

Mimmo Rotella

Born in Catanzaro, Italy, Mimmo Rotella (1918 – 2006) is a pivotal figure of post-war European art. A wandering visionary, he embraced a highly experimental artistic practice which placed him at the forefront of Italian Pop art. Throughout his career, Rotella undertook a relentless quest for novelty and avant-gardism which led him to envision his *décollages*, a pioneering way of coalescing the rowdiness of the city with the flatness of the painting. The artist – caught up in the vibrant cultural scene of the Italian capital – would tear advertising posters from the walls and reassemble them on canvas,



reminiscing the visual sound of urban “caves,” the primitive colour of the polyglot Rome. Mass consumer goods such as oil, liqueur or canned cat food transitioned from city walls to canvases, torn and decontextualised. His oeuvre captured the zeitgeist of the time, questioning cinema, but also politics, the pressing militancy and the urban chaos that permeated post-war Rome.

He admired the spirit of American Pop art – emphasising the newly-familiar aesthetics of commodity, advertising and celebrity culture – which paralleled the economic boom of post-war Italy and the dazzling Roman dolce vita. His works featuring mass media icons such as Elvis Presley or Paul Newman are pieces that alone increase the sacral aura of the stars. Long before graffiti artists, before Pop Art, Rotella recorded malaise, boredom, collective passions, fetishes, political delirium. A tear becomes a gesture, a *modus operandi*, the embodiment of Rotella’s daring genius.

Mimmo Rotella CV

b. 1918 - Catanzaro, Italy.

d. 2006 - Milan, Italy.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2022 *Mimmo Rotella: The Urban Poet*, JD Malat Gallery, London, UK

2020 *Beyond Décollage: Photo Emulsions and Artypos, 1963-1980*, Cardi Gallery, London, UK

2015 *Mimmo Rotella*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK

Selected Group Exhibitions

2022 Modernidad Sin Interrupción / Uninterruptedly Modern (De/From Kandinsky A/To Schnabel), Odalys, Madrid, Spain

2021 *Seekers of Nothingness. Experiences of neo-Dadaist anti-poetry*, Fabio Mauri, Marco Bagnoli, Mimmo Rotella, Robert Filliou, Francesco Clemente, Wolf Vostell., Studio Mariani Gallery, L'Aquila, Italy

2020 *Beyond Canvas*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK

2020 *Selected Affordable Works by Gutan Art Gallery*, Gutan Art Gallery, London, UK

2020 *CREATION from DESTRUCTION*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK

2020 Group show between main and emerging artists, Ellebi, Cosenza, Italy

2020 *L'arte non si ferma*, Collezionando Gallery, Rome, Italy

2020 *Limited Editions of 20th century masters and some young talents*, Gutan Art Gallery, London, UK

JD MALAT GALLERY

- 2020 *Close Quarters*, ML Fine Art (Matteo Lamertico), London, UK
- 2020 *My House Is Full of Mirrors*, Mimmo Scognamiglio/Placido, Milan, Italy
- 2020 *Prints Masters*, Hatchikian Gallery, Paris, France
- 2020 *Le Nouveau Realism - The Great Masters of the 20th century*, Galleria Alfieri, Asti,
Piemonte, Italy
- 2020 *64 Years of Art in DIFC*, 71 STRUCTURAL ART, Dubai, UAE 2019 *Art Under \$1000-
On Sale!*, RoGallery, NY, USA
- 2019 *Size Matters*, Edelman Arts, NY, USA
- 2019 *SIZE MATTERS*, PLUTSCHOW GALLERY, Zürich, Switzerland 2019 *Miart 2019*,
Robilant+Voena, London, UK
- 2019 *No Reserve Auction: Spring Art*, RoGallery, NY, USA
- 2019 *Oltre la Pittura*, Rossi & Rossi, London, UK
- 2019 *Virus: Mimmo Rotella & Oscar Murillo*, Isabella Bortolozzi Galerie, Berlin, Germany
- 2018 *No Reserve editions - RoGallery Art Auction*, RoGallery, NY, USA
- 2017 *That's contemporary. Contemporary art From Marc Chagall to Nowadays.*, Mucciaccia
Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 *VERY APPROPRIATE*, Robert Berman Gallery, Santa Monica CA, USA
- 2016 *Painting as Neo Avant-Garde*, Jerome Zodo Gallery, London, UK
- 2016 *IMAGINE: New Imagery in Italian Art 1960-1969*, Peggy Guggenheim Collection,
NY, USA
- 2016 *Arte Internazionale del XX Secolo*, TAG TheArtGallery, Lugano, Switzerland

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30 Davies St, Mayfair,
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GALLERY

- 2015 *International Pop*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis MN, USA
- 2015 *Arts & Foods: Rituals since 1851*, Triennale Design Museum, Milan, Italy 2014 *Doppio sogno*, Palazzo Chiabrese, Turin, Italy
- 2011 *L'Unità dell'Arte Italiana nella Diversità delle Regioni - Regioni e Testimonianze d'Italia*, Complesso Monumentale del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy

Art Fairs

- 2022 *2022 Robilant+Voena at Frieze Masters 2022*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK
- 2022 *Robilant+Voena at Frieze Seoul 2022*, Robilant+Voena, Seoul, South Korea
- 2022 *Robilant+Voena at Masterpiece London 2022*, Robilant+Voena
- 2022 *Robilant+Voena at TEFAF Maastricht 2022*, Robilant+Voena, Maastricht, Netherlands
- 2022 *Tornabuoni Art at TEFAF Maastricht 2022*, Tornabuoni Art, Maastricht, Netherlands
- 2022 *Robilant+Voena at Tefaf NY 2022*, Robilant+Voena, NY, USA
- 2022 *Deodato Arte at Art Market San Francisco 2022*, Deodato Arte, San Francisco, USA
- 2022 *Robilant + Voena at Miart 2022*, Robilant+Voena, Milan, Italy
- 2021 *2021 Robilant + Voena at Frieze Masters 2021*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK
- 2021 *Robilant + Voena at miart 2021*, Robilant+Voena, Milan, Italy
- 2020 *Robilant + Voena at Art Basel OVR: Miami Beach*, Robilant+Voena, Miami, USA
- 2020 *M&L Fine Art at TEFAF Maastricht 2020*, ML Fine Art (Matteo Lampertico), Maastricht, Netherlands
- 2020 *Mazzoleni at The Armory Show 2020*, Mazzoleni, London, UK
- 2019 *Studio Guastalla at Art Miami 2019*, Studio Guastalla, Miami, USA

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- 2019 *Hauser & Wirth at Frieze Masters 2019*, Hauser & Wirth, London, UK
- 2019 *Robilant + Voena at Frieze Masters 2019*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK
- 2019 *Lullin + Ferrari at WOPART Lugano 2019*, Lullin + Ferrari, Lugano, Switzerland
- 2019 *Robilant + Voena at Masterpiece London 2019*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK
- 2018 *Robilant + Voena at Frieze Masters 2018*, Robilant+Voena, London, UK
- 2017 *2017 Federico Luger (FL GALLERY) at Wopart Lugano*, Federico Luger (FL GALLERY), Lugano, Switzerland
- 2017 *Robilant + Voena at artmonte-carlo 2017*, Robilant+Voena, Monte-Carlo, Monaco
- 2017 *Robilant + Voena at miart 2017*, Robilant+Voena, Milan, Italy
- 2015 *Robilant + Voena at The Salon: Art + Design 2015*, Robilant+Voena, NY, USA
- 2015 *Robilant + Voena at MiArt 2015*, Robilant+Voena, Milan, Italy
- 2014 *Editalia at Artissima 2014*, Editalia, Turin, Italy
- 2014 *Frittelli Arte Contemporanea at miart 2014*, Frittelli Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy