50-70, CAC Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Quito, EC

2016

Pokrenuto Oko, MUO Museum of Arts and Crafts, Zagreb, HR

Eye Attack. Op Art and Kinetik Art 1950-1970, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, DK

Olhar em Movimento, Istituto Tomie Othake, San Paolo, BR

Sculpture and Object XXI, Bratislava City Gallery, Bratislava, PL

Kunst in Europa 1945-1968, ZKM I Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe, DE

2017

Eye Attack. Op Art en Kinetische Kunst, Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam, NL

2018

100% Italia. 1915-2015 Cent'anni di capolavori, Museo Ettore Fico, Turin, IT

2019

Italia Moderna 1945-1975. Dalla Ricostruzione alla Contestazione, Fondazione Pistoia Musei, Palazzo Buontalenti, Pistoia, IT

2020

'900 italiano. Un secolo di arte, Museo Eremitani, Padua, IT

2021

Reflections. Dino Gavina, l'arte e il design, Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, IT

Déplacements, Marina Apollonio, Ennio L. Chiggio, Edoardo Landi, Manfredo Massironi, Grazia Varisco, Espace Meyer-Zafra, Paris, FR

Works in public collections

MACBA Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Buenos Aires, AR

Museum Sztuki, Lodz, PL

VAF-Stiftung, Frankfurt, DE

MART Museo d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, Rovereto (Trento), IT

Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, IT

Cantiere del '900, Collezione Intesa Sanpaolo, Milan, IT

GAM Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin, IT

Museo Umbro Apollonio, San Martino di Lupari, IT