

PAOLO SCHEGGI: IN DEPTH

3 July – 15 September 2019

Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art, London, N1

www.estorickcollection.com @Estorick

Press View: 17.00-18.00, Tuesday 2 July 2019



Paolo Scheggi, Reflected Zones, *Zone riflesse*, 1964, blue acrylic on three superimposed canvases

Private Collection, Florence – Courtesy Tornabuoni Arte

Paolo Scheggi (1940-1971) belonged to the neo-avant-garde of the 1960s and was one of the protagonists of Spatialism. Organized in collaboration with the Associazione Paolo Scheggi, Milan, this is the first solo show by Scheggi in a British museum.

This exhibition spans his entire career, starting from his most famous works formed of overlapping layers of canvas pierced by biomorphic or geometric openings, providing a comprehensive overview of an extraordinarily experimental and multidisciplinary career.

It runs at London's Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art from 3 July until 15 September 2019.

Scheggi was born in Settignano (Florence) in 1940, and died in Rome in 1971. Over the course of a 'long' decade (1958-1971), the artist's research engaged with a range of disciplines, from the visual arts to architecture, fashion, poetry, and urban and theatrical performance. His investigations into the relationship between the surface and the depth of the visual field built on the example of Lucio Fontana, who represented something of a spiritual father for the young artist.

The exhibition features Scheggi's early pieces formed of monochrome or multi-coloured metal sheets, which he produced during the late 1950s, as well as the *Reflected Zones* and *Intersurfaces* of the 1960s, constructed from three layered canvases incorporating organic, elliptical or perfectly circular openings. Also on display are the *Inter-ena-cubes* formed of coloured cardboard and Plexiglas modules with which he continued his research into the relationship between the artwork and the viewer.

The show includes clothes by Germana Marucelli – a protagonist of Italian high fashion, for whom Scheggi designed fabrics and coordinated items of jewellery – and explores Scheggi's sculptural installations and environments, as well as his designs for the theatre and other kinds of performance dating from the late 1960s. It concludes with the conceptual works of the early 1970s, incorporating metaphysical and mythical-political messages, and is complemented by a selection of original archival material, such as documents, photographs and historical exhibition catalogues. The show is accompanied by a fully-illustrated publication containing an essay by the exhibition's curator Ilaria Bignotti.

Notes to Editors

About the Associazione Paolo Scheggi, Milan

Established in Milan in January 2013, the Associazione Paolo Scheggi was founded by the heirs of the artist, Franca Scheggi Dall'Acqua and Cosima Scheggi, and its activities are coordinated by Ilaria Bignotti. The Association has carried out the conservation, archiving and cataloguing of Scheggi's work, including in 2016 the Catalogue Raisonné edited by Luca Massimo Barbero and published by Skira – that serves as an official document of authentication as well as a monograph on the artist's entire career.

About the Estorick Collection

The Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art is internationally renowned for its core of Futurist works. It comprises some 120 paintings, drawings, watercolours, prints and sculptures by many of the most prominent Italian artists of the modernist era. There are six galleries, two of which are used for temporary exhibitions. Since opening in 1998, the Estorick has established a reputation and gained critical acclaim as a key venue for bringing Italian art to the British public.

Listings Information

Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art, 39a Canonbury Square, London N1 2AN

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www.estorickcollection.com Twitter: @Estorick Facebook: [estorickcollection](https://www.facebook.com/estorickcollection) Instagram: [estorickcollection](https://www.instagram.com/estorickcollection)

Opening Hours

Wednesdays-Saturdays 11.00-18.00, Sundays 12.00-17.00

Closed Mondays & Tuesdays

Admission: £7.50, Concs £5.50

Includes entry to exhibition and permanent collection

Transport: Tube/Rail: Highbury & Islington (Victoria Line / London Overground / Great Northern); Essex Road (Great Northern)

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