



Fondazione Sozzani opens a venue in Paris at 22 Marx Dormoy.

“Since opening the Gallery in Milano nearly thirty years ago, I wish now to create another challenge. It is time to expand the cultural journey of the Fondazione in another space, in a city dear to me”.

Fondazione Sozzani will now bring forward its cultural programs both in Milano and in Paris.

Established in 2016, Fondazione Sozzani is dedicated to the promotion of culture through photography, art, design and fashion. The Foundation has assumed the patronage of Galleria Carla Sozzani and continues all of the relevant public functions that the Galleria has supported for the past 29 years.

While keeping intact its historic gallery in Milano and the hosting of exhibitions, book presentations, talks, and cultural events, Fondazione Sozzani will expand its energies in a new atmosphere; a 10,000 square foot industrial 19th century building in a vibrant neighborhood close to the “Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord”, at 22 Rue Marx Dormoy, Paris.

Creation Language, an installation piece by American artist Kris Ruhs will be the first exhibition at 22 Marx Dormoy. Ruhs' work was the inaugural show in Milano's Galleria Carla Sozzani in 1990.

Kris Ruhs Creation Language

Fondazione Sozzani
22 Rue Marx Dormoy
75018 Paris

Opening

Monday October 14th, 2019
From 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm

On view

October 15th – 20th, 2019
Daily, 11.00 am – 8.00 pm
Free entry



Creation Language

At the heart of Kris Ruhs' work, there is an absolute necessity that we be engaged in his process. As Ruhs himself has observed, "I work from my work". And here, in his latest personal exploration, **Creation Language**, the three-dimensional pieces are themselves a presence, an essence, the physical residue of a past into which we must enter if we are to fully experience it.

By first passing through a 9 ft entrance into a space 15x30 ft wide and 9ft high. With oil painted paper and metal "canvases" hung on all the surrounding walls, the impact of the images create a visual cacophony. Once inside we enter through another canvas 9x 9ft. And then into a 30x15 ft elliptical light wall composed of a multitude of seemingly transparent three-dimensional elements in oil painted paper.

The exhibition **Creation Language** presents in these canvases one of Ruhs' major avenues of exploration - the activation of the space between the surface of his works, and what we think we see. We discern that what once was whole, has been chopped into segments. Pieces that had been flung into space, now are collected and reconfigured across this expanse in an attempt to reconstitute the language.

It is in the opportunity to "read" that we are left to navigate. The eye does clearly and completely absorb, in the instant of visual engagement, the totality of what is in front of us. The intellect must absorb both the surface and the multiplicity of substances employed to bring the creation into focus.

Whether carved in wood, forged in iron, or carried on hundreds of pieces of paper, the use of multiples of shapes is a signature Ruhs often uses to mark the process of time. Much of his work in the past has looked into the question of how the qualities of a singularity - in this case, lines on a single piece of paper - convey only what it is within itself.

Here in *Creation Language* Ruhs pushes beyond the single image and its internal relationships into the more complex dynamics of hundreds of similar pieces of hand cut and painted paper that seem to demand of us a level of communication beyond its own specific presence. The visceral presence of these hundreds of pieces, now shattered, push us closer to the artist's language, and his process of creation.

Kris Ruhs

Kris Ruhs was born in 1952 in New York and studied at the School of Visual Arts. Since 1996 he has lived and worked in Italy. Ruhs unifying body of work spans across a broad set of disciplines and in many different range of mediums from paintings, drawings, collages, sculptures to ceramics and jewelry.