

Raffaella Cortese is pleased to present the group exhibition *It rests by changing*. Curated by Simone Menegoi, the exhibition gathers four great Post-War European artists, **Rolf Julius**, **Jiří Kovanda**, **Roman Signer** and **Franz Erhard Walther**, starting from their relationship with sculpture. Sculpture is in fact for all the four artists an essential reference, and at the same time in their works it is brought into question through factors such as time, movement and action. The materials used by the artists are ephemeral or lacking in shape: they are the starting or arrival point for performances and physical actions, and they convert into vectors and forces. Saying this, we could say that these four paths towards sculpture are as well (and at the same extent) ways of escaping from it.

Rolf Julius (1939, lives in Berlin) used sound first associated with photography and then, along time, with natural and artificial materials, recovering in a personal way the age-old research of tuning and affinities between sight and hearing. His work has been presented in personal exhibitions throughout Europe and the United States, in institutions such as Fridericianum of Kassel, PS1 in New York, Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin.

Jiří Kovanda (1953, lives in Prague) has recently been subject of a rediscovery which emphasized the originality and topicality of his work. His works – performances, installations, small pictures – was born in the Seventies, within the Czechoslovakian Communist Regime social and cultural context, and it advantages the intimate gesture, often hardly visible, sometimes poetically humoristic. In 2007 the artist participated to Documenta XII.

Roman Signer (1938, lives in St.Gallen - CH) developed an original form of sculpture which blends together time and transformation as essential components. His performances, during which he gives shape to matter, are spectacular and sometimes even dangerous (it is renown his use of explosive), but they often have a playful aspect. His works, exhibited worldwide, represented Switzerland at the Venice Biennale in 1999.

Franz Erhard Walther (1939, lives in Fulda - D) participated to the legendary exhibition by Harald Szeemann "When Attitudes Become form" (1969) and he exhibited his works in four editions of Documenta. Extraordinary innovator, he developed since the early Sixties a work that joins materials to human gesture within space. Many of his sculptures – as the famous cloth ones – become alive within calculated action choreographies, executed by the artist or by others.

Heraclitus (VI-V Century B.C.), fragment DK 84a: μεταβάλλον ἀναπαύεται, "It rests by changing". The subject of this sentence is unknown, some think it is "the world", come others "the soul".