

## PRESS RELEASE

**Anna Maria Maiolino**  
**Videos and Photographs from the '70-'80s**

É o que Sobra from Fotopoemação series, 1974, Digital expansion on black and white photographs  
Photo credit: Max Nauenberg

**Opening:** Tuesday, 23rd February 18.30-21.00 hrs

**Conversation with the artist and Olga Gambari, Gabi Scardi, Helena Tatay 19.00 hrs**

**Venue:** Galleria Raffaella Cortese Via Stradella 7 20129 Milano

**On show:** 23rd February – 24th April 2010

**Hours:** Tuesday to Saturday 15.00-19.30 hrs and by appointment

Raffaella Cortese is pleased to announce Anna Maria Maiolino's first solo show in Italy. Works by the artist will be contemporaneously on show at Camden Arts Centre, London, and will then move to Fundació Antoni Tàpies in Barcelona and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Italian by birth later adopted Brazilian, a key-representative of South American contemporary art, although not yet well known in Europe, Maiolino encompasses different languages and means of expression, from performance to sculpture, from video to photography.

Drawing her inspiration from the everyday feminine imagery of an oppressive and censoring dictatorship, Maiolino creates simple – yet full of heat – objects and actions. Thanks to repetition, her works take on a primeval meaning, heading to both the very origin of things and her own militancy in 1970s and 1980s in Brazil.

Core part of the show being her video and photography production from the 1970s and 1980s, a period of harsh conflicts due to censorship and the rising of international counter-culture movements, such as women's movement and sexual revolution.

*Fotopoemação* series, begun in 1973 and carried on up to present, has been experienced and thus offered to audience as an image-based reworking of Maiolino's own poems or a still version related to her performances and videos.

Leading role in *Vida Afora* series is performed by oval-shaped forms, made everyday objects by representing the egg, which calls for perfection and the inexhaustible living and breeding force of women and art.

Trapped mouths, nose and tongue-cutting scissors, faces wrapped up in ribbons are some of the images of *In e Out Antropofagia* and *É o que Sobra*, works whose strong yet simple gestures perfectly render the difficulty of self-expression, and portray Maiolino's art.

Anna Maria Maiolino (Scalea, Calabria 1942) studied in Venezuela from 1960 lives and works in Sao Paulo, Brazil. She was invited to several international Biennals. Recently she had solo shows at: Pharos Centre for Contemporary art, Cipro in 2007; Miami Art Center in Florida in 2006; Drawing Center, New York in 2001 curated by Catherine De Zegher. Her works were exhibited in famous group shows, among them: WACK! Art and the feminist revolution MOCA, Los Angeles and P.S. 1, New York in 2007, Tropicalia, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 2005, 15 artists, MAM, Sao Paulo, Brazil, AMERICA-bride of the Sun. Royal Museum of Fine Art, Antwerpen, Belgium, 1992.

Raffaella Cortese Gallery will be at the Armory Show, NY, booth n. 1127 , 3 -7 March 2010

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