

# Portali

## Chul-Hyun Ahn

## Magnus Sigurdarson

## Vincent Fournier

## Karim Ghidinelli

## Patrick Corrado

**Portali**  
Nicola Scaglione

Da Wikipedia:

Architettura  
[modifica]

» **Portale**, porta monumentale di un edificio

Informatica  
[modifica]

» **Portale**, sito internet sviluppato per permettere l'accesso a risorse in rete in ambito determinato

Edifici storici  
[modifica]

» **Portale di Casa Vitrioli**, monumento di Reggio Calabria

Fantascienza  
[modifica]

» **Portale**, dispositivo immaginario che funge da via di passaggio fra due siti fra loro distanti nello spazio e/o nel tempo

Letteratura  
[modifica]

» **Il portale delle tenebre**, romanzo fantasy dello scrittore George R. R. Martin

Medicina  
[modifica]

» **Sistema portale**, sistema vascolare sanguifero (vedi anche Vena porta)

**Questa prima mostra della Galleria 27ad sotto la mia guida curatoriale rappresenta fin dal titolo l'obiettivo, modesto e presuntuoso, che la Galleria ora si pone. Il Portale è la porta monumentale di un edificio, il portale è un sito internet di accesso, il Portale è un dispositivo immaginario che funge da via di passaggio fra due luoghi tra loro distanti nello spazio e/o nel tempo, il Portale è un sistema vascolare. Il Portale è un limite che dobbiamo decidere se superare o no. Gli artisti che ho raccolto per questa mostra rappresentano, ognuno in modo diverso, questo punto di passaggio.**  
[continua]

Ognuno di loro ci porta in un non luogo, in un non tempo. Come riflesso da uno specchio, il vero diventa falso e viceversa.

L'Oceano di "Solaris" è il luogo nello spazio dove Andrei Tarkovsky con il suo film porta gli uomini a cercare un contatto forse non necessario.

Dall'Oceano Cervello del pianeta Solaris, la notte, vengono materializzati vicino a noi i nostri sogni, il nostro io.

È così che, cercando significati nelle opere degli artisti, ci ritornano i nostri io dimenticati, trasformati, non conosciuti.

L'arte diventa così un mezzo e non un fine, ma il mezzo più importante per comunicare con noi stessi.

Ringrazio Sidonio Costa (Curatore *The Steps Gallery*, Londra) per la sua preziosa collaborazione nella preparazione della mostra.

- PORTALS -

The first thing that Man as a conscient being has to deal with, is the fact of his existence. No one asks to be born and no one chooses the reality to which they are exposed and conditioned by, at the start of everyone's life. The only thing we can choose in life are directions and general goals, achieving them depends on which portals we decide to take, which doors we open for ourselves and what other realities and fortunes we decide to fight for and make our own.

Portals at Galeria 27 AD is a group exhibition discussing the idea that Man as a being, has at his disposal, throughout the course of his life, several portals that he may or may not choose to open or explore. Portals is about the search for something ontologically essential for Man, the sense of belonging somewhere, having connections to other people and relationships that are as expected culturally and socially diverse.

This is an exhibition about being and becoming, Portals ultimately is about identity and the beautiful plethora of choices, chances, opportunities, dramas and dilemmas of becoming an individual.

Co-curated by Nicola Scaglione, Curator of 27 AD, and Sidonio Costa, Senior Curator of The Steps Gallery in London, UK, Portals intends to marvel the visitor with unexpected paths and parallel realities/fantasies. The Works of Vincent Fournier, Chul-Hyun Ahn, Magnus Sigurdarson and Karim Ghidinelli, have been grouped by the 2 curators to enhance the conceptual message subjacent to this exhibition. At the exhibition the pieces of these artists build a narrative that each visitor will have to decipher, attributing to it, a beginning, a middle and an ending, if any!

Sidonio Costa

Senior Curator and Collectors Club Manager  
"The Steps Gallery", London

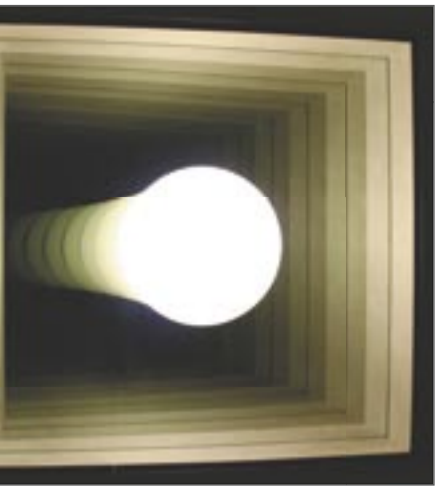


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Portali:  
9 Giugno — 13 Settembre 2009

- A -



- B -



#### Chul-Hyun Ahn, 1971

Korean artist Chul-Hyun Ahn was born in Busan, Korea. He lives and works in Baltimore, MD, USA where he achieved his MFA at the Maryland Institute College of Art. Before that he had studied at Eastern Michigan University and Chu-Gye University of the Arts in Seoul, Korea.

He creates sculptures utilizing light, color, and illusion as physical representations of his investigation of infinite space. Ahn's interest in the gap between the conscious and subconscious compels him to construct illusionistic environments providing a space for contemplation.

Ahn's sculpture urges the viewer to consider man's boundless ability for physical and spiritual travel while exploiting illusions of infinity and the poetics of emptiness.

He has exhibited in several countries and his work is present in several reputed private and institutional collections in the USA.

[A] Chul-Hyun Ahn  
"Visual Echo Experiment - From the Left"  
2007, mirrors, light, plywood.  
Courtesy The Steps Gallery, London, UK

#### Magnus Sigurdarson, 1966

Born in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1966, Magnus Sigurdarson studied art at Studio Cecil and Graves, Florence, Italy (1988), The Icelandic College of Arts and Crafts (1992) and Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA (1997). He currently lives and works in Miami Beach, Florida, USA.

A significant moment in Sigurdarson's career was a trip to China that he conducted with his family in 2005 around a residency program at The Chinese European Art Center in Xiamen. He was literally confronted with every conceivable variation of The Other on an everyday basis; he and his family as an Other to the locals and the foreign culture as an Other to him. He undertook a series of works that he is still carrying out in order to address this encounter. Transferring his discourse from the personal to the political, he poses questions about the progressing globalization, focusing on the homogenization of culture.

His work addresses the critical contradiction that the process of breaking barriers in order to understand and appreciate the unknown, will ultimately affect the elements that were foreign to each other beforehand, to the point of no return. The result is an inclination towards melancholy and nostalgia, abounding in Sigurdarson's latest works.

[B] Magnus Sigurdarson  
"Tunnel Vision 7"  
2006, lambda print on photographic paper between Perplex sheets,  
26" x40" (66 x 100 cm)  
Courtesy The Steps Gallery, London, UK



- C -

#### Vincent Fournier, 1970

The «Space Project» is a documentation in an aesthetic way of the most significant space centres around the world.

This work in progress include the Mars Desert Research station (MDRS/NASA) in the Red Desert of Utah, the Yuri Gagarine Cosmonaut Training Center near Moscow, the Guiana Space Center in French Guiana...

and also the greatest observatories site in Hawaii, New Mexico, Chile, Europe...

An orange fork lift maneuvering in a huge sterile laboratories with precision instruments reminds us of the stanley kubrick movie «2001», a segment of the international space station for «eva» (spacewalk) floating inside a pool (hydrolab) in the dimmed light that could be from Tarkovski movie, «Solaris», a russian cosmonaut posing in his spacesuit in front of flower papered wall in his home bedroom. Searchers wearing space suit in a simulated mars habitat built in a desolate and rocky desert - every scene is so dumbfoundingly analogue-like, despite the high tech sounding theme, space development. These images become like constructed images, mocking sf, a magnificent play ground for grown ups.

Vincent Fournier is setting a strong pictorial aesthetic for his almost «Painting Photograph» large size format, that is making the scene unreal, nethertheless these characters and situations exist for real making the work even more fascinating. This subjective objectivity is the essence of his work.

The old dream of humanity, the unseen and mystery of the universe are now revealed through the hypnotically beauty of Vincent Fournier's stunning landscape.

It is all about being part of the universe, this feeling we all have had, at least once, whilst looking at the stars during our childhood.

Vincent Fournier is a ouagadougou french born photographer, living in Brussels, who contributes his work to many international magazines, advertising and gallery.

[C] Vincent Fournier  
"Space Project"  
Courtesy Galleria 27AD, Bergamo, Italy

- E -



- D -



#### Karim Ghidinelli, 1976

Karim Ghidinelli was born in Brescia, Italy, after having travelled and lived in many parts of the world, living with his family and studying, he now lives and works in Miami, USA.

His work is based upon passage, mark, and assurance. Identity is naturally a part of the evolutionary process of the passage; the mark is embodied by his distinctive trace on the page. As his work documents the passage of others, it simultaneously assures him of his own journey.

The mutation from print, to portrait, to metal, oil collage represents the myriad of influences he draws upon when composing his thoughts.

Being the living testament of an eclectic path, it is impossible for him to ignore the possibilities that surround him. His eye reads them all as one.

The work needs to achieve a political identity and needs to express its provenance or dissidence, as life constantly reminds us of the inevitability of politics. The piece is never concluded; rather it symbolizes the continuation of a phase, from himself to the public, from his interpretation to ours. Through its exposure the work obtains necessary nutrients, indispensable for further creation and maintaining the link.

[D] Karim Ghidinelli  
"Kalimero"  
2009, enamel, ink and oil paint on hand carved aluminum.  
183 cm x 150 cm  
Courtesy The Steps Gallery, London, UK

#### Patrick Corrado, 1971

The photographer and graphic designer Patrick Corrado was born in Bergamo in 1971. He achieved the Degree at the Fantoni Art School. The young artist cooperates with industry, fashion and design magazines.

Using images taken from the fashion world, his works, virtual decollages, made with the overlap of images, writings, marks and graphic elements, mortifies or exalts by means of bright red or dull black the modern symbolism made of aesthetic images. Using overlapping images, cuts and additions of paint, writings and marks the artist determines a "tidy caos", symbol of the complexity of reality.

[E] Patrick Corrado  
"Senza Titolo"  
Print on zinc and acrylic paint  
170 cm x 150 cm  
Courtesy the artist

in collaboration with:

