

January 1993

Dear Colleague,

are you ready to stake your role as a critic?

Contemporary art critics' present role is undergoing some dramatic changes.

During the past decade, criticism began to be considered as a kind of art itself; a system of arts was even sketched. Now we think it's time for defining roles and concerns all over again.

The latest major international events have once again stressed the fundamental and pivoting role of the critic/editor. But, at the same time, also his/her weakness and unsureness have been thoroughly revealed.

The most flagrant limitation coming out from such events is a kind of eclecticism which is often void and based upon choices determined by mere personal and even obsolete standards.

We do think, nevertheless, that the power game which has marked the Eighties must now make way for a wider involvement of the critic as a critic: the "art of parties", in which people play a role of their choice, seems to be a good figure to speech from where starting our debate about today's role of critics.

That is why we did want to avoid the usual congress solution, as during a congress the short-circuit of information does not always allow a satisfactory explanation of one's points of view.

We think it's more straight to directly employ the instrument of the critical work, that is to say: showing. We are now inviting the toughest and activist critics to show their aesthetical and cultural points of view in a direct way.

Different from other events, in which the critics were asked to take part as an artist, we ask you to come and show your own critical assumptions.

We invite you to take part to our show "Critical Quest- I giochi di ruolo della critica", to be held in MAY /JUNE 1993 in Milan at exhibit space of VIAFARINI and at TRANSEPOCA gallery.

The show will stand out as a theoretical proposal, but at the same time it will be a gathering action.

This exhibition is conceived and edited by Alessandra Galletta and Marco Senaldi.

Herewith enclosed you find all the information you need about this event.

For further info, please contact us.

Deadline for entering or refusing is 15 April.

Best regards.

Each critic invited has to write (by hand, typewriter or computer) a text long up to 3 pages (30 t.-60 l. each) or send his / her presentation recorded on videotape or audio-cassette or saved on a floppy disk (Macintosh format, if possible).

Don't forget to express your point of view about contemporary art.

The setting up of the textes as an exhibition will be anyway readable and it will show very clearly the author's identity.

For this purpose we will have the collaboration of artists with an international experience.

On the day of the opening a catalogue with all the exhibited textes will be available in the two spaces.

Your text, or your material, will be written or spoken in your mother tongue and must be sent by fax or via mail (if possible accompanied by a translation into Italian or English) before 30 April 1993 to the following addresses:

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