

MASTERPIECE PRESENTS
MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ
FIVE STAGES OF MAYA DANCE

"Performance is an immaterial form of art. At this point of my life, facing mortality, I have decided to capture my performance in a more permanent material than just film and photography. I chose alabaster based on its history and properties (luminosity, transparency...). This body of work is the result of extensive research and we are thrilled to present this series for the first time at Masterpiece London"

Marina Abramović

**Masterpiece London 2018**

28 June - 4 July 2018, Preview 27 June

South Grounds

The Royal Hospital Chelsea

London SW3 4LW

Factum Arte is pleased to collaborate with the Lisson Gallery to present *Five Stages of Maya Dance*, a new work by Marina Abramović. The set of five portraits are showing at *Masterpiece Presents* from June 28th to July 4th, 2018.

Masterpiece Presents launched last year as a large-scale, dedicated exhibition space within Masterpiece London, transforming the Fair's entrance and providing a platform for innovative works of art. This year the space is dedicated to Marina Abramović's sculptural artworks in an immersive display designed by the London and Madrid based architectural practice Skene Catling de La Peña.

Located at the entrance to the Fair, the installation draws the visitor through a liminal veil of atomized water onto which an image of Marina with closed eyes is projected, floating in otherwise dark space. Passing through the image of the artist, the visitor becomes focused on the alabaster heads inside, each radiant with photographic clarity.

Five Stages of Maya Dance consists of five alabaster portraits of Marina Abramović that merge performance, light and sculpture. The portraits have a hauntingly physical presence; moving around them, they decompose into intricately carved 'landscapes' of alabaster. The relationship between surface and image needs to be constantly re-established; the artist is physically present in this subtle interplay of light and stone. Marina Abramović has defined performance art. With the new body of work at Masterpiece transience is transformed into permanence, a performance emerges through light.

These works are the result of an extended period of experimentation that the artist has been carrying out in Factum Arte's workshops in Madrid. Factum Arte is a playground for artists in which digital innovations merge with craft skills. Working alongside a team of photographers, engineers, electricians, 3D scanners, software writers, 3D modelers and an assortment of different machines, Marina Abramović is exploring new ways to give form to her ideas.

Marina Abramović

Since the beginning of her career in Belgrade during the early 1970s, Marina Abramović has pioneered performance as a visual art form. She created some of the most important early works in this practice, including *Rhythm 0* (1974), in which she offered herself as an object of experimentation for the audience, as well as *Rhythm 5* (1974), where she lay in the centre of a burning five-point star to the point of losing consciousness. These performances married

concept with physicality, endurance with empathy, complicity with loss of control, passivity with danger. They pushed the boundaries of self-discovery, both of herself and her audience. They also marked her first engagements with time, stillness, energy, pain, and the resulting heightened consciousness generated by long durational performance.

The body has always been both her subject and medium. Exploring her physical and mental limits in works that ritualize the simple actions of everyday life, she has withstood pain, exhaustion and danger in her quest for emotional and spiritual transformation.

Factum Arte

Based in Madrid, London and Milan, Factum Arte consists of a team of artists, technicians and conservators dedicated to digital mediation - the production of works for contemporary artists. Bespoke equipment has been designed and software has been written to obtain optimum results in both recording and outputting digital information. Factum Arte's non-contact methodologies are having a growing impact on the world of conservation and are defining the role facsimiles play in the protection of our cultural heritage. Carrying out a number of large-scale projects, Factum Arte has gained a reputation for the uncompromising nature of its work and obsessive commitment to pushing the boundaries that usually separate technology and craft skills.

Masterpiece London

Masterpiece has established itself as the world's leading cross-collecting fair, offering the finest works of art, design, furniture and jewellery, from antiquity to the present day.

For press enquiries, contact:

Nicolas Béliard at Factum Arte

nicolas.beliard@factum-arte.com | +33 (0) 6 31 33 13 21

Rachel John at Sutton London | UK, Europe, Middle East & Asia

rachelj@suttonpr.com | +44 (0) 20 7183 3577

Julia Lukacher at Sutton New York | USA and South America

julia@suttonpr.com | +1 212 202 3402