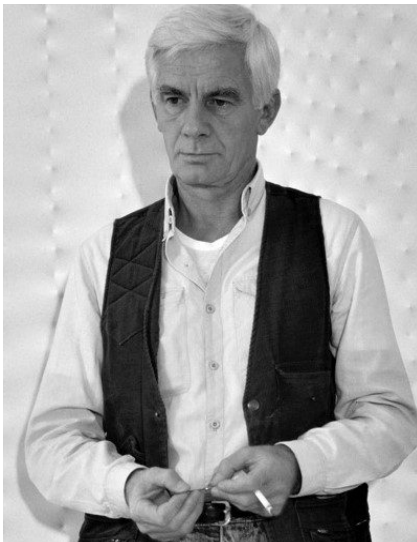


ENRICO CASTELLANI

Castelmassa, Italy, 1930 – Viterbo, Italy, 2017)



Enrico Castellani studied at the École Nationale Supérieure in Belgium, where he earned a degree in painting and architecture. A key figure in post-war European art, Castellani is best known for his radical approach to painting, which challenged the traditional limits of the medium and laid the groundwork for new conceptual and spatial explorations.

In 1959, Castellani co-founded the gallery Azimut and the associated journal Azimuth alongside Piero Manzoni, helping to catalyze the Zero movement in Italy. His signature works, known as Superfici (Surfaces), involve the rhythmic stretching and puncturing of monochromatic canvases using nails and a wooden substructure. These sculptural surfaces play with light and shadow, engaging the viewer's perception and transforming the flat canvas into a dynamic field of spatial and temporal vibrations.

Castellani's formal restraint and monochrome palette connect him to Minimalism and Conceptualism, yet his work maintains a unique sensibility grounded in meditative repetition and architectural order. Rather than depict form, Castellani's pieces become form themselves—reflecting a desire to strip painting of narrative and gesture in favor of pure structure and sensation.

Among his most iconic works is Superficie bianca (White Surface), a piece that exemplifies his lifelong exploration of space, light, and material tension. In its subtle topography, the canvas shifts between presence and absence, inviting viewers to consider not what is seen, but how it is seen.

Enrico Castellani lived and worked in Celleno, Italy, until his death in 2017.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2024 Enrico Castellani. Retrospective, Museo d'Arte, Mendrisio, Switzerland
- 2022 Castellani | Sculpture, Lévy Gorvy, Paris, France
Enrico Castellani. Le superfici e i fondamenti, Loom Gallery, Milan, Italy
- 2021 Castellani | Sculpture, Lévy Gorvy, London, UK
- 2019 Enrico Castellani, Embajada de Italy, Tokyo, Japan
- 2018 Enrico Castellani. Carte, Galería Cayón, Madrid, Spain
- 2015 Alla radice del non illusorio, Cardi Gallery, Milan, Italy
Enrico Castellani e Lee Ufan (Surfaces et Correspondences), Lorenzelli Arte, Milan, Italy
- 2013 Enrico Castellani, Galería Cayón, Madrid, Spain
Enrico Castellani, Galleria Massimo De Carlo, London, UK
La concretezza ritmica dell'infinito, Galleria Mazzoleni, Turín, Italy
- 2012 Günther Uecker / Enrico Castellani, Ca' Pesaro – Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Venice, Italy
- 2011 Enrico Castellani, Haunch of Venison, New York, USA
- 2009 Enrico Castellani, Haunch of Venison, New York, USA
- 2006 Enrico Castellani, Spazio Risonanze, Rome, Italy
Enrico Castellani, Galleria Lia Rumma, Nápoles, Italy
- 2005 Enrico Castellani, Museo Estatal Pushkin, Moscú, Rusia
- 2004 Enrico Castellani, Galerie Di Meo, Paris, France
- 2002 Enrico Castellani, Kettle's Yard (Universidad de Cambridge), Cambridge, UK
Enrico Castellani, Galerie Greta Meert, Bruselas, Belgium

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- 2001 2001, Enrico Castellani, Fondazione Prada, Milan, Italy
- 1999 1999, Enrico Castellani, Galleria Lia Rumma, Milan, Italy
- 1991 1991, Enrico Castellani, Lorenzelli Arte, Milan, Italy
- 1986 1986, Enrico Castellani, Lorenzelli Arte, Milan, Italy
- 1966 1966, Enrico Castellani, Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, USA
- 1963 1963, Enrico Castellani, Galleria dell'Ariete, Milan, Italy
- 1960 1960, Enrico Castellani, Galleria Azimut, Milan, Italy

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

- 2022 De Manzoni a Fontana – Los fabulosos años sesenta en Milan, Auditorium Parco della Musica, Rome, Italy
La luce del nero, Ex Seccatoi del Tabacco, Città di Castello, Italy
- 2019 Immaginarìa. Arte Italyno de posguerra al posmodernismo, Spazio espositivo M12, Terni, Italy
- 2015 Surfaces et Correspondances (Castellani / Lee Ufan), Lorenzelli Arte, Milan, Italy
- 2014 Local History: Enrico Castellani, Donald Judd, Frank Stella, Dominique Lévy Gallery, Londres, Reino Unido
Local History: Enrico Castellani, Donald Judd, Frank Stella, Dominique Lévy Gallery, New York, USA
- 2013 Minimalismo Italyno (Castellani / Uecker), Ca' Pesaro – Galleria Internazionale d'Arte Moderna, Venecia, Italy
- 1994 The Italyn Metamorphosis 1943-1968, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA
Arte programmata e cinetica 1953-63, Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy
- 1983 Identité Italienne. L'art en Italie depuis 1959, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
- 1983 Vitalità del negativo nell'arte Italyna 1960/70, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy
- 1981

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- 1970 Vitalità del negativo nell'arte Italyna 1960/70, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy
- 1967 Lo spazio dell'immagine, Palazzo Trinci, Foligno, Italy
- 1964 Guggenheim International Award, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA
- 1962 NUL. Zero Belge, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1960 Monochrome Malerei, Städtisches Museum, Leverkusen, Germany
- 1960 Grupo Zero en Italy (Castellani / Manzoni), Galleria La Tartaruga, Rome, Italy



COLLECTIONS

MoMA, New York, USA

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA

Centre Pompidou, Paris, France

Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venecia, Italy

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, USA

MACRO — Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Rome, Rome, Italy

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D. C., USA

MUSEION — Museo di Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Bolzano, Italy

Museo MAGA, Gallarate, Italy

MUSPAC — Museo Sperimentale d'Arte Contemporanea, L'Aquila, Italy

Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy

MAR — Museo d'Arte della città di Ravenna, Rávena, Italy

Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, Italy

Museum DKM, Duisburgo, Germany

Kunstmuseum Kloster Unserer Lieben Frauen, Magdeburgo, Germany

Ohara Museum of Art, Kurashiki, Japan

Museum of Modern Art, Osaka, Japan

Fukuyama Museum of Art, Fukuyama, Japan

Iwaki City Art Museum, Iwaki, Japan

Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokio, Japan

Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisboa, Portugal

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