

Giuseppe Filardi - l'Artista

MAIL ART Artistic interchange

A famous television anchorman would say: "the question is spontaneous, what is the Mail Art?"

The mail art is an invisible circuit of artistic interchange that travels by post and for this reason it has to be compatible with the postal rules. The mail art is open to the artist of all the world and it has the objective of a large communication that happens with the exchange of works, materials, informations and creative proposal.

The mail art is a living reality of creation that doesn't know frontiers.

When did the mail art begin? Many people say that mail art has begun in 1869 with the first postcard, others say that it started in Vienna with some Dadaist works of Marcel Duchamp or with some futurist works of Giacomo Balla.

This isn't Mail Art, really it starts in 1962 when, a provoking and extroverted American artist, Roy Johnson, gave to the post art an autonomous trend, pulling it out from the "Fluxus" movement of which he was one of the personages.

Ray Johnson, after having sent his works by post in all the world, founded a parody of the "New York School of Abstract Expressionist Correspondence", "The New York Correspondence School Of Art" in which he gathered up the works of the correspondents that sent their works by post. Consequently, envelopes, postmarks, stamps are integral part of this type of communication.

With the coming of the new technologies, like fax and e-mail, people wondered how these new means of communication could corrode or tear this web, but this problem doesn't exist.

These new technologies are new tools offered to the artists that for years use them in a very good way. It is enough to think to the elaborations of imagines made by the Dutch artist Rod Summers. You have to think to an ephemeral imagine that materializes itself on the video, though it has been sent from another continent, it can be manipulated transforming it in a kind of corpse of the third millennium.

Until the artist wants to communicate increasing the web, and besides he wants to create something that can travel by post, the Mail Art has nothing to be afraid of. The Mail Art has gained an important part in the history of art, in fact there are in all the world a lot of museums that support and spread it.

We have to praise the town council of Montalbano Jonico for having believed in this project of Mail Art. We have to be credit to the primary school "Nicola Fiore4ntino" in Montalbano Jonico for having kept the received works and besides, we have to thank the cultural association "Euterpe" for having realized the archives of the artistic works.

The commitment shared by them and by the 97 artist's coming from 17 countries offers cultural arricchement that is reserved either to a youthful public or to people assigned to the job. In this way they have put the basis of the creativity for the future generations.

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