

Bizhan Bassiri
(Teheran, 1954)

Bizhan Bassiri, of Persian birth, reached Rome in 1975 where he was educated at the “Accademia di Belle Arti” under the guidance of Toti Scialoja. He started exposing in 1981, participating to personal and collective exhibitions. From 1990 he dedicated himself to the draft of texts and to the making up of scenic paintings of various concerts in cooperation with Giorgio Battistelli and Stefano Taglietti. From 1995 he started to make up some permanent works in different artistic sites (Park in Museo di scultura all’aperto in Ozieri, Sassari, 1995), university (Facoltà di Ingegneria in Cassino, 1996) and in the church of San Leonardo in San Casciano dei Bagni (2000).

Bizhan Bassiri’s artistic research began with the use of different materials: papier-mâché and aluminium surfaces, iron or bronze, lava elements, photographic working-out. He is interested in the magmatic flowing of the material always related to the architectural space. His aim is to combine the artistic language together with the poetic, literary, theatrical and musical ones, through a research which is the basis of its *Manifesto of the Magmatic Thought*.

Amongst its numerous personal exhibitions can be mentioned those at the Centre d’Art Contemporain in Tiers (1996), the Kunstmuseum in Borholms (1998), the Collegium Artisticum in Sarajevo (2002), the Centro Arte Contemporanea BM in Istanbul (2004). Its permanent installations are at the Centro per l’Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci in Prato (1998), the Ars Aevi Museum in Sarajevo (2002) and in Piazza Matteotti in San Casciano dei Bagni (2002).

Rudy Fuchs, critic of art wrote of him in the *Note to Bassiri* opening the catalogue of works of the exhibition in occasion of the project “Enclave 5” which took place at the CAMEC in La Spezia (2007):

From room to room, in La Spezia, going among the works of Bassiri, watching and meandering and sensing dense weight.

The dark solidified papier-mâché reliefs, dappled with red and black, slow in their formation, an intense taut surface, landscape of clotted earth.

Between black rock and flowers of lava, in luminous grey, we move and then in polished mirrors of steel the white sunshine appears as it is bounces back, resplendent, from the shining sea and back into the high sky. Somehow we feel here the pulse and energy of earth and sea: their unfathomable interior.

At the moment he lives between Rome and San Casciano dei Bagni (SI).