



FONDAZIONE MORRA GRECO



## PRESS RELEASE

### 18 artists 'dancing on the volcano' reflect on the legacy of the New Millennium in art and society

*Tanz Auf Dem Vulkan, Dance on the Volcano, is Fondazione Morra Greco's new exhibition (12 October-16 December in Naples): a reflection on consumer society and social isolation in the post-modern and digital age*

The advent of the new millennium, with its first cell phones, wide-spread internet-use and threat of AIDS: this is the temporal fulcrum around which the works of 18 Italian and international artists move in ***Tanz Auf Dem Vulkan (Dance on the Volcano)***, Fondazione Morra Greco's new exhibition. **From 12 October to 16 December in Naples**, Palazzo Caracciolo d'Avellino will host a selection of paintings, sculptures, installations, photographs and videos that interrogate the legacy of modernism through a critical reading of art, society and individual life from the early 2000s to the present.

The German title lends itself to multiple references and readings. It refers to a 1938 German musical of the same name, whose title's inspiration came from a phrase said by then German prime minister for foreign affairs, **Gustav Stresemann**. Stresemann used the metaphor "dancing on a volcano" to describe how he saw the state of German society at the time. The title was then used for a 1998 documentary film, ***Berlin Techno Sex: Tanz auf dem Vulkan*** that focused on Berlin's techno gay scene, which was free, transgressive and, at the same time, pervaded by a desire to escape from reality. These were the same sentiments and emotions, which also more generally characterised the spirit of the early 2000s.

#### **A critical reading of interconnected consumer society**

*Tanz Auf Dem Vulkan* offers a look at international art, particularly emphasising the Fondazione Morra Greco Collection's connection to Central European and German art. At the same time, the exhibition does not lose sight of its connection to Naples: **the volcano also becomes a symbol for the city** with several works reinterpreting the tumultuous transition that characterised the fragile passage from one millennium to the next and the overall sense of precariousness that has always distinguished the city of Naples.

The 18 artists photograph and interpret those years, which were characterised by a climate of growing political activism – including **protests** and **uprisings** – when compared to the new, interconnected consumer society. Uprisings that are reflected in the works of those who use 'poor' materials in their performative practices in an anti-modern reaction. The exhibition also investigates the **subtle threshold between media and reality** and a further consequence of the post-modern, digital society: one that sees an individual alone in the global village, with their



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identity rendered anonymous behind a computer screen, connected, but isolated as in a gigantic Matrix.

*Tanz Auf Dem Vulkan* includes works by **Candice Breitz, Adriano Costa, Lothar Hempel, Evan Holloway, Judith Hopf, Jonathan Horowitz, Jim Lambie, Miltos Manetas, Win McCarthy, Ryan Mendoza, Helen Mirra, John Pilson, Henrik Plenge Jakobsen, Daniel Pflumm, Hannah Starkey, Simon Starling, , Tim Rollins & K.O.S. and Hiroshi Sugito.**

### **The march towards EDI Global Forum**

*Tanz Auf Dem Vulkan* also marks a step towards **EDI Global Forum**, a project by Fondazione Morra Greco – with the contribution of Regione Campania – from 24 to 27 October in Naples that connects museums, universities, academies, cultural institutions and associations from the third sector, artists, professionals, curators, businesses and other civil society figures. From Colombia to Uganda, from South Korea to the United States, passing through Japan, England and across Europe, more than 90 institutions from all around the world, representing 30 countries and all 5 continents, are convening to discuss current and future cultural education practices and policies. For more info: <http://www.fondazionemorragreco.com/edi-global-forum/>

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*Fondazione Morra Greco promotes, supports and develops contemporary culture, supporting, both emerging and established, international and local artists. The Foundation contributes to and hosts important local, national and international programmes, as well as produces its own projects, such as EDI Global Forum. The Foundation also presents a vibrant, multi-disciplinary programme of exhibitions and cultural and educational activities that serves to reinforce its mission as a place for the creation, design and production of contemporary culture in all its forms.*

### **CONTACTS**

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Additional information

<http://www.fondazionemorragreco.com/>

### **INFORMATION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

Fondazione Morra Greco

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Thursday – Saturday / 10 am – 6 pm