

Philipp Lachenmann, Fireplace FEDUX, 2012,  
(sculpture, wood, plywood, paint, 420 x 310 x 80 cm)

Fireplace FEDUX is a detailed 1:1 replica of a representative fireplace in the great hall of the Palazzo Ducale in Urbino, an early crystallization point of the Renaissance.

A construction of wood and paint, made together with theater set builders, the Fireplace FEDUX has variable "identity": it is a film prop, a stage location for a narrative, backdrop of a possible plot. And at the same time an independent work of art in its own right.

Flag ITALIA/MAS, 2012  
(sewn together pieces of clothing from the department store MAS in Rome, 425 x 260 cm).

The artwork Flag ITALIA/MAS is a 'flag' in the representative colors of the state of Italy - the paradigmatic identification symbol of an entire nation.

The 'flag' is made of the cheapest and most inferior clothing and underwear in the country (mostly produced also by Chinese sweat stores in Italy), of garments by and for the poor, the destitute, the precariat. On the flag, the letters MAS are formed out of the fabric, a reference to the legendary roman low-cost department store MAS Magazzini allo Statuto ("Department Store at the constitutional law." - now closed).

Placed at the feet of the 'throne room fireplace' Fireplace FEDUX, the 'flag' forms a contrast to its high representative function, its visual claim to power. Supposedly Flag ITALIA/MAS takes up the representative of the fireplace. In fact, the heap of clothing rather connotes the human aspect, persons, the human being in itself, and as empty laundry at the same time emphasizes its absence.

Jacopo Palma  
(1487 Serina/ Bergamo - 1528 Venedig)

RECLINING VENUS IN A LANDSCAPE  
Oil on canvas (doubled). 112 x 165 cm

Female nudes are found early in Italian art, primarily in representations of Greek and Roman mythology. Never before have they been depicted with such sensuality as in the paintings as they were by the great Venetians at the beginning of the 16th century, in Giorgione, Palma Vecchio and Titian.