

GALLERIA RAFFAELLA CORTESE

PRESS RELEASE

Simone Forti

On An Iron Post

Simone Forti, *On An Iron Post*

Silvia Bächli, *Nähern*

via a. stradella 7

via a. stradella 1-4

Opening reception September 17th, 7 pm – 9 pm

September 18th – November 22nd | Tuesday – Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm / 3 pm – 7:30 pm and by appointment

Raffaella Cortese is pleased to announce *On An Iron Post*, an important comeback by Simone Forti with a solo show at an Italian gallery after the historical collaboration with Galleria Attico in Rome at the end of the '70s. The exhibition at the gallery will run concurrently with her participation in *Judson Dance Theater: The Work Is Never Done* at Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York (September 16th, 2018 - February 3rd, 2019): the group show traces the history of the renowned choreographers, visual artists, composers, and filmmakers of the 60s.

Simone Forti has been presented in Italy in the last decades through the participation in performances and workshops, from Museo del Novecento, Milan, to Palazzo Zenobio, Venice, and Galleria Raffaella Cortese is proud to dedicate to her a solo show in via Stradella 7, the main space of the gallery.

Born in Italy and raised in Los Angeles, Simone Forti has been a leading figure in the development of contemporary performance over the last fifty years. Artist, choreographer, dancer, writer, Forti has dedicated herself to the research of a kinesthetic awareness, always engaging with experimentation and improvisation.

The cooperation with other artists represents an important aspect of her practice, starting from her mentors Anna Haplin – who exhibited with Galleria Raffaella Cortese in 2012 – and John Cage, to musicians such as Charlemagne Palestine and Peter Van Riper.

In the early 1960s, together with dancers including Steve Paxton and Yvonne Rainer, Simone Forti innovated the idea of dance and performance introducing movements of everyday life. During her Roman period, when she lived by the zoo, she started envisioning pieces of performance by observing animals' movements. In her recent works, *News Animation*, she began to include the use of spoken words in her dance.

On the occasion of the gallery show, Simone Forti presents recent works, together with some historical pieces. Through the following words she invites us to live the experience:

I am happy to be showing recent work, a triptych of related videos. As the center of gravity of the show, "On an Iron Post", they present an intimately physical engagement with ocean, river and lakefront and with sand, water and snow. Each video somehow refers to the broader world, with a mass of newspapers, with an abstracted flag, and with a little black crank-up radio. There is no intended message, but rather an invitation to let your body have it's own ideas and thoughts.

Simone

Simone Forti was born in Florence (Italy) in 1935. She lives and works in Los Angeles. Her works and performances have been featured at: Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York (2018, 2014, 2013, 2009, 1979, 1978), Kunsthau Zurich (2017), Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2015, 2013), Centre Pompidou, Paris (2015), Louvre Museum, Paris (2014), Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (2013), Guggenheim Museum, New York (2013), Haus der Kunst, Munich (2011), Hayward Gallery, London (2010), Galleria L'Attico, Rome (2008, 1972, 1969, 1968), Getty Museum, Los Angeles (2004), Musée d'art moderne et contemporain (MAMCO), Geneve, (2003), Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris (2002), Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (2001), Castello di Rivoli, Turin (1999), Fundacao Serralves Museum, Porto (1999), P.S.1, New York (1983, 1977, 1976), Kunsthalle, Basel (1979), Sonnabend Gallery, New York (1978, 1974), San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco (1977), Yoko Ono Studio, New York (1969 and 1961), Merce Cunningham Studio, New York (1961).

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