

FELICE VARINI 01.02.–26.05.2013 Hall

Media Day Thursday 31 January 2013 at 11.00

Curator and Artist Talk Friday 01 February 2013 at 12.00

Opening Friday 01 February 2013 at 18.00

Felice Varini makes geometric works for indoor and outdoor spaces, which are placed in a specific perspective. He paints on the surfaces of spaces, like for example on walls, constructions and windows. The painted surfaces that are situated on different levels form an illusory image that can be seen from a specific angle of observation. Seen from other angles of observation, you can see only fragments of different sizes, and metamorphoses of geometric forms. The light in the space creates movement and the change that you can observe in the work.

In his works, Varini uses geometric forms; the circle, the oval, the diagonal, the triangle and the quadrangle, and he combines these forms into different geometric formations, as for example concentric circles, threefold diagonals, quadrangles within quadrangles, etc. He paints with the basic colours and with black and white. The monochromatic colour surface separates form from space, and this makes it possible to see the fragments as one totality. When moving around in the space, the viewer has the possibility to experience the work also from the inside, and is met by new experiences at every step.

Felice Varini's works are always the result of strict planning, and they are place-specific. Varini visited Pori Art Museum in the spring 2012. The openness of the exhibition hall of Pori Art Museum, and the complexity of the ceiling structures, inspired him to realize two separate works for the hall, that are possible to observe as huge paintings and as place-specific works.

In his art, Felice Varini takes advantage of the science of perspective, scenography and anamorphic techniques. Perspective painting is always ambivalent: on one hand, it can give you the impression that it describes reality, but on the other, it contains unrealistic traits. Varini's works are a kind of spotlighted stages. The space the work occupies becomes a stage where the work is being formed in the eyes of the viewer. The painting on the surfaces makes the architectonic traits stand out. The painting can at the same time distort the proportions of the space, and strongly transform the viewer's experience of space. The works of Varini are abstract and conceptual, as well as concrete and material. In them, abstract geometric art, the concrete physical space, and the material meet.

Felice Varini was born in 1952 in Locarno, Switzerland. He lives and works in Paris. Varini represented Switzerland at the Venice Biennale in 1988. He is exhibiting for the first time in Finland, and in Scandinavia. Varini has realized numerous public art works around the world. He has held solo exhibitions in galleries, art museums and contemporary art centres, and he has participated in international group exhibitions in Europe, the United States, Australia and Asia.

MEDIA IMAGES

<http://www.poriartmuseum.fi/fin/tiedotusvalineet/lehdistokuvat.php>

More information:

Pori Art Museum, Curator Pia Hovi-Assad tel. +358-44-7011089 pia.hovi-assad@pori.fi

Pori Art Museum, Eteläranta, 28100 Pori, Finland, tel. +358-2-621 1080/1081
www.poriartmuseum.fi