
26 June 2018

******* Press Release for Immediate Attention *******

'At the Gates of the Music Palace' - Alex Cecchetti at Void Gallery, Derry

Curated by Mary Cremin

Exhibition launch - Saturday 4 August, 7-8:30pm

Artist's talk, 6:30pm 'If all matter jiggles, the universe is an orchestra'

Exhibition continues until September 21st

Void is delighted to present a solo exhibition by Alex Cecchetti. Cecchetti's multi-disciplinary practice explores the senses through the experiential nature of his work. His exhibition brings together performance, drawing, painting, sculpture and sound installation. At the Gates of the Music Palace is conceived as a 3-dimensional music concert; the different sound pieces will be set in order to respond and resonate to each other and constitute a kind of composition. Music Palace exploits the logic of exhibitions to create an environment that accompanies the spectator in an unexpected sensory pathway.

There are polarities within his work where drawings become ethereal sounds and both presence and absence emerge. The slippage in his work is where the poetics reside and the narratives become material. In its regard one becomes at once both the performer and the viewer, this playful exchange is what titillates and remains an integral part of his work. This emphasis in positioning the viewer as central to the work has led Cecchetti to create space for the imagination where works can be experienced in a multitude of ways and we become part of a wider play.

Alex Cecchetti (1977-2014) was an artist, a poet, and a choreographer. Difficult to classify, his work can be considered as the art of the un-representable: tactile and poetic, aesthetic and materialistic, it creates mental and physical environments in which the spectators are often part of the work. Invited to walk backwards into a garden, to sleep at the sound of a choir singing in the deep of the ocean, or taking dance class from stones and staircases, the spectators are no longer defined to the role of the beholder. The artist died for the first time in 2014 for unknown reasons, though he keeps producing new works, present new performances and publish new poems.

Alex Cecchetti's work has been exhibited extensively internationally, and recent solo exhibitions include: At the Gate of the Music Palace, Spike Island, Bristol, UK and Void, Derry, Ireland (all 2018). Tamam Shud at La Ferme du Buisson, Noisiel, France and Centre For Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Warsaw, Poland; Cetaceans at Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, Italy (all 2017); The Printing House of Hell, Kusntraum, London, UK (2015); Comrades of fear and wonder at Contemporary Art Centre (CAC), Vilnius, Lithuania (2012). Cecchetti's performances have been presented at venues including Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2017); Parades, Palais De La Découverte, FIAC 2016, Paris and Playground Festival, M Leuven & STUK, Leuven, Belgium (2016); Serpentine Galleries, London (2015); Serralves Foundation, Porto, (2014), South London Gallery (2013) and MAXXI museum, Rome (2012). He has recently published a new novel Tamam Shud with Sternberg press.

Opening Reception Events:

6:30pm: If all matter jiggles, the universe is an orchestra

Join us for an artist-led tour of 'At the Gates of the Music Palace'.

7pm: Irish Musician [name tbc] will be offering a unique concert; using his synesthetic gifts, he will transform paintings by Alex Cecchetti into a work for the piano. Dancer [name tbc] is invited to activate the exhibition and guide viewers through choreographic experiences devised by the artist.

Additional Information:

- For further details about the artists please visit <http://www.alexcecchetti.com>.
- For further information on Void Derry or to arrange a tour or interview, please contact: Tansy Cowley, Press & Marketing Coordinator, Void Derry marketing@derryvoid.com / 028 7130 8080

Void Gallery:

- Void is a contemporary art space located in Derry, Northern Ireland. With up to 5 exhibitions per year showing the work of established international and Irish artists, Void has established an international reputation for its wide-ranging and challenging exhibition programme. Void exists to present the contemporary visual arts and to support artists, through a programme of exhibitions, related educational and outreach activities from a national and international perspective. A key element to the gallery is the Void Engage programme, which places participation, engagement

and learning at the heart of Void, making contemporary visual art accessible to visitors of all ages.

- Mission statement: Void exists to present the contemporary visual arts and to support artists, through a programme of exhibitions, related educational and outreach activities from a national and international perspective.
- Void are open Tuesday - Saturday, 11am - 5pm. Admission is free. Void Gallery is supported using public funding from Arts Council Northern Ireland.
- For the latest news and events follow @derryvoid of Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
- Void Gallery, City Factory, Patrick Street, Londonderry, Derry, BT48 7EL .
028 71308080 / www.derryvoid.com.

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