



Licia Galizia Configurazione di un mutamento

EXHIBITIONS

Pablo Echaurren. "The Eye of the Hurricane". Acrylics on canvas and paper. Leaded windows. Pablo, one of the many artist sons of the painter Matta Echaurren, had his first solo show in Milan when he was only 20. But his path was already clear even then: his interest in late futurism and in comics right from the start led him into multifaceted renderings of a ferociously cheery reality. Tulips and butterflies, explosions and volcanoes, little cutie-pie Disneyland cottages and clouds, sugar-white death heads and green dragons, old Mickey himself, were regarded from every angle, taken apart, and the pieces put together again or not, and marched into a never-ending series all over the canvas. In the past these patterns and repeats sometimes became too obsessive and tight, a dense, almost gloomy tapestry.

In this recent work here, now that Pablo is 43, the roots are as obvious as ever — there's a nod to the witty decoration of futurist Depero, to deadpan Krazy Kat, to subway graffiti, to grim, sharp and hilarious Keith Haring. Now the colour is loud and clear. This is positive painting, celebrating painting. See details What's On pages.

Licia Galizia. Most serious young Italian artists are into tidy abstraction — suspicious of anything that smacks of wildness, or funky unconventionality. Galizia solves the problem in a fine and dedicated manner. Her environment here is neat, sparse and even pretty. She makes a few slits into smooth chalk-white walls and inserts a dark metal swirl here, some thin cross staves there: and in a subtle way they dominate the whole wide space of the gallery. See details What's On pages.

Edith Schloss

Note: Private gallery hours are usually from 11.00-13.00 and 17.00-20.00. Most galleries are closed Mon mornings, some all Mon. Some galleries are closed all Sat, some every morning, open only in the afternoon. Please phone before you go.

OPERA

Rigoletto. Riccardo Muti's decision to bring *Rigoletto* back to the Milan theatre after many years, is part of his project to reproduce the so-called *repertory* operas in their original musical and vocal styles, freeing them from changes and adaptations that have accumulated over the years. Muti has already worked on *Traviata* and intends finishing the Verdi trilogy with *Trovatore*. For Muti, to love Verdi means to be faithful to him,

to respect his musical and dramatic choices, following the many indications contained in his manuscripts and in his letters. Thus, the new *La donna è mobile* will sound very different to what we are used to hearing. Leo Nucci in the leading role, will be accompanied by a cast made up of mostly young singers like Katia Lytting and Ruth Ann Swenson. Stage director Gilbert Deffò has chosen a Renaissance setting and put particular emphasis on the personal and private conflicts of the characters. Milan, Teatro alla Scala. See details What's On pages.

DANCE

Dialog. An evening of dance by Susanne Linke is almost always an interesting event; *Dialog mit G.B.*, seen last September at the Oriente Occidente Rovereto Festival, and very well received by public and critics, is dedicated to the memory of Gerard Bohner, the young dancer struck down with Aids last year. The piece consists of two desolate solos by Susanne Linke herself and her partner Urs Dietrich, set amongst the ruins of a dying civilisation in its last, agonising moments. John Cage's powerful music and the couple's technical rigour and expressive strength make a stark creation full of moral commitment. The other piece of the evening is entitled *Carte blanche fur S.L.* with music by Arvo Part. Rome, Teatro Olimpico. See details What's on pages.

Progetto Contemporaneo. New ballet director at Teatro alla Scala, Elisabetta Terabust, is the force behind a cycle of performances under the name *Progetto Contemporaneo* which intends changing *La Scala* dancers' approach to contemporary dance. Nine voluntary dancers have dedicated themselves to this new, important initiative. For this first season, Terabust has engaged young Italian choreographers Massimo Moricone, Virgilio Sieni and Enzo Cosimi who will close the works in July. Milan, Palazzina Liberty. See details What's On pages.

CONCERTS

Musica à Palazzo. Rome's Associazione Musicale Romana organises this delightful yearly rendez-vous baroque music in the appropriate venue of Palazzo della Cancelleria. This year's programme, (in collaboration with the French Embassy), develops a French theme which highlights the close relationship of Italian and French music during the baroque period, the stylistic differences of the two schools and the artistic influences they had upon each other. Particularly interesting is the rare execution of the Oratorio *Giuditta* by Scarlatti and the madrigals and songs by Roland de Lassus/Oriando di Lasso. Rome, until 26 May. See What's On page.

FESTIVALS

* * ROME * *

UK Today: La nuova scena inglese. A festival of contemporary British arts in Rome. Until 6 July. Two months to catch a glimpse of the contemporary British filmmakers, sculptors, composers, dancers and performance artists. Two established names, Richard Long and Peter Greenaway will open the festival that otherwise features almost exclusively young and relatively unknown artists. Sculptor Richard Long will occupy the ground floor of the Palazzo delle Esposizioni with a major exhibition, film-maker Peter Greenaway will transform Piazza del Popolo into a giant sundial and astronomical clock. Theatre and dance companies participating include the Natural Theatre Company, the provocative avant-garde Volcano theatre, dancer Michael Clark and his company in search of asymmetrical equilibrium in a new creation: *O*, the Mark Baldwin Dance Company, Insomniac Theatre, the Faulty Optic duo. Performance artists, installation artists and a film and television festival complete the programme. For information tel. 5750384 / 5741355.

* * BOLOGNA * *

1994 Bologna Festival. Until 23 Jun. For the second year running, Venetian musicologist Mario Messinis, has decided to draw up an ambitious music festival that extends beyond the boundaries of the city and into the province. Many prestigious names in the symphonic and chamber music sections and a series of glittering recitals by the likes of Christian Zacharias, Maria Joao Pires, Brigitte Fassbaender, the Hagen Quartet and Gérard Caussé's viola for Mozart's Quintets just to mention a few. For information tel. 051/6375101.

* * BRESCIA E BERGAMO * *

XXXI Festival Pianistico Internazionale. Until 11 Jun. The leitmotiv of this important music festival this year is *La civiltà musicale di Lipsia da Bach a Reger*. Concerts, as usual at the Teatro Donizetti in Bergamo and the day after at the Teatro Grande in Brescia. Big names to look out for are Stanislav Bunin, Ivo Pogorelich, Alexander Lonquich, Alicia De Larrocha, Grigori Sokolov, the duo Canino-Ballista, and also violinist Uto Ughi, oboist Borgonovo, soprano Kim and many symphonic orchestras. For information tel. 030/293022.

* * FLORENCE * *

Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. Until 1 Jul. Great success for the opening of this festival whose programme, impoverished by austerity, has been conceived along the lines of 20th century themes and variations. 11-15 May: *Das Marienleben*, chor. by Paoluzzi with C. Fracchi, E. Vu An, G. Ianu; 12 May: Concert by the Trio Chung; 17 May: recital by Samuel Ramey; 18 May: concert by the Coro e Strumentisti del Maggio Musicale; 19 May: concert by the Orchestre de Lausanne, with Vladimir Ashkenazy; 20 May: Concert by the Orchestra della Toscana conducted by Lu Jia; 22 May-3 Jun: *Salome* by R. Strauss, conducted by Z. Mehta, directed by Luc Bondy, with Catherine Malfitano. For information and booking, tel. 055/211158. Box office tel. 055/2779236.