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# Sign and Writing

a path through italian art

February 1st – April 5th 2014

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Beginning from February 1st 2014, Tornabuoni Art presents an exhibition bringing together post-war Italian artists who showed interest in the **sign**, creating an evolution between the formal element, close to the motif, and the linguistic element, transforming it into an actual **writing**.

The assertion of abstract art in the Italian post-war artistic life is associated with a profound interest for language, semiology and poetry. At the end of the 1940's in Rome, Carla Accardi (Gruppo Forma 1) centered her research on **the automatic use of the sign**. In parallel, Giuseppe Capogrossi revolutionized his painting with **the systematic use of the « Elemento »**.

These experiments continue throughout the 1950's and 1960's, with the foundation of different groups such as the **Gruppo 70** (Lucia Marcucci, Giuseppe Chiari), born in Florence in 1963, whose aesthetic is built on the decompartmentalization of the artistic language : painting, music and literature. The same year, in Palermo, was born the **Gruppo 63** which brought together poets, writers, musicians, intellectuals and plasticians (Gastone Novelli, Mario Schifano and Giuseppe Chiari) around the idea of Total Art.

At the end of the 1960's, the key artists of **Arte Povera** also began to explore the sign and writing : from the embroideries of Alighiero Boetti to the works of Jannis Kounellis ; the letters invade the creations of Pino Pascali, Dadamaino, Pier Paolo Calzolari, Arnaldo Pomodoro and Michelangelo Pistoletto...

Alongside these historic artists, the gallery will present artists from the contemporary scene such as Franco Ionda and Enrico Benetta.

Artists : Carla Accardi, Enrico Benetta, Alighiero Boetti, Pier Paolo Calzolari, Giuseppe Capogrossi, Mario Ceroli, Giuseppe Chiari, Dadamaino, Franco Ionda, Piero Manzoni, Lucia Marcucci, Gastone Novelli, Pino Pascali, Michelangelo Pistoletto and Arnaldo Pomodoro.

## Galerie Tornabuoni Art

16, avenue Matignon - 75008 Paris

+33 (0)1 53 53 51 51 - info@tornabuoniart.fr

Horaires d'ouverture : du lundi au samedi de 10h30 à 18h30

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### Presse Contact :

Sylvie Robaglia

Art & Communication, +33(0)6 72 59 57 34

sylvie@art-et-communication.fr

### Gallery Contact:

Francesca Piccolboni, Director

Tornabuoni Art, + 33(0)1 53 53 51 51

fpiccolboni@tornabuoniart.fr

## About the gallery

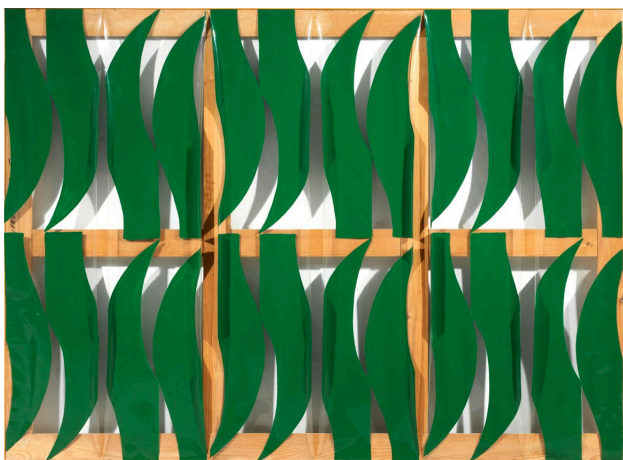
Since its opening in 2009, Tornabuoni Art Paris has had the pleasure of holding nearly twenty exhibitions, alternating important retrospectives and thematic exhibitions. These rich and diverse cultural events are based on an important period of art history : post-war Italian avant-garde.

Tornabuoni Art unveiled their Parisian gallery with an exhibition dedicated to Lucio Fontana and since then has organized numerous monographic exhibitions ; Alighiero Boetti (2010), Mario Ceroli (2010), Arnaldo Pomodoro (2011), Enrico Castellani (2011), Mimmo Rotella (2012), Giuseppe Capogrossi (2013) and Dadamaino (2013).

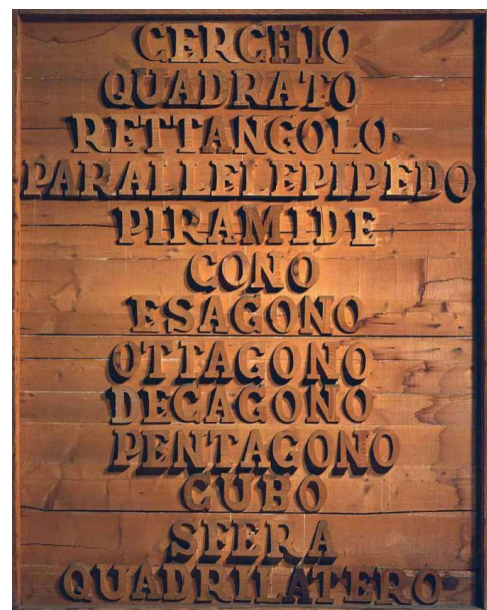
Alongside solo exhibitions, Tornabuoni Art Paris organizes thematic shows that offer a new perspective on the gallery's art collection through their unique and essential artistic features. With exhibitions such as "Monochrome Under Pressure" (2011), "On Fire" (2012) and "Bianco Italia" (2013), the gallery presents a variety of different approaches of contemporary art. The exhibition "Sign and Writing - a path through Italian art" follows this same idea.

Tornabuoni Art participates in international art fairs such as FIAC and Biennale des Antiquaires in Paris, TEFAF in Maastricht, Art Basel Miami Beach, Art Basel Hong Kong, Artefiera in Bologna and Frieze Masters in London.

## Some visuals of the art works exhibited



Carla Accardi, *Verde grande*, 1974,  
enamel on sicofoil, cm 146 x 200  
Courtesy Tornabuoni Art



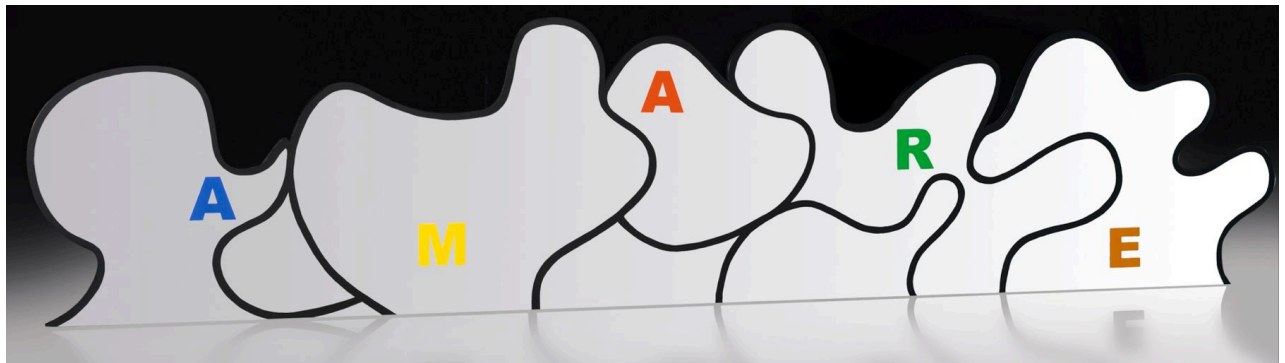
Mario Ceroli, *La geometria, quale paesaggio pittoresco*, 1974,  
wood, letters on wood, cm 200 x 160 x 10  
Courtesy Tornabuoni Art



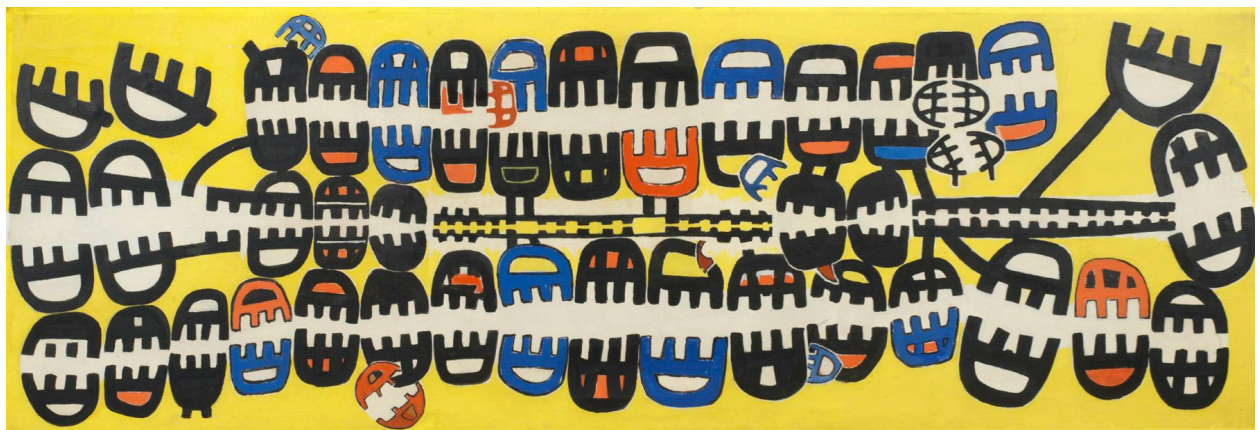
Pier Paolo Calzolari, *Eroe*, 1986,  
mixed technique on wood, cm 30 x 31  
Courtesy Tornabuoni Art



Alighiero Boetti, *21 ottobre 1968*, 1968,  
industrial enamel on wood and cork, cm 82 x 82 x 3  
Courtesy Tornabuoni Art



Michelangelo Pistoletto, *Amare*, 2006,  
silkscreen on stainless steel, cm 49,5 x 226  
Courtesy Tornabuoni Art



Giuseppe Capogrossi, *Superficie n° 25*, 1952,  
oil on canvas, cm 74 x 217  
Courtesy Tornabuoni Art