

VADIM FISHKIN

La grotta del giorno prima / The cave of the day before

Opening Thursday 29 January 2009 at 6.30pm, exhibition until 19 March 2009.



Air Ballon in the cave, 2000, hot air balloon, cave

The **Laura Bulian Gallery** is pleased to announce **La Grotta del giorno prima, Vadim Fishkin's** first solo exhibition in Italy.

Fishkin explores the connection between time and space through a series of real and unreal journeys.

Choose your day explores distance, the human's journey through time and towards different spaces. A number of devices, from video projector and lighting system to simple home devices like hair dryer, fans and photoflashes simulate different day and night scenes using sound, light and moving images. Reassured by the illusion of authority – an electronic panel with buttons stands next to an armchair like a giant remote control – the viewer begins this journey through space and time, becoming an integral part of the exhibition.

Lost & Found/Playstation refers about how man controls / play with the world. The work poses the eternal question of whether man dominates nature or is subject to it.

In **A dictionary of imaginary Spaces**, two light bulbs recall imaginary places from literature, through reference to the book "Guidebook of the make-believe" by Alberto Manguel and Gianni Guadalupi, where more than 1,200 imaginary places in literature are listed. By giving a name to these imaginary places, they begin to exist and acquire space in a utopian existence created by the imagination.

Ballon in the Cave involves, through the poetics of the absurd, the paradox of the human search for the infinite through flight and the spatial limits of a cave.

The exhibition will also show drawings from the series: **Geo_graphic**, which depict, in an essential and "ascetic" style, how the richness of our world is the result of an infinite combination of a few, simple elements.

"Vadim Fishkin's work, in its openness to diverse interpretations, communicates a range of possible relations between science and personal experience, desire and imagination, metaphysics and pragmatism, the artificial and real, and reveals subtle links that arouse viewer's curiosity, yet leaves them guessing as to its ultimate meaning." Livia Pàldi

Vadim Fishkin was born in 1965 in Penza (U.S.S.R.). He lives and works in Ljubljana (Slovenia).

He has participated in important international exhibitions such as the Venice Biennale (2005, *Another speedy day*, Slovenian Pavilion, 2003 *Station Utopia* curated by Hans -Ulrich Obrist, and 1995 in the Russian pavilion), Manifesta 1 (1996) in Rotterdam, and the 1st international Biennale in Valencia in 2001 (in collaboration with Robert Wilson).

Recently in Italy he has participated in the following exhibitions:

2006: Ai confini della realtà. Arte scienza e tecnologia, Arcos - Museo d'Arte contemporanea Sannio, Benevento

2004: Mediterraneans. Arte Contemporanea, Macro Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Rome

Incursione vesuviana, Mostra d'oltremare, Naples

2003: Immaginando Prometeo, Palazzo della Ragione and Loggia dei Mercanti, Milan

A newly published book about Vadim Fishkin edited by Gurgur and JRP/ Ringier Editions will be available during the exhibition.