

INSIDEART

Richard Dupont at Secci

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Interview with New York artist who comes to Florence with his first solo show titled Selfie.

Defined by the critical post-digital and post-conceptual works of New York **Richard Dupont** arrived in Florence with his first solo show in Italy entitled Selfie. We met him in the exclusive INSIDEART on the eve of the opening at the Galleria Eduardo Secci.

What is Selfie? And who and what do we meet in your works?

"Even if the sculptures and prints displayed are derived from a digital model of my body, you will not meet me in this work."

Selfie has nothing to do with the obsession of many people in the viral "autophotography," no matter what comes out of the camera?

"We use the term in an ironic way, even if the current phenomenon is part of a bigger picture that my work has explored for 10 years."

How and when did you begin to conceive the idea of these works?

"In 2002 I made a complete three-dimensional model of my body based on a scan. To do that I entered an agreement with General Dynamics and I went to a military base for me to do this scan. Anyone can do so, but by no means is it cheap. I had to agree to be part of an anthropometric study and allow the military to hold my data. I have used this digital model to create 10 years of work in sculpture, installations, prints, drawing, painting and digital animation. My original motivation was based on the feeling that we would be progressively defined by data and information, and that the humanistic tradition, established during the Renaissance, was turning into something else."

Which artist or movement influences these latest works?

"The early work of Jasper Johns created after his discharge from the military life, Bruce Nauman, Chris Burden, Robert Morris."

This is your first solo exhibition in Florence, Italy. What excites you about this?

"I love Italy. My work in spite of its conceptual orientation has always had a strong bond with the Classicism, as well as with the work of Burri as well as artists of the Arte Povera."