

PRESS RELEASE

EXHIBITION OF JEWELRY BY MONICA MAESTRELLI AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK DITURI IN GALLERY KUSKOVU, PRAGUE

Gallery KusKovu, Biskupsky dvur 6, Prague 1, www.kuskovu.cz, info@kuskovu.cz, tel.: + 420 737 200 127

Opening 30. 6. 2011 at 7 pm

Exhibition 1. 7. – 29. 7. 2011, Tuesday – Friday 1 – 6 pm

Gallery KusKovu cordially invites you to an exhibition of jewelry by Monica Maestrelli and photographs by Frank Dituri.

Monica Maestrelli was born and raised in Florence, Italy. Her professional career as a designer began inside the well-known Superstudio, an avant-garde architecture and design studio as an assistant to a group of five architects, who were exploring with experimental concepts in radical architecture. There she soon developed her interest in minimalism and organic forms. She later used this work experience in her work in interior design, luxury accessories and jewelry designing. In 1983 she started working as a gift designer for GUCCI, designing and supervising in the development of prototypes. Between 1994 to 2004 she worked with the art director Tom Ford as senior designer for the new Gucci Home & Jewelry Collection. With the new art director, Frida Giannini, in 2005 she continued working as a freelance designer for three additional years before deciding to design and produce her own jewelry collection. Today she lives and works between Tuscany, Italy and New York.

At the combined exhibition with her husband Frank Dituri in Gallery KusKovu Monica Maestrelli will present her own jewelry collection including a limited edition made especially for her Prague show.

Frank Dituri, who also divides his time between Italy and New York, is a photographer who likes to transform the obvious into images that border on uncertainty and mystery. His work has been exhibited worldwide throughout the United States, Europe, Russia and Asia with sole shows at the Venice Biennial and the Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome. Dituri images have been reviewed and published in many prestigious international publications, including the New York Times, Harpers Magazine, Zoom Magazine, and the Corriere Della Sera. He was a teaching artist for the LTA/Guggenheim Museum Program and is currently in the art department at Libera Accademia di Belle Arti in Florence, Italy. In New York City, he is represented by Fran Kaufman Fine Art.

The idea of project In Presenza - which Frank Dituri presents at his exhibition in Gallery KusKovu - to a large extent, is based on the writings of Carl Jung and Joseph Campbell and the concept of the "hero's journey." Frank Dituri's photographs are flashbacks of his childhood memories and dreams. The figures in his images are often in a subliminal voyage into the subconscious. He writes "For me, making photography is more than a visual documentation; it is an attempt at trying to remember, a sobering experience where my subjects are often poetic metaphors. Shrouded in uncertainty, my images are not about a particular action, they are about bearing witness to a place well hidden within."

About Gallery KusKovu:

Gallery KusKovu (Piece of Metal) presents objets d'art, sculpture and jewelry made from metal or metal combined with other materials in its permanent collection. Gallery KusKovu introduces art pieces by Czech artists, artist blacksmiths and jewelry designers, both established craftsmen and recent graduates. Its priority is conceptual originality and professional fabrication. Gallery KusKovu regularly presents exhibitions of artists working with metal and other materials or media.

Gallery KusKovu

Biskupsky dvur 6

110 00 Prague 1

tel: +420 737 200 127

Tuesday - Friday 1 – 6 pm

www.kuskovu.cz, info@kuskovu.cz