

Press Release: Self- Destruct: Man's Devastation of his Environment

Exploring key questions about contemporary abstract painting, Professor Karmel of New York University asks: "How have artists expressed the social, political and spiritual experience of our time?" (Art News 2013)

In "Self- Destruct: Man's Devastation of his Environment" Mike Freedman addresses this issue head on. His solo exhibition at the Palazzo Capitani in Ascoli Piceno from October 22nd to 31st is built on his political and social beliefs, his concern for the environment and his observation of global destruction during his travel to over 60 countries.

All around is evidence of man-made climate change, pollution, resource exploitation and pesticide poisoning mostly in the quest for super profits. This is coupled with inadequate and ineffective political action to stop this planetary devastation.

Freedman, who divides his time between London and Ascoli Piceno believes strongly in the notion that, as citizens, artists should use their creativity, skills, knowledge, experience and insights to comment on important contemporary issues.

He uses the abstraction of landscapes as his vehicle deploying a variety of medias and grounds (canvas, wood, steel and granite) to challenge his audiences to think through the crises with which we are all confronted. His work relates, in particular, to the wildernesses he has witnessed including the Antarctic, jungles, deserts and the tundra. His painting is visceral, bold and vigorous, often executed swiftly yet presenting viewers with a subtlety of image and interpretation that poses as many questions as answers.

Freedman began painting 10 years ago after a successful international business and parallel political career. He recently graduated from the famous Chelsea and Wimbledon Art Schools. He also has degrees from London, Oxford and Saskatchewan Universities. He has exhibited throughout the UK and in New York City. This is his first exhibition in Italy.

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