

Symphony of Hunger  
Digesting Fluxus in Four Movements  
Venice, September 24th – October 31st, 2015  
A plus A Gallery, San Marco 3073

The School for Curatorial Studies Venice (SCSV) and A plus A Gallery are pleased to announce their upcoming exhibition, Symphony of Hunger. Inspired by a notable selection of works from the Fondazione Bonotto collection, the show feeds an appetite for candid action and fosters a relation to bodily presence through a composition of pieces by established and emerging artists. Considering themes of desire, taste, digestion, and waste, the exhibition will use an experimental curatorial model to orchestrate an organic exploration of corporal, sociopolitical, and aesthetic hungers.

The exhibition is anchored by historical works from renowned artists including Demosthenes Agrafiotis, Joseph Beuys, Robert Filliou, Juan Hidalgo, Dick Higgins, Arrigo Lora Totino, George Maciunas, Walter Marchetti, and Claes Oldenberg, many of whom were active in the Fluxus movement. Originating in the 1960s, Fluxus was integral to challenging and expanding the definitions of art by breaking away from pre-existing practices. Deriving its name from the Latin word for “flowing” or “fluid,” the movement was driven by artists who craved human connections, actions, and exchanges, and believed deeply that art originates in the belly rather than the brain. Inspired by these intentions, and stemming from early experimental music scores by composer John Cage, Fluxus artists explored notions of democratic inclusion, interactive association, and indeterminacy in art.

This exhibition re-enlivens the spirit of Fluxus with a convergence of contemporaneity. While the key efforts of the movement may have passed, major threads of its revolutionary intentions live on within the current creative sphere. Many artists today are inspired by the same hunger for expression of social, cultural, and political matters through physicality and interaction. By uniting the historical Bonotto selections with a global assemblage of contemporary works, this exhibition creates a harmonious meeting of artists across five decades and eleven countries that share a common craving.

Showcasing the recent work of thirteen international artists and collectives, this exhibition illustrates a fluid continuity of attitude through a wide range of media. Throughout its run, several site-specific works will be revealed, including an immersive installation by sound artist Christian Skjødt (Denmark), as well as three newly commissioned works: a poetry piece by Barbara Rockman (USA), a performance by Tizian Baldinger (Switzerland), and an interactive installation by Davide Sgambaro

(Italy). The exhibition will also feature sound and video works by Christof Migone (Canada), and Pil & Galia Kollektiv (Israel). Photographic work by Kensuke Koike (Japan), and two dynamic objects by Mano Penalva (Brazil) will also be displayed.

In the manner of a conceptual symphony, the exhibition explores an experimental presentation model by unfolding over four days in a succession of curatorial “movements.” Following the physical process of digestion in the conjectural path of a compositional score, each day will unveil a new grouping of works. As the score of the show progresses, each movement will build off the last to create a harmony of nuanced connections. The symphony will reach a crescendo as the exhibition is completed on the fourth day. Although the layout of the show will become fixed at this point, the works will not remain static. Rather, many of the pieces will be continuously shifting and evolving in time and space. In this way, visitors will have the chance to metaphorically ingest and digest the score in their own way.

The exhibition will align with the release of a new publication titled Symphony of Hunger: The Fifth Movement, a complementary tome that will add depth and relevance to the conceptual reflections and relational threads presented in the gallery space. The publication will be created in tandem with Tankboys Design Studio and printed by Automatic Books. It will present several newly commissioned texts, including an essay by Patrizio Peterlini of the Fondazione Bonotto, and will provide inquisitive artist interviews and extended research into thematic issues expounded by the show.

Symphony of Hunger will open with a vernissage at A plus A Gallery on the evening of September 24th, 2015, and will feature a newly commissioned experimental performance by sound artist Graham Dunning (United Kingdom). Over the course of the following three days, the exhibition will be further complemented by a diverse and stimulating series of related programming and events by local and international artists including Zoccole Dure (Italy), and Collettivo Coyote (Italy). The completed exhibition will remain on view through October 31st, 2015.

#### About the September Collective

The exhibition and publication will be dually curated and produced by a group of seventeen international curators who make up the September Collective. Currently living and studying in Italy as part of the SCSV, the individuals in the collective originate from twelve different countries and represent a diverse cross section of global perspectives. Coinciding with the 56th International Art Biennale of Venice, the 2015 summer session of SCSV marks the first international foray of the course, creating a groundbreaking platform for global inquiry and paving the path for forthcoming students.

September Collective: Aliko Chatziangeli (GR), Cynthia Fusillo (US/ES), Aly Grimes (GB), Colin Groenewald (SA), Sacha Guedj-Cohen (FR), Kerem Güman (TR), Niki Jiang (CN), Bruna Grinsztejn João (BR), Julie Jane Nissen (DK), Salima Otaru (NG), Kenneth Paranada (PH), Alexine Rodenhuis (US/NL), Amanda Shore (CA), Fernanda Thomazi (BR), Stine Slot Tobiasen (DK), Jason van Eyk (CA), Yurun Xia (CN).

#### About the School For Curatorial Studies Venice

The SCSV was founded in 2004 by A plus A Gallery, directed by Aurora Fonda and Sandro Pignotti. Now in its twenty-third course term, the mission of the school is to spread knowledge in the field of visual arts through a committed academic agenda of experimentation and interdisciplinary thinking. Focusing on contemporary curatorial theory, practice, and museology, the SCSV presents a rigorous platform for students to deepen their critical knowledge whilst improving their practical skills of exhibition making. The course is led by an international faculty of arts professionals, scholars, and historians, many of whom are based in the Veneto region of Italy. Through artist studio visits, exhibition analyses, lectures, events, and workshops, students are challenged with a variety of curatorial projects and met with continuous opportunities to observe and confront current trends in the development and staging of contemporary art.

#### About the Fondazione Bonotto

The exhibition will proudly result from a pioneering collaboration between the SCSV and the Fondazione Bonotto based in Molvena, Italy. Established in June 2013, the foundation was created in order to preserve and expose the collection of Luigi Bonotto, an early supporter of the Fluxus movement who has collected numerous testimonies of associated actions and events beginning in the 1970s. The full collection, containing over 12,000 works, acts as an archive of ephemera, and also houses a rich documentation of works of Concrete, Visual and Sound Poetry. Through cultivating this archive, which is fully searchable online at [www.fondazionebonotto.org](http://www.fondazionebonotto.org), the foundation aims to develop new ways of relating art with education, business, and contemporary culture on an international scale.

For any additional information  
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