

GILBERTO ZORIO

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Gilberto Zorio does not believe in a dominant statement in his sculpture, but in a surprising and immeasurable magnificence. Since he believes in energy, he is not interested in blocking it, but in making it arise everywhere in a different way. His environmental explorations have continued since 1969, exploiting the dialogue between light and dark, visible and invisible, dull and glowing, all elements that the artist uses to evoke the limits and boundaries of his plastic territory: the room. *

* Text freely adapted from the catalogue *Gilberto Zorio. Torri Stella / Star Towers*, curated by Germano Celant, Skira, 2009

The works appear and give the idea of a journey.



The journey begins in the first room with the *Giunchi con arco voltaico* (*Reeds with voltaic arc*, 1969).

The spark of the voltaic arc, which discharges onto the copper, is part of the elasticity of the suspended rushes and a sign of essential energy.

GIUNCHI CON ARCO VOLTAICO

1969

14 reeds, copper leads, rubber rod, steel cable, spark, timer
Approx. 350 x 195 x 350 cm



It forms a dialogue with five interlocking javelins, *Stella Vostok* (*Vostok star*, 2013), which indicates not only orientation but also speed.

STELLA VOSTOK

2013

5 javelins, copper wire
260 x 260 x 30 cm

TUCCI RUSSO

Chambres d'Art



The second step of the journey takes us to the vision of *Stella di cuoio su giavellotti* (*Leather star on javelins*, 2007). Two javelins support a leather star. Leather, like our skin, envelops and protects bodies, emphasising our belonging to the animal realm.

STELLA DI CUIOIO SU GIAVELLOTTI
2007

Leather, 2 copper and aluminium javelins
205 x 215 x 295 cm



An animality that is also in dialogue with intelligence metaphorically expressed by *Stella di pergamena abbracciata dal compasso* (*Parchment star embraced by the compass*, 2024), where the star shape is held and suspended by a sculptor's compass.

STELLA DI PERGAMENA ABBRACCIATA DAL COMPASSO
2024

Parchment, sculptor's compass, self-locking clamps, copper wire
Approx. 220 x 180 x 100 cm



Again, the javelins accompany us into the third room, where *Stella di pergamena* (*Parchment star*, 2020) gently tilts, taking the form of a large parchment memorised by phosphor, in which the shape of the star has been cut out.

It turns towards *Stella per purificare le parole* (*Star for purifying words*, 2023), made of black earthenware lying on the ground.

One of its five points faces upwards. Another is a container of alcohol attached to a mouthpiece that glows with memory in the dark thanks to phosphorous.

While the footprints of the artist's steps are memorised on the surface of the star.

STELLA DI PERGAMENA
2020

Parchment, aluminium, 2 javelins, phosphorus
250 x 250 x 260 cm

STELLA PER PURIFICARE LE PAROLE
2023

Black earthenware fired at high temperature, alcohol, phosphorus
398 x 398 x 50 cm

Gilberto Zorio (Andorno Micca (Biella), 1944) has been presented on several occasions at the Galleria Tucci Russo, including in such exhibitions as 'UNDERLINING' (2020) and 'BASICO (III)' (2015) at the Torre Pellice site. The present exhibition represents the artist's first exhibition at the gallery in Turin.

His major solo exhibitions include: Castello di Rivoli (2017); MACRO, Rome (2010); CGAC, Santiago de Compostela, Spain (2010); MAMbo, Bologna (2009); Dia Art Foundation, New York, USA (2001); Museu Serralves, Porto, Portugal (1990); Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands (1987); Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland (1986); Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France (1986); Kunstverein Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany (1985); Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Holland (1979); Kunstmuseum Luzern, Lucerne, Switzerland (1976). He has participated in the Venice Biennale in 1978, 1980, 1986, 1995, 1997 and in Documenta in Kassel in 1972 and 1992.