

PROVINCETOWN

Berta Walker Gallery

WELLFLEET

208 Bradford Street
Provincetown, MA 02657
(508) 487-6411
Grace Hopkins, Manager



40 Main Street
Wellfleet, MA 02667
(774) 383-3161
Gillian Drake, Manager

www.bertawalkergallery.com

bertawalker@bertawalkergallery.com



Florence Biennale
International Biennale of Contemporary Art in Florence

ROMOLO DEL DEO
invited to
FLORENCE BIENNALE
October 17 - 26, 2015

and
"Si Fece Carne"

The Basilica di San Lorenzo in Florence
October 9 - January 9, 2016

Berta Walker Gallery is proud to announce the unique honor being bestowed upon sculptor Romolo Del Deo to participate in the invitational Florence Biennale, Oct 17 - 25, 2015. Concurrently, Romolo was asked to show in the international ecclesiastical art exhibition, "Si Fece Carne", installed in the famous Basilica de San Lorenzo by the Archdiocese of Florence.



The Vivaldi Bell Series (Mezzo - left/top, Alto - bottom),
Sculpture in Bronze Edition 1/5, Life size Female nude
ruin on stand, 2008

Romolo's work came to the attention of the curators for the Biennale X 2015 through his successful Kickstarter campaign last year which garnered worldwide attention for the creation of a new studio school for sculpture in Provincetown. They selected three important works from the artist's "Podium Series," -- life-sized bronze figure abstractions on elevated stands.

Cate McQuaid, Art Critic for the Boston Globe, aptly discussed Romolo's sculpture when she wrote: "*Sculptor Romolo Del Deo puts a contemporary spin on classical forms. He mixes up bronze casts with dune sand and driftwood. Many of the works look like the shed skins of ancient Greek statuary, thin, torn, and catching dirt. "Sovra" depicts an angel's face and ragged wings - more like those of a frail bat than an emissary of heaven. Half the face is torn away. The texture is gritty and scumbled with the artist's marks. In Del Deo's works, beauty erodes, but the erosion itself is captivating.*"

Romolo was also invited by the Archdiocese of Florence to participate in an international ecclesiastical art exhibition entitled "Si Fece Carne" from Oct 9, 2015 until Jan 9, 2016 at the Basilica di San Lorenzo in Florence, famous for its Brunelleschi apse, and Donatello and Michelangelo Chapels.

This exhibition features the bronze maquette created by Del Deo for the majestic sixteen foot high bronze doors commissioned by the Church of Transfiguration in Orleans, Massachusetts and photo documentation showing its installation.

Romolo's connection to Florence is deep rooted. His family traces their connection to the city back to the 12th Century when Damassio Del Deo served as a diplomat to the court of Cosimo De Medici. For Romolo it was a natural decision at 18, to leave Provincetown to travel to Tuscany to broaden his artistic education.



Daedalus - destiny of flight, Life size make winged nude ruin on stand, 2006, Sculpture in Bronze Unique, 63 x 82 x 24.5"

Over the span of the next 15 years, he regularly lived, studied and created in the Tuscan village of Pietrasanta, outside Florence, commuting to class at the Academy of Fine Arts of Florence, home to many masterpieces including Michelangelo's "David" and "Slaves".

The Biennale exhibition is a structure Romolo's ancestors would have known as a bastion and symbol protecting Florence's autonomy and intellectual freedom. Now fittingly refitted as a beautiful extensive exhibition space, the Fortezza welcomes art from the world over. Recent participants in the Biennale include: David Hockney, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Richard Anuskievicz, Gilbert and George, Marina Abramovic, Shu Yong, José Luis Cuevas, Agatha Ruiz de la Prada and Anish Kapoor.

As the first Provincetown artist in 50 years to be invited to an Italian Biennale, and the first ever to the Florence Biennale, Romolo is deeply honored to be able to represent the United States, and his hometown of Provincetown, America's oldest art colony, in the center of the birthplace of the Renaissance. His accomplishment in sculpture and his unique ability to speak in contemporary visual terms using the methods of antiquity has also captured the attention of critics in Rome, where in December, **Romolo will be awarded the prestigious Michelangelo International Prize for Artistic Achievement in conjunction with the opening of the 2015 Rome Jubilee, at the "Palazzo Cardinal Cesi" in Rome.**



Creation Doors Lintel Maquette, 2000, Sculpture in Bronze Edition 1/5, 3 x 11.25 x 1"

Founded in 1997, the Florence Biennale has been a platform for independent, innovative, and stimulating contemporary art. Over the years it has showcased almost 6,000 artists from over 100 countries. Today, it is one of the most important contemporary art events in the world. Every two years, the Florence Biennale animates the city thanks to a rich program featuring conferences, exhibits, performances, and educational events, offering artists and visitors the opportunity to learn about and discuss major themes and developments in art and culture.

Since its inception, the mission of the Florence Biennale, to work in favor of intercultural dialogue and to promote respect and tolerance between peoples through art and culture, has resulted in numerous recognitions. In 2001, the Florence Biennale was included as an official partner in the United Nations' program "Dialogue among Civilizations". The actor Anne Archer, founder of the association Artists for Human Rights, presented an award to Pasquale Celona, president of the Biennale, for his defense of human rights through the language

of art in 2007. The Biennale's commitment to this cause was further reaffirmed in 2013 with the presentation Ethical Charter of the New Millennium Artist ratified on this occasion by all participating non-governmental organizations at the XXXIII World Convention of UNESCO Centers.

The sculptures in the Florence Biennale first premiered at Berta Walker Gallery in Provincetown, and were later exhibited at Kouros Gallery, NYC, Harvard University and FAF Gallery in Louisville, TN. A small exhibition of three other sculptures from the Podium Series" are currently being installed at Berta Walker Gallery.

Wellfleet Gallery Hours:

Fall Hours: Saturday and Sunday: 12pm to 4pm

Provincetown Gallery Hours:

Fall Hours: Saturday and Sunday: 12pm to 4pm

Often by chance, Always by appointment

"The Berta Walker Gallery has been highlighting the rich cultural heritage of Provincetown's 100-year old art colony for 25 years, and is known for showing a wide variety of important Outer-Cape art and artists from Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet."

Andre Van der Wende, *Cape Cod Times*

Representing Varujan Boghosian, Romolo Del Deo, Salvatore Del Deo, Robert DuToit, Ed Giobbi, Dimitri Hadzi (estate), Elspeth Halvorsen, Robert Henry, Brenda Horowitz, Penelope Jencks, David Kaplan, Judyth Katz, John Kearney (estate), Anne MacAdam, Danielle Mailer, Erna Partoll, Sky Power, Paul Resika, Selina Trieff (estate), Peter Watts, Nancy Whorf (estate), Murray Zimiles

Photography: Grace Hopkins, Susumu Kishihara, Dana McCannel, John Romualdi, Blair Resika, John Thomas

Provincetown Masters: Byron Browne, Oliver Chaffee, Marsden Hartley, Charles W. Hawthorne, Hans Hofmann, Edward Hopper, Karl Knaths, Blanche Lazzell, Ross Moffett, Vollian Rann, Agnes Weinrich.

Provincetown Folk Art and Ancient African Carvings and Bronzes