

galleria nazionale d'arte moderna

**Valerio Rocco Orlando
The Reverse Grand Tour**

Curated by Ludovico Pratesi and Angelandreina Rorro

**Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Rome
March 6th – April 28th 2013**

Opening Tuesday March 5th, 2013 at 6 p.m. (Press preview at 12 a.m.)

The Reverse Grand Tour is an ambitious project realized, over the period of a year, by the Italian artist Valerio Rocco Orlando, following a series of ad hoc residencies in some of the most prestigious foreign academies in Rome. This was a unique experience, conceived specifically to observe, from the inside, an educational and cultural system that is unmatched in the world and, at the same time, to analyze the development and nature of the Grand Tour today, through the relationship between foreign artists and the city. This journey now completed, Valerio Rocco Orlando unveils, at the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea in Rome, and in his first solo show at a public institution in Italy, the results of the research. The exhibition consists of a video installation with portraits of the foreign artists who explain, as if in a group conversation, their personal point of view (each in their own mother tongue, with subtitles in Italian), and a series of photographs showing a panorama of the inside of the studios – reversing the traditional concept of a 'room with a view'. The decision of the curators, Ludovico Pratesi and Angelandreina Rorro, to showcase the work of an artist from the new generation alongside some of the historic works from the collection of the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, linked to the Grand Tour and to the self-portraits and portraits of 19th and 20th Century artists, raises the issue of the relevancy of the academies as a concept and, at the same time, examines the relationship between the capital and the international artists who, by tradition, come to visit and live in the city every year. In addition, in cooperation with the education department of the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, and for the full duration of the exhibition, a series of in-person lectures is planned, in which Valerio Rocco Orlando will meet students and others to reflect on the imagery and the role of the artist in today's society.

The Reverse Grand Tour is a project realized with the support of the Istituto Svizzero di Roma, the Real Academia de España en Roma, the Deutsche Akademie Villa Massimo, the Circolo Scandinavo and the MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma.

Valerio Rocco Orlando (Milan, 1978) received a BA in Dramaturgy from Università Cattolica in Milan and an MA in Film Directing from Queen Mary, University of London. Crossing the threshold from an intimate portrait to a choral dialogue, through film, photography and installation, Valerio Rocco Orlando's community-based projects focus on the relation between individual and collective identity in order to explore and enhance the complexity of human relationships in contemporary society. His solo shows include: *¿Qué Educación para Marte?*, Villa e Collezione Panza, Varese, 2013; *Quale Educazione per Marte?*, Nomas Foundation, Rome, 2011; *Lover's Discourse*, Careof DOCVA, Milan, 2011; *Lover's Discourse*, Momenta Art, New York, 2010; *Coexistence*, Galleria Tiziana Di Caro, Salerno, 2010; *Niendorf (The Damaged Piano)*, Galleria Maze, Turin, 2008; *The Sentimental Glance*, Galleria Maze, Turin, 2007. Among his group shows: *XI Bienal de La Habana*, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Wifredo Lam, Havana, 2012; *Neon. La materia luminosa dell'arte*, MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Rome, 2012; *Re-generation*, MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Rome, 2012; *Estate*, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, 2012; *Nurture Art*, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, 2011; *videoREPORT ITALIA: 08_09*, GC. AC, Monfalcone, 2010; *Emerging Talents - New Italian Art*, CCCS, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, 2009. In 2009 Valerio Rocco Orlando won the Iscp New York Prize promoted by Parc/Seat/Gai and in 2011 he was awarded a Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellowship in Visual Arts.

Technical information

Where	Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea Viale delle Belle Arti 131, Roma
When	Tuesday - Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. (Ticket office closes at 6.45 p.m.) Closed on Mondays
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