Art Collections in Turin

In response to a suggestion made by the Museum, six collectors from Turin have personally selected, from the works of art in their possession, the items for an exhibition open to visitors. The result is an interpretation, interesting precisely because it is subjective and not entirely unbiassed, of international contemporary art in progress over a period of time ranging from the late fifties to the present day. Gemma De Angelis Testa, Eliana Guglielmi, Corrado Levi, Marcello Levi, Marco Rivetti, Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo are the collectors who responded to the invitation of the Rivoli Castle. The artists whose work they have chosen included outstanding international figures of the seventies and eighties (Twombly, Fabro, Merz, Schnabel, Salle, Kiefer, Schitte, Steinbach) and exponents of the very latest tendencies, such as Hatoum, Marisaldi, Orozco, Zittel.

The exhibition wishes to pay tribute to the discernment of the private collectors of Turin, who have always opted for the values of acknowledged quality and prestige.

Collections of France

The F.R.A.C. (Fonds Régional d'Art Contemporain), the French institution responsible for regional funds for the acquisitions of contemporary works of art, was set up over ten years ago and is a renowed example of good public administration of cultural assects. The Castle of Rivoli, a museum run by the Piedmont Regional Council and by private member-supporters, is eager to compare the F.R.A.C. experience with its own, by showing a selections of the acquisitions of the F.R.A.C. of the Rhône -Alpes and Limousin, two French regions bordering on Piedmont, and thus providing an ideal opportunity to assess its own permanent collection in the light of the guest collections. The exhibitions presents a cross-section of contemporary French art and the most recent work of internationally acclaimed artists.

This exhibition has been organized in collaboration with Ministère de la Culture Association Française d'Action Artistique AFAA Ministère des Affaires Etrangères E.R.A.C. Limusin, F.R.A.C. Rhône-Alpes Centre Culturel Française de Turin

February 16 - April 21 1996

Castello di Rivoli
Piazza del Castello, 10098 Rivoli (Torino)
tel. 011. 9581547







THE CASTLE

Rivoli Castle is an imposing Baroque building set in a commanding position at the entrance to the Susa valley. It was built as part of an ambitious project commissioned by Vittorio Amedeo II of Savoy and began in 1718 by the architect Filippo Juvarra. The next Savoy King Vittorio Amedeo III ordered the architect Carlo Randoni to carry out further work on the castle at the end of 18th century, but these plans were thwarted by the invasion of Napoleon's army. The Castle itself dates back to a much earlier period and became the property of the Savoy family after 1280. Although it retained a fundamentally military and defensive role, it was often used for important ceremonial purposes. It was transformed into a royal residence under Emanuele Filiberto of Savoy after 1559 and was to retain that function in the years to come. In 1883, the Savoy family sold it to the municipal authorities of Rivoli for 100,000 lire. Throughout the 19th century the Castle was used as a military headquarters whilst in our own century there were sporadic and half-hearted attempts to put it to quite

unsuitable use, a process that seriously impaired its original decor. Finally, in 1961 the authorities began to tackle the problem of its restoration as a valuable historical and artistic monument and to consider how it could best be utilised. In 1979, the Regional Government of Piedmont commissioned the architect Andrea Bruno to undertake the restoration of the Castle, which opened as a Museum of Contemporary Art in 1984.

THE MUSEUM

The Castle's galleries are distributed over three floors and vary considerably in character. Some retain their 18th century decor, others have been stripped of everything but their basic architectural structure. The unique character of individual galleries creates an ideal backdrop for the installation of contemporary works of art, which span the period from 1945 to the present day. The highly individual features of the various galleries complement the extreme diversity of the works on display, which cover an extensive and unpredictable array of artistic idiom and intent. European and American artists are represented by works that

were either created for specific galleries in the Castle or created in the studio for installation in the Museum. The Museum's thirty galleries amount to a total area of 6,000 square metres. The permanent collection is housed on the first floor of the Castle's, with the second and third floors reserved for temporary exhibitions.

LA MANICA LUNGA

The Gallery known as La Manica Lunga (The Long Sleeve) - due to its unusual dimensions and proportions was built in the mid 17th century to house the collection of paintings commissioned and owned by Prince Carlo Emanuele I. At the present it has been restored to its former glory after suffering substantial damage amidst the turmoil of war and during the course of alterations carried out after the Castle was abandoned by the Savoy family. In its current state, it offers extraordinary possibilities as an exhibition space. As an integral part of the Museum, the Maniga Lunga will provide a site for temporary exhibitions and other cultural activities.

General Information

• MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART Castello di Rivoli Piazza del Castello 10098 Rivoli (Turin) tel. (011) 9581547

MUSEUM HOURS

Tuesday to Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. The first and third Thursday of each month: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday: closed - open Easter Monday Closed on Tuesday following Easter Monday, December 25th and May 1st

• ADMISSION

Reduced admission rates for children aged 11 to 14 years, teachers, students, (over 65 years-old) seniors citizens, disabled visitors and the Armed Forces. Free admission for children under 11.

• DISABLED VISITORS

All Museum galleries are accessible to disabled visitors. Please ask for further information at the ticket office.

• PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs of the Museum building and the Museum Permanent collection can be taken provided that flashes and tripods are not used and only after receiving permission from the Museum staff.

• EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SERVICES The Education Department will

arrange workshops at the Museum

and/or at Schools. Contact Education Department staff for more details.

• VISITOR GROUPS

Group visits need to be booked a week before the Museum visit is do to take place.

• FREE GUIDED TOURS

Guided Tours around the Museum Permanent Collection and the Temporary Exhibitions are held: from Thuesday to Saturday at 4 p.m.; every Sunday at 11 a.m. and at 3.30 p.m.; the first and the third Thursday each month at 9 p.m.

• LIBRARY AND VIDEO LIBRARY
The Museum Libraries are open to the
public by appointment and during
Museum hours only.

• THEATRE

The Museum Theatre is located within the Castello di Rivoli and provides seating for 80. It is fully equipped for lectures and film projections.

The theatre is also available for concerts and symposia.

• RESTRICTIONS

Smoking is allowed in certain areas of the Museum.
Food, beverages and animals are not allowed in the Museum.
All bags, backpacks, umbrellas and packages have to be checked at the Museum entrance.

How to get to the Museum

• PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

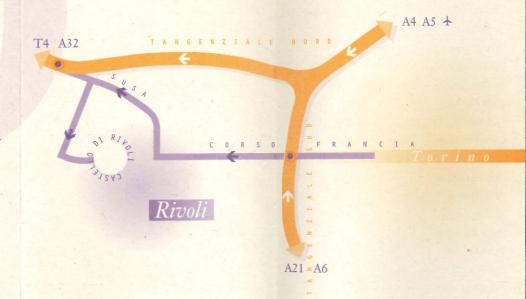
From Porta Susa Station: Bus n.36 leaves from Corso Francia 6, Turin (it takes about 30-40 minutes to get to Rivoli)

From Porta Nuova Station: tramway n.1, and then Bus n.36 (it takes about 40 to 60 minutes to get to Rivoli)

· HIGHWAYS

Highways exits:
A4 (Turin-Milan),
A5 (Turin-Aosta),
A6 (Turin-Savona),
A21 (Turin-Piacenza),
A32 (Turin-Bardonecchia)

Follow signpost: T4-Frejus Moncenisio, Monginevro; exit Rivoli



la Collezione

Carla Accardi Liliana Moro Giovanni Anselmo Matt Mullican * Marco Bagnoli Maria Nordman Lothar Baumgarten Oldenburg-van Bruggen Domenico Bianchi * Giulio Paolini Dara Birnhaum * A.R. Penck James Lee Byars 21 Giuseppe Penone Pier Paolo Calzolari Michelangelo Pistoletto Maurizio Cattelan James Rosenquist Alan Charlton * Remo Salvadori * Tony Cragg Katharina Sieverding * Enzo Cucchi Ettore Spalletti Wim Delvoye * Haim Steinbach * 7an Dibbets * Niele Toroni * Luciano Fabro Emilio Vedova Lucio Fontana Jan Vercruysse * Günther Förg * Toon Verboef * Gilbert & George Gilberto Zorio

Mario Giacomelli *

[*] Please note that these

collection are temporarily

Museum Permanent

not on view.

works which are part of the

Mimmo Fodice *

Per Kirkeby 14

Sol LeWitt

Richard Long

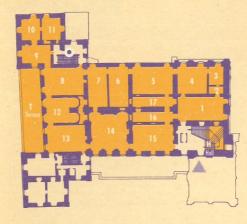
Luigi Mainolfi *

Fausto Melotti

Mario Merz

Marisa Merz. *

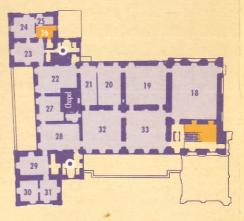
Annette Lemieux



FIRST FLOOR

The Market ...

A suspended steel staircase provides access to the upper floors of the Castle. This was designed by the architect Andrea Bruno in 1984 as part of the general restoration programme. Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16 and 17 have simply been painted white because they were never decorated by either Juvarra or Randoni during the periods when these two architects worked on the Castle (1717-1725 and 1792-1798 respectively). Next, we come to Room 7, also known as the Parade Room or Room of Grotesques, due to the decor which depicts a Bacchic procession. This is followed by Room 8, or the Room of the Cages, and Rooms 9, 10 and 11 which formed the private apartment of King Vittorio Amedeo II. The next room, number 12, is also known as the Room of Bacchus and Ariadne, Room 13 is known as the Room of the Coats of Arms, while Rooms 14 and 15 were originally first and second antechambers of the Royal Apartment.



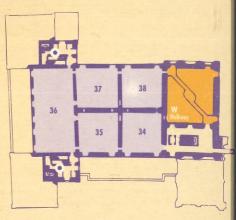
SECOND FLOOR

Rooms 18, 19 and 20 has been left undecorated. Room 21 is known as the Audience Chamber or the Room of the Putti: Room 22 is a Royal bed chamber known as the Room of the Sunrise. This is followed by the Chapel and Room 23, known also as Room of the Incoronation or Room of Amedeo VIII; Room 24, the Print Room, is also known as the Room of the False Wood; Room 25, originally a bathroom, is also known as the Room of the Veil; Room 26 is the Room of the Falconers, Room 27 is the Chinese Parlour; Room 28, was originally an audience chamber. Room 29, an antechamber to the apartment of the Prince of Piedmont, is also known as the Room of the Stucchi; Room 30 is also known as Room of Pygmalion while Room 31 is another bedchamber known as the Room of the Allegory of the Seasons. Room 32, was a Music Room and Room 33 is known as the Room of Carlo Emanuele I.

COLLECTIONS ROOMS

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS ROOMS

Toilets



THIRD FLOOR

The architectural design dates back to Juvarra and has remained essentially unchanged. Intended for the apartments of Court and military officials, it was never decorated.