

Luigi Manciocco

From Top to Bottom:

Libera nos a malo / Deliver us from evil, 1997

Artist book-catalog of the exhibition *Deliver us from evil*,
At the *Antiche Carceri del Sant'Uffizio*, Spoleto
drawer-style cardboard box containing six images and five
explanatory cards, edition of 50, +I Roman numerals,
numbered and signed
Courtesy of the artist, and co-curator John David O'Brien.

Volo mistico / Mystic Flight, 2019

drawer-style cardboard box containing three images, two
three-dimensional elements and three explanatory cards,
edition of 3, +I Roman numerals, numbered and signed
Courtesy of the artist, and co-curator John David O'Brien.

Artist's Statement of Work:

Luigi Manciocco is an artist-anthropologist who, using the most varied materials and techniques, delves into and visually elaborate work about cultural phenomenon. Using painting, sculpture, engraving, performance, video, and light boxes, he creates a situation of reflection. The two artist books featured in the exhibition are a commentary on two specific situations: the theme of sin and atonement, *Libera nos a malo/Deliver us from evil*, and the theme of the miracle in relation to Santa Rita da Cascia: *Mystic Flight*.

Mystic Flight is a book consisting of a box that contains images, explanatory cards and two small sculptures, a white bee and a black bee. The artist thus created his ex-voto for Santa Rita da Cascia. It is said that at the birth of the Saint, a swarm of white bees had flown around her head and, upon her death, a swarm of black bees had come. The artist, strongly attracted to anthropological studies, meditated a lot on the figure of the Saint and in particular on the link between this Saint and the artist Yves Klein.



Biography:

Luigi Manciocco, born in Segni, Rome, lives and works in Colferro, Rome. An Anthropological Artist, Manciocco is a former professor of Sculpture Design and Fine Arts Decoration in Art-based High Schools in Rome. At the end of the 1980s, he began two parallel research investigations: one on anthropological sciences, the other on experimentation on the poetics of white and monochrome. Within an extended communication system, his work borders on the geographies of spirit and matter. His object painting led Lidia Reghini of Pontremoli to include the artist among the "urban primitives" in the book that investigates the New Trend movement: *Urban primitives. Anthropology of Present Art*. In the 1990s, Manciocco made several study trips to the US, where he held a solo show at the Atlantic Gallery in New York: *Inchoo - To Begin*; and one at the De Bellis Foundation in San Francisco: *Beyond the Visible*. Margot Poroner Palmer of Artspeak entrusted him with the editorial direction of the Roman section of the magazine. He currently works with the ZETA magazine of the Campanotto Editor of Udine. He had solo shows also in Milan, Viterbo, Spoleto, Cascia, and abroad, in Helsinki.

