

EMIL LUKAS

12.10 > 18.11.2017

Opening 12 October 2017 at 6 p.m.

Studio la Città - Lungadige Galtarossa 21 - Verona



After the great success with the critics and public of the show *The End of Utopia*, which opened in Venice last May concurrently with the Biennale, Studio la Città is now presenting a solo show by **Emil Lukas** in the rooms of the gallery in Verona **from 12 October to 18 November 2017**.

This will not only be the occasion to admire his most recent works but will allow those who were unable to visit the exhibition in Venice to revisit, through a series of significant works, the show held in **Palazzo Flangini**. Lukas is an artist who works with great intensity and creativity on the concept of gravity and the natural modification of the materials he uses: this is the case of the small white plaster pieces as well as the more recent **Puddles**. But now his art also “plays” with individual perception, as in the case of the large sculpture **Impact Lens** and of the developments of his series of works made from tangles of coloured threads on stretchers – **Curtain** – that now interact with thoughts about perspective.

Most of the works made by Lukas have a single basic concept: the imperceptible

changes of detailed work generate great perceptive challenges. What the eye intuits at a first glance is only one of the facets that the work encloses and which are revealed only after closer observation. Here is a passage from Luca Massimo Barbero’s catalogue essay for the show *The End of Utopia*: *the exact, almost obsessive action creates the effective splendour of their vision. In the respiration of light (caused by the opacity and by the shrinking of the available space) the threads attract us as places for perception, new thresholds to turn our eyes to. In a period in which our eyes are used only for “recognizing”, here instead there is much to traverse and discover with them.*

Among the most recent works in the show, Lukas will be proposing a new series of **Pillows**. In these small plaster sculptures it is the smallest quantity of material, either added or taken away from the mould (in this case a plastic bag), that changes the form or, in the artist’s words, the “posture” that is responsible for the “work’s personality” and therefore of the perception the viewer has of it.

Besides these there will be an imposing sculpture of great visual effect, **Impact Lens**, made from 650 aluminium tubes assembled together to form a kind of gigantic lens. The key word

here is “gaze”: through the tubes, welded next to each other, the concave sculpture is almost iridescent and permits a vision that shifts according to the movements of the viewers who are actively involved in the enjoyment of the work.

Emil Lukas was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1964.

He has exhibited throughout the United States and abroad. Solo museum shows include, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Connecticut, The Weatherspoon Museum, North Carolina, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia. Lukas’ work has been featured in group shows at the Musée d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Museo di arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto and The Drawing Center, New York. His work is in important private and public collections, including the collections of Benetton, Panza di Biumo and Zegna in Italy, The Dakis Joannou Collection, Greece, The Anderson Collection, Stanford University, California, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland, The Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, the UBS Art Collection and the Weatherspoon Art Museum.

Emil Lukas has been represented by Studio la Città since the early 90’s with a first one person show in 1993. In the United States he is represented by Sperone Westwater Gallery, New York and Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco.

Link for downloading the images:

<http://studiolacitta.it/download-emil-lukas/>

Exhibition period:

12 October – 18 November 2017

Venue:

Studio La Città, Lungadige Galtarossa 21, 37133 Verona

Opening hours:

from Tuesday to Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For further information and images, please contact:

Marta Fraccarolo

Press Office – Studio la Città, Verona

+39 045 597549 | ufficiostampa@studiolacitta.it