



PRESS RELEASE

Meeting Architecture Part II: Architecture and the Creative Process A programme of lectures and study-exhibitions

4 May 2015: Part IX

Alfredo Pirri/Thomas Schütte: Questions?

**18.00: Lecture and conversation between Alfredo Pirri and
Thomas Schütte, chaired by Ludovico Pratesi**

19.30: Opening of study-exhibition

The British School at Rome
via Gramsci 61, Rome

The Italian artist **Alfredo Pirri** and the German artist **Thomas Schütte** have been friends for several decades and will discuss their work together for the first time in a **public conversation and a study-exhibition *Questions?***

Over the years, the two artists have worked extensively on the **boundaries between art and architecture** and even though many of their aims, cultural differences and modes of expression are diverse, Pirri and Schütte share a common interest in analysing and crossing and indeed demolishing the boundaries.

The study-exhibition ***Questions?*** examines the boundaries between art and architecture. At its core will be a series of drawings by Pirri and of digital documentary images of Schütte's new building.

Alfredo Pirri will present his **drawings for the three architectural projects** on which he is currently engaged: the Patrizia chapel he has constructed at the Piverone cemetery, near Turin, the project for the Chiesa del Giglio oratory in Palermo in which the artist has designed a “golden cage” structure for a multidisciplinary space, and the refurbishment of the cloister at the MARCA – Museo delle Arti di Catanzaro.

Over the years, Pirri has often concentrated on site specific installations and collaborations with architects. These three new projects, however, expand his role as an artist/architect and show how Pirri, rather than focussing simply on the relevant structures, has developed his own architectural vision of contemporary art and multi disciplinary spaces.

Thomas Schütte, for his part, will document the **construction of his new building** in the cultural park in Neuss, and will present **digital images** of the building under construction, derived from his meticulously detailed model *Skulpturenhalle* (2011). This monumental building, designed to house a collection of his work, also marks a notable change in scale from the artist's previous buildings. It was undertaken by Schütte himself and will be completed by the summer of 2015.

Architectural structures have been one of the concerns of the German artist, Thomas Schütte, who has been producing architectural models over many decades and has recently started to develop some of these into actual houses. These include: *Teehaus* (2012), Neuss; *Ackermans Tempel* (2012), Mallorca; *Ferienhaus T* (2011), Telfs / Mösern, Austria; *One Man House II* (2007- 2009), Roanne, France.

Thomas Schütte (Oldenburg, 1954) is one of Germany's best-known artists. His work ranges from sculptures, architectural models, ceramics, prints, drawings and watercolours to houses. He has exhibited in most of the major international museums and his works can also be found in their permanent collections. Schütte was awarded the Golden Lion for best artist at the Venice Biennale, 2005. Recent exhibitions include: *Thomas Schütte*, Kunsthalle Vogelmann, Heilbronn (2014); *Thomas Schütte*, Fondation Beyeler, Basel (2013); *Thomas Schütte – Faces & Figures*, Serpentine Gallery, London (2012); *Thomas Schütte. Frauen*, Castello di Rivoli, Turin (2012); *Thomas Schütte. Retrospección / Hindsight*, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (2010); *Fake / Function*, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds (2007); *Thomas Schütte – Zeichnungen*, Neues Museum, State Museum for Art and Design in Nuremberg (2006); *One Man Houses 2003 - 2005*, Marian Goodman Gallery, New York (2005).

Alfredo Pirri (Cosenza, 1957) is one of the best-known Roman artists. A painter and a sculptor, he has exhibited widely internationally. Exhibitions include: Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome (2013), Palazzo Te,

Mantua (2013) and Project Biennial D-0 ARK Underground Konjic in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2013), where his installation *Passi* is on permanent display; Museo Archeologico Nazionale Reggio Calabria, with the permanent artwork *Piazza* (2011); *Come in Terra così in Cielo*, Centro Arti Visive Pescheria, Pesaro (2007); *Un été italien*, Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris (2006); Havana Biennial (2001); *La Ville / Le Jardin / La Mémoire*, French Academy in Rome – Villa Medici (2000); *Minimalia*, MoMa PS1, New York (1999); *Korrespondenzen*, Walter Gropius Bau, Berlin (1992); Venice Biennale (1988).

He has recently worked with: Nicola di Battista, ABDR, Efisio Pitzalis, Studio Labics, Studio PROAP Lisbon. He has taught at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem, Università La Sapienza, Rome, Accademia di Belle Arti di Urbino, and currently teaches painting at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Palermo.

British School at Rome Architecture Programme, curated by Marina Engel

Study-exhibition opening times Alfredo Pirri/Thomas Schütte: Questions?
4 May–23 May 2015, from Tuesday–Saturday, 15.30–19.30

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