

Press release

STEFANO CAGOL

“The Consequences of Vacua”

Opening 21 September 2017 from 6pm to 10pm

22.09 – 20.10.2017

Monday - Friday: 10-13/15-19

Saturday by appointment

C+N CANEPANERI gallery is proud to present *The Consequences of Vacua*, the solo exhibition in Milan of **Stefano Cagol**.

In *"The Consequences of Vacua"* by Stefano Cagol, the idea of emptiness is chosen as possible key to reading of contemporaneity, of our relationship with ideologies and with nature, as common denominator of the exhibited artworks.

The exhibition is composed by three videoinstallations: *Stars & Stripes, New Experiments on Vacua, Elektron (of the mind)*.

In the *"Stars & Stripes"* series (2002), Cagol created an iconic reinterpretation of such a strong symbol of our era. In an artwork that evokes the current lack of certainty and the change of values and beliefs, a wig waving American flag is shown in a split image that gives rise to new iconic independent forms, stops being a flag and becomes several mutating objects: a fighter, a butterfly, an eagle, a monster ... linking to often opposing meanings.

In the *"New Experiments on Vacua"* series (2016), Stefano Cagol developed a reflection on our relationship with nature and its resources. In the video work *"Luftleer Raum"*, part of this series, clumps float enigmatically in the blue sky. Perhaps it is a nature in search of new planets to colonize ... or a nature that man is increasingly throwing away to make room ... The sound amplifies the symbolic reference to the elements of nature and refers to electromagnetic waves emitted by the sun, translated here in sound waves.

In "*Elektron (of the mind)*" (2017), recently produced, amber is the central element; the fossil resin that is called *elektron* in Greek and identified energy, is an unique and somewhat magical material, suspended in the video beyond time and space. Cagol returns to reflect on the symbolic elements of nature, metaphors for physical and mental border crossing.

Stefano Cagol (Trento, 1969) graduated at the **Accademia di Brera** in Milan and received a post-doctoral fellowship at the **Ryerson University** in Toronto. He participated in **Manifesta 11** and **Manifesta 7**, at the 55. **Venice Biennale** invited by the Maldives National Pavilion, at the 54th Venice Biennale with a solo collateral event, and at the 1st **Singapore Biennale**. In 2017 he is part of the grand inaugural exhibition of **Haus Mödrath - Räume für Kunst** in Germany (on view till November 2018). In 2014-15 his solo project "*The Body of Energy (of the mind)*" was presented by a series of European museums, such as the **MAXXI** Museum in Rome, **Madre** Museum in Naples, **Maga** Museum in Gallarate, **Museion** in Bolzano, **Kunsthalle St. Gallen**, **ZKM** in Karlsruhe, Museum **Folkwang** in Essen, Landmark / **Bergen Kunsthall**. Among grants and awards he won the **Visit prize** of Innogy Foundation (formerly RWE Foundation) in 2014 (Germany) and the **Terna Prize** for Contemporary Art in 2009 (Italy). He has been selected for many artist in residence programs and fellowships including: **Ruhr Residence** 2016; **Cambridge Sustainability Residency** 2016; **Air Bergen**; **BAR International** in Kirkenes; **International Studio and Curatorial Program ISCP** in New York; **ICP-International Center of Photography** in New York.