

GIO' POMODORO JEWELLERY

AT MUSEO DEL GIOIELLO JEWELLERY MUSEUM IN VICENZA

An exhibition dedicated to one of the greatest goldsmiths, engravers and sculptors of the 20th century. Among the works of the Master, numerous jewellery items from private collections rarely accessible to the public and several pieces exhibited at Guggenheim in New York in 1994.

The genius of Gio' Pomodoro on display at Museo del Gioiello in Vicenza, the museum area inside the Basilica Palladiana, the first in Italy and one of only a few in the world exclusively dedicated to jewellery, managed by **Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A.** (IEG) - in partnership with **Vicenza Council**. The works of the great artist will be exhibited in a temporary retrospective that will be open to the public from 22nd March to 2nd September 2018. The "**Gio' Pomodoro Jewellery: the sign and the ornament**" exhibition, curated by Paola Stroppiana, will present a wide selection of the Master's artistic production. Many works from private collections, rarely on display to the public, will be on show for all to admire.

This tribute to Maestro Gio' Pomodoro (Orciano di Pesaro, 1930 – Milan, 2002), goldsmith, engraver, sculptor and stage designer, takes place 16 years after his death. The exhibition is a valuable occasion to make the public aware of the contribution that the great sculptor had on the modern conception of "artist jewellery" as a work of art in itself and on the codification of this critical phenomenon in Italy in post Second World War period.

For curator Paola Stroppiana, "Every item of jewellery englobes a great ability for design, the *sign*, intellectually expressed in designs of rare beauty, and the *ornament*, the result of a copious archives full of references on classical culture and the ritual-metaphysical dimension. Moreover, Pomodoro knew how to maintain a close bond with his sculptural work, transposing into his jewellery, and vice versa, the results of his own research, from *Tensioni* and *Folle* to *Gusci*, from *Contatti* to *Soli*." The serial line of jewellery designed for his brother-in-law Giancarlo Montebello's company GEM, in the mid 1970s, one of the first serial production experiments in "economic jewellery art", is extremely interesting, as is the compilation of a notebook containing 38 prototypes of hard stone cuts, many of which are displayed in the exhibition, for Cesari & Rinaldi at the beginning of the 1990s.

The exhibition itinerary presents an accurate selection of jewellery, all from important private collections. Over sixty items covering almost half a century. A story that unwinds from the early 1950s, testifying the shift from figurative to Informal, to jewellery in pure gold embossed sheet and cuttlefish casting. It then goes on to the geometrism of the 1970s where the mechanical element was joined by a distinct use of coloured enamels (included are examples exhibited at the Guggenheim in New York in 1994 during *The Italian Metamorphosis, 1943–1968* exhibition) to arrive at the figurative creativity of items from the '80s, serial jewellery, prototypes and new experiments on hard stones in the 1990s.

Information on the Museo del Gioiello and its temporary exhibitions is available on www.museodelgioiello.it

Museo del Gioiello opening times: Tuesday to Friday from 3 pm to 7 pm; Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 7 pm

Tickets: full €6.00, reduced €4.00

www.museodelgioiello.it

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