



**Comune di Roma**

Assessorato alle Politiche Culturali  
Sovrintendenza ai Beni Culturali

**MACRO**  
MUSEO D'ARTE CONTEMPORANEA ROMA



PAOLO CHIASERA  
*Forget the Heroes*, 2008

**MACRO**  
presents

***Forget the Heroes* by PAOLO CHIASERA**

**from 30 May to 31 August 2008**

**opening: Thursday 29 May 2008, from 6.30 p.m.**

**contemporaneously, MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, is presenting  
exhibitions of works by Gregor Schneider (MACRO Galleries) and Ernesto Neto (MACRO Hall)**

In the Panorama Galleries, the exhibition space devoted to young artists, MACRO is presenting *Forget the Heroes*, the new project by Paolo Chiasera which is destined for the Museum's Permanent Collection.

The exhibition, which has been made possible by the support of Associazione MACRO Amici, will be opened at 6.30 p.m. on 29 May in the presence of Umberto Croppi, Cultural Policy Councillor of the City of Rome, and Danilo Eccher, the exhibition curator.

A young artist from Bologna, Paolo Chiasera (1978) is one of the most promising emerging talents on the contemporary art scene. True to its mission to support and promote emerging art, MACRO is hosting the project, which is based on the transformation of the theories of four important people who made their mark on the twentieth century: for economics there is Adam Smith, the eighteenth-century economist and philosopher who paved the way for the free-enterprise economy; for town planning, Le Corbusier, the early twentieth-century architect who created a town plan for three million inhabitants by making a careful separation of space; for information technology Seymour Cray, the electronic engineer who designed the simultaneous calculation systems that are now used for video animations; and for linguistics, Noam Chomsky, the founder of transformational-generative grammar based on man's innate understanding of the universal principles that regulate the creation of language.

The case that Chiasera presents in *Forget the Heroes* is that, although the theories expressed by Smith, Le Corbusier, Cray, and Chomsky are valid and well-grounded, the fact that they conflict with cultural, economic, and social situations regulated by constantly evolving laws, means that they lose the directions indicated by their original postulates, bringing about a loss of control and unexpected consequences.

The exhibition winds its way through the two Panorama Galleries: in the first, there are four continuous video screenings, and in the second there is a reconstruction of the “artist’s workshop”. In the first video, in the first gallery, the destruction of the life-size clay statues of the iconic figures of Smith, Le Corbusier, Cray and Chomsky, metaphorically represent the fall of their utopian ideas.

In the next two videos, we see close-ups of the artist’s hands, first as he grips a hammer in order to smash the remaining pieces of the statues, and then as they hold a stick to mix up new material in a trough, creating a hypnotic and symbolic vortex of the *melting pot* of historic ideologies mixed together to make new ones.

In the last video, the artist’s hands are intent on shaping a new and germinal shape – a metaphor of new utopias to be negotiated.

In the next gallery, together with a number of drawings of the personalities and their works, which Chiasera likes to refer to as the “sentimental storyboard of the project”, he has created his “artist’s workshop”. The instruments and tools he used to make the sculptures are arranged in this space.

Paolo Chiasera has taken part in numerous group exhibitions, including: in 2005, (*my private*) *HEROES*, MARTa, Herford, and *T1 – La Sindrome di Pantagruel*, Turin; in 2006, *Italy Made in Art Now* at the Museum for Contemporary Art, Shanghai; in 2007, *Laws of Relativity* at the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin.

His solo exhibitions include: in 2005, *Young Dictators’ Village*, W139, Amsterdam; in 2006, *The Trilogy: Cornelius* at MAMbo, Bologna; in 2007, *Tupac Project*, at LAF Limehouse Arts Foundation, Raine’s Foundation School, London.

**Electa catalogue (Ita/Eng)** in the PANORAMA library, with a conversation between Danilo Eccher and Paolo Chiasera and a critical essay by Raimar Stange.

#### **PAOLO CHIASERA**

##### ***Forget the Heroes***

**curated by:** Danilo Eccher

**vernissage:** Thursday 29 May 2008, from 6.30 p.m

**period:** 30 May – 31 August 2008

**Electa catalogue:** PANORAMA library (Ita/Eng)

#### **MACRO. PANORAMA GALLERIES**

MACRO. Museo d’Arte Contemporanea Roma

Via Reggio Emilia. 54

Tuesday to Sunday: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

closed Mondays

**admission:** 1 euro

**info:** t. +39 – 06 671 070 400 [www.macro.roma.museum](http://www.macro.roma.museum)

**how to get here:** line 90 from Termini to Porta Pia, then 350 metres on foot

**educational services:** department t. +39 – 06671070426

**public services:** bookshop, media library, video library, multimedia workstations

for further information and photographs



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