

ALTAN

Pimpa, Cippiuti and other thinkers

curated by Anne Palopoli and Luca Raffaelli

A solo show by Altan at MAXXI

**On show original panels, posters, illustrations, painting, books
and film clips
drawn from his entire oeuvre**

23 October 2019 – 13 April 2020

Extra MAXXI Space

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Rome, October 2019. Anticonformist, eclectic, implacable. **Francesco Tullio ALTAN**, class of 1942, is the protagonist of a major exhibition at MAXXI, the National Museum of XXI Century Arts: **ALTAN. Pimpa, Cippiuti and other thinkers**, coproduced with the **Fondazione Solares** and with **Franco Cosimo Panini Editore**, from **23 October 2019 to 13 April 2020**.

The exhibition, curated by **Anne Palopoli** and **Luca Raffaelli**, offers a comprehensive overview in an intricate layout Altan's complete oeuvre, his implacable humour, his agility in shifting from drawings for children to adventure cartoons, from graphic novels to animated films, vignettes and film scripts.

Altan's world is one in which doubt reveals itself as the only possible certainty, one in which the great myths of history are overturned and humanity seeks to stay afloat in the tumultuous sea of life. We are saved by a little dog who, on the strength of her desire for knowledge, smiles in the face of the wonders of the universe. Altan's characters are all free thinkers, so free as even to be able to confess to themselves and to the world at large their desire for self-immolation. However, their thinking is always a revelation, it is what we were about to say, what we had on the tips of our tongues. Altan reveals it to us with surprising clarity. As if it were always there a step ahead of us.

The **Extra MAXXI** spaces will host original panels and drawings, posters, illustrations, paintings, sketches, books and film clips, with numerous characters that have become part of our collective imaginary: the little dog Pimpa, the engineer Cippiuti, but also Ada, Cristoforo Colombo, Kamillo Kromo, the robin Pippo and Trino.

These characters, reproduced in extra large format on the floor, welcome visitors, catapulting them into Altan's world, into an involving, immersive exhibition layout of great impact.

The exhibition has been organized in chapters that embrace the diverse phases of Altan's artistic career. We start out with "**Altan before Altan**", those large album pages on which, before publishing, the creator of Cippiuti practised, seeking his own style, both through his characters and his words, which at that time were less concise and less closely associated with current affairs. The artist's youthful paintings in which traces of later motifs and styles can be seen are also part of this section.

The second chapter presents **Trino**, the non-omnipotent creator of the world, a character born in the mid-Seventies and published in the periodical *Linus*.

A large wall display recounts the **History of Italy** through more than 200 satirical cartoons from the Seventies through to the present day. Featuring here are Cippiuti, Ugo and Luisa, the man in the armchair, the half-naked woman who looks into our eyes and, of course, some of the protagonists of Italian politics.

A central space is dedicated to **strip cartoon stories**, Altan's feuilletons that have featured Ada, Colombo and Franz (the pseudonym of St. Francis) among others. This section also includes the 90 original plates from *Macao*, a cartoon published in the magazine *Corto Maltese* in 1984.

The exhibition also has space for **Altan the Illustrator** (for the writings of Gogol, De Simone, Piumini and Rodari) and film scriptwriter.

The layout concludes with **Kamillo Kromo** and, above all, the “mythical” **Pimpa**, with original drawings and toys for children and adults in a scenographic and interactive space that will allow all visitors to physically enter the world of Altan’s little dog.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalogue published by **Franco Cosimo Panini**.

To help you enter the world of Altan and get to know his characters, throughout the period of the exhibition, MAXXI’s Education Department will be organizing **guided tours and workshops** for schools, families and adults. Within the ambit of the exhibition, play days for families having fun with Pimpa will also be organized. For further information please see www.maxxi.art.

Saturday 16 November, furthermore, at 5:00 PM in the Carlo Scarpa Hall, **Altan** will meet the MAXXI public in a dialogue with **Carlo Verdelli**, the editor of *la Repubblica* where the artist has published his satirical cartoons for the past 18 years. Moderator: Luca Raffaelli (admission €5.00).

Media partners *l'Espresso* and *la Repubblica*

Thanks to Quipos

MAXXI – National Museum of XXI Century Arts

Via Guido Reni 4a-8, 00196 Roma

Extra MAXXI Space

Opening hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM; Tuesday, Friday, Saturday 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM; closed Mondays.

Admission permitted up to one hour before closing.

Tickets

€10.00, dedicated Altan exhibition ticket

€15.00 full price Altan exhibition ticket + MAXXI entrance

€12.00 reduced price Altan exhibition ticket + MAXXI entrance

Admission free for myMAXXI cardholders, the subscription card permitting unlimited admission for a year (€25: myMAXXI Young up to 30 years of age and myMAXXI Senior for those over 65; €50 *MyMAXXI Individual*; €90 *myMAXXI Family and Friends*, for two people).

The press release and a selection of images of the exhibition may be downloaded from the Restricted Area of the Fondazione MAXXI web site <http://maxxi.art/area-riservata/> using the password areariservatamaxxi.

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