

## COMBUSTIONS

### DICÒ

**Opening event: Porto Cervo, August 14th, 2017 – 7:30 p.m.**

The SimonBart Gallery 2017 exhibition season continues with *Combustions*, an anthological exhibition dedicated to the artist Dicò and coming from Complesso del Vittoriano in Rome.

The relevant group of works, which summarizes the artistic path of the pop artist born in Rome, will be presented in the two summer venues of the gallery, Poltu Quatu and Porto Cervo, with two different opening events in collaboration with Grand Hotel Poltu Quatu and Rolls-Royce Motorcars.

Dicò, one of the most interesting artist in the current Italian Pop Art, inherits topics and schemes of British and American pop language's tradition. Like the Italian artists of Piazza del Popolo, active in the Sixties, he does not assimilate palely the American pop model, but interprets it with a very original language, also often elaborating new artistic techniques.

His works, painted on panel, are made with a mix of resins, stratifications of different industrial materials, combustions and corrosions. The portraits, characterized by intense expression, are fascinating and touching at the same time. But the main element of Dicò's artistic language is plasticity, due to the power of fire to mould the plastic in the shape of unrepeatable sculptures. Dicò's flames replace the traditional painter's brush and thanks to the artist's knowledge, they mold and punch the plexiglas sheet which surrounds paintings' surface. Finally, the use of neons increases his paintings' communication power.

“At heart, Dicò, with his commercial art background, is neither a born-again Burri nor an heir to Pop Art, even though both influences have greatly inspired him” as Vittorio Sgarbi explains in his critical essay in the catalog “also assuming other references, such as, for example, *Street Art*”. It is in this wise and spontaneous mix of different languages and references, sometimes even antithetical to each other, that Dicò's talent is recognizable: A compositional talent that want to debunk the myth of Pop.

“What Dicò aims for - Sgarbi underlines - is more the control of deterioration, which is configured using a different technique, among the most sophisticated at his disposal, and one that is able to purify the object as much as he needs, regenerating the work, without cancelling it or irreparably subverting it. On the one hand, this reveals a pragmatic conception of art, so that what counts is the object that one is able to work with, not what swirls around it. On the other hand, it gives the act of burning a connotation, which, while lacking a mystical afflatus, is still immaterial in nature. Further, the act of burning has been suffused with spirituality, superimposed, or one might even say augmented, thereby transferring to the object, changed as it is, an indissoluble imprint of one's own personality.

## **Dicò**

The Roman artist known today as Dicò was born in 1964. Following his fascination for the world of contemporary art and the Italian-American cinema, Dicò chose to fulfill his studies at the Art Institute of Via di Ripetta in Rome; he gained experience in the studios of different artists.

He lived between Italy and USA and thanks to his curious and polyhedric character, was able to catch and interpret topics and elements belonging to different artistic languages. Meanwhile, He discovered new opportunities in advertising and successfully dedicated himself to commercial graphic design, an experience that would prove immensely useful to his later forms of aesthetic expression.

Dicò is mainly inspired by Alberto Burri's combustions and Warhol's pop style. The artist, famous today for his original style characterized by the combination of plastic and paint, conveys meaningful implicit messages through his paintings. Dicò's representations of his innovative dimension are obtained through the composition of different mixed elements and materials.

In 2012, Dicò began an important collaboration with the Ca' d'oro of Rome and after his great success in Miami, he also collaborated in the presentation of *The Marilyn's Diamond*. The artwork was presented during the exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of Marilyn's death. Several events and exhibitions have followed in very prestigious locations, like the Museum of Contemporary Art of Macro Testaccio, The Crocetti Museum, the Auditorium of Conciliation, at Ca' d'oro of Piazza di Spagna, at Galleria Bosi.

From 2015 Dicò was invited by the Italian Embassy in Montecarlo to exhibit his works in the Principality for two years during the event *Il Mese della Cultura* and his works were later placed in the Barclays Bank.

His works are now in the private collections of exponents of the world of culture, entertainment, finance and sport, both Italian and international.

The anthological exhibition *Combustions*, at Complesso del Vittoriano in Rome, summarize his artistic path and at the same time is a further launch for new exhibition appointments and new artistic achievements.

**SimonBart Gallery**  
**Via Aga Khan, 1**  
**Promenade du Port - Porto Cervo**  
**07021 – Arzachena (OT)**

**Poltu Quatu**  
**07021 - Arzachena (OT)**

**It is possible to visit the exhibition every day, from Aug. 14th to Sept. 2nd 2017.**  
**Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. / 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. / 12:00 a.m.**

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