

Press release

ROGER HIORNS

"The middle door"

curated by Stefano Castelli

Opening Friday 19 october 2018 6-9 p.m.

19 october - 21 november 2018

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. /2.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Saturday by appointment

C+N Canepaneri gallery is glad to announce *The middle door*, the first solo show in Italy by **Roger Hiorns** (Birmingham, 1975, he lives in London). The exhibition presents many examples of his **monochrome panels characterized by copper sulphate action**. Various 'objects' will be on show as well: **electric devices, plants, organic elements, models of cathedrals**. These objects too are altered, corrupted and revitalized by the action of copper sulphate.

Eclectic yet coherent, Roger Hiorn's art embraces both intimate small works and monumental interventions in public spaces. Among the latter, the project *Seizure*, an entire flat in London transformed by sulphate, then entirely moved to Yorkshire sculpture park. The link between Hiorn's different works is the process of **revisiting objects and structures that gives form to our daily life and collective imagery**. His 'non-sculptures' take objects out of their context. Things are 'assaulted' and transfigured, thanks to **chemical process of transformation**. Hiorns declared: 'I'm drawn to the idea that art is a sort of 'National Park' of objects - that they're separated from the world into this other set of rules, other set of possibilities'. The feeling of estrangement which haunts things and places after treatment by the artist makes the viewer think of a possible disruption and introduces a completely new vision of things.

Also known for pulverized plains and althars, and for his 'living sculptures' with performers staying on decontextualized objects, Hiorns plays with **preconceptions about art history**. Works like his **copper sulphate panels**, here proposed to the public, are brilliant commentaries about modernist and postmodernist painting. Monochrome becomes a surface in action and reactive, impossible to contain in two dimensions.

The same happens for his **'frozen' objects**. Like historical-artistic finds or everyday life objects of unknown provenance, they question the viewer simply with their presence. Their heterogeneous origin builds up a network of references: mass culture consumption, links between natural and artificial, technology domination. The copper sulphate patina takes back these objects, in extremis, into the realm of fine arts.

Roger Hiorns was born in Birmingham in 1975. He lives in London. In 2013 he participated to the Venice Biennale, where he was invited by Massimiliano Gioni in the main show. In 2009 he was Turner prize finalist. Among museums to dedicate him solo shows, Wien Kunsthalle, Hayward gallery in London, Art institute of Chicago, Tate Britain in London, Aspen art museum. In 2011 he took part in September 11 group show at Ps1, in New York. His work Free tank: The retrospective view of the pathway was recently installed in the public space in Bristol.