

## Anish Kapoor

Fondazione Prada

Milan

Novembre 24th 1995 -January 4th 1996

On 24th November 1995 Fondazione Prada will present an important exhibition by the British sculptor Anish Kapoor, in via Spartaco 8 in Milano. On this occasion the artist will realize a new large installation of his works, consisting of several sculptures and site specific interventions.

Over the last decade Anish Kapoor has established himself as one of the most original sculptors working in Britain. Since the "Objects and Sculpture" exhibition at the ICA in London 1981 he has been identified as one of the group of "New British Sculpture", a collective term used to describe young individual sculptors as Richard Deacon, Bill Woodrow and Tony Cragg, who all emerged at the same time at the early eighties. Of this group Kapoor is the purest in form and the most spiritual.

In his early shows, from 1971 till 1982, Kapoor revealed what has remained his distinguishing characteristic: individual shapes, or groupings of shapes coated with an almost immaterial touch of primary-coloured powder pigment that change the forms visually and transformations a material object into something that seems about to levitate.

These sculptural permutations soon became a powerful presence in contemporary shows throughout the world. Kapoor's early work was dominated by collections of smaller-scaled works and exteriority. Gradually in 1985, the convexities turned into larger scaled individual concave objects that cup the inner volume.

Kapoor says: "What happened is that space became interiorized. From the colours of light (yellow and red) they became colours of darkness. Blue is essentially dark".

By 1987 all attention is directed towards the contained inner volume, shifting from diurnal to nocturnal colours. The work points to the idea of a womb-like metaphysical space in which potentiality is able to become actuality.

In 1989 Kapoor starts the series "Void Field", roughly cubical pinkish stones of approximately one meter along each edge. On the outside holes the stones are left as they came from the quarry, rugged and irregular. On the inside holes sunk into the stone coated inside with black powdered pigment, like hidden voids. Similar works are part of the Kapoor's installation at the British Pavillon at the XLIV Biennale of Venice, for which he is awarded the Premio 2000 prize. In 1991 he receives the prestigious Turner Prize Award. In 1992 Kapoor is invited to the Documenta IX in Kassel.

Meanwhile over the years, Kapoor has enjoyed an extraordinary degree of international success with exhibitions at museums in Europe as well as in Japan, U.S.A., Canada and Israel.

Born in Bombay in 1954 Kapoor was brought up in northern India. He's been living in London since 1973. Since then, it has been Kapoor's aim "to arrive at objects that eventually look like nothing else", to create things which seems to emanate from a separate world and which through their very strangeness suggest new ways of looking. In this task he has been helped by a re-examinations of his own Indian heritage when he visited his country in 1979. With Indian thought, mythology, art and architecture as prime motivating sources, Kapoor has found support in what seems in his work a contradiction between dualities, as the public and the private, male and female, good and evil, permanence and fragility, diversity and oneness.

Fondazione Prada, replacing from September 1995 the former PradaMilanoArte, is a nonprofit organisation supporting contemporary art by promoting or producing exhibitions, cultural events or sponsoring or publishing publications associated with contemporary art.

The Foundation has created a space, at Via Spartaco 8, Milan, to be used solely and continuously for exhibitions of prestigious scale and international exhibition standard. In the summer 1995, the Foundation dedicated its space to the American sculptor David Smith.

The exhibition by Anish Kapoor is curated by the artist and organized by Pandora Tabatabai Asbaghi, curator at the Foundation, and will run from November 24<sup>st</sup> 1995 to January 4<sup>th</sup> 1996. It will be accompanied by the first extensive monography on Kapoor giving wide insight into the works and career of the artist by means of elaborate documentation and an essay by art-historian Germano Celant. Catalogue will be published by Charta, Milan.

*details of the exhibition*

<i>Title:</i>	Anish Kapoor
<i>Dates:</i>	Novembre 25th 1995 - January 4th 1996
<i>Venue:</i>	Fondazione Prada
<i>Address:</i>	via Spartaco, 8 - Milan
<i>Opening hours:</i>	Tuesday-Sunday, 10 am-7 pm; closed Monday
<i>Admission:</i>	free
<i>Information:</i>	Fondazione Prada Milan Office - Giovanna Amadasi pf 02 546 70 216, fax 02 546 70 258
<i>Press office:</i>	Cristina Pariset, Milan - ph 02 4812584, fax 02 4812486
<i>Charta:</i>	<i>Silvia Palombi, Milan - ph 02 342004, fax 02 33601524</i>