**SPAZIO OPHEN VIRTUAL ART GALLERY**

Via S. Calenda, 105/D - Salerno

***“*VIRTUAL**  **FLUXUS**  **POETRY”**

**SHOZO  SHIMAMOTO**

**1928 - 2013**

**International project dedicated to Shozo Shimamoto**

**by Giovanni Bonanno**

 **(First part)**



**Independent event and cross designed in conjunction with the 56th International Art Exhibition - la Biennale di Venezia**

Inaugurated Sunday, May 31, 2015, at 18.00, the international exhibition "Add & Return" by Giovanni Bonanno entitled "VIRTUAL FLUXUS POETRY" that Space Ophen Virtual Art Gallery of Salerno dedicated to the Japanese artist Shozo Shimamoto as a contemporary event and independent designed to coincide with the 56th International Biennial of Art in Venice 2015. For this particular occasion, the gallery intends to devote attention to two Japanese artists like Shozo Shimamoto and Ryosuke Cohen, summarizing very well the concept of The World's Futures / "Inside and outside the body," (in and out of the body). Between May 31 and August 29, 2015 will be presented at the Space Ophen Virtual Art Gallery of Salerno, the works of 97 artists in two exhibitions with a respective series of selected works of Shozo Shimamoto, (24 works) on the sidelines of the project Mail Art "Head" project materialized profitably between the years 80 and 90. In this "first phase" of the International Festival are 48 works by as many important international authors who have wanted to be present at this special event.

Featured artists:

Shozo Shimamoto, Ruggero Maggi, Mirella Bentivoglio, Monica Rex, Buz Blurr, Jurgen O. Olbrich, Виктория Барвенко, Jan Theuninck, Vittore Baroni, Rora & Dobrica Kamperelic, Pascal Lenoir, Ambassade d'Utopia, Eugene Giannì, Anna Boschi, Clemente Padin Fernanda Fedi, Mehrl C. Bennett, Emilio Morandi, G. Galantai, Bruno Cassaglia, Julien Blaine, Ko de Jonge, Stathis Chrissicopulos, Luc Fierens, Giovanni Bonanno, Mirta Caccaro, Antonio Sassu, Ever Arts, MP Fanna Roncoroni, Cesar Reglero Jacob de Chirico, Marina Salmaso, Lancellotto Bellini, Lamberto Caravita, Gino Gini, Rosa Gravino, Francesco Aprile, Alicia Malerba, Rolando Zucchini, Mauro Molinari, Francesco Mandrino, Santini Del Prete, Claudio Grandinetti, Fridrich Karl Hacker, Renata and Giovanni Stradada Roberto Formigoni, Juan Lopez de Ael, Leonor Arnao, Roberto Zito,

BIOGRAPHY
Shozo Shimamoto (Osaka 22 January 1928 to 25 January 2013) was an important contemporary artist Japanese. In the first 50 years he has been with Jiro Yoshihara the founder of the Movement for the Concrete Art Gutai. Gutai is the artistic movement that has best represented the need to create a cultural bridge, a place of synthesis between two artistic models. His works are based on the fact to free art from the conventions of traditional ,. anticipating phenomena such as Fluxus and Conceptual Art, establishing fruitful relations with the Fluxus movement, and Spatialism Italian Lucio Fontana. In the manifesto of the artistic movement we talk about banning the brush. After the dissolution of the Gutai movement, Shozo Shimamoto discovered mail art that uses the extraordinary possibilities for active and collective participation. In the nineties it recreates the Bottle Art. Shozo Shimamoto did performances around the world with his vision of peace. In '1996 Ben Porter, the nuclear physicist in charge of the Manhattan Project, the proposed for the Nobel Prize for Peace. Shozo Shimamoto was also one of the main pioneers of Mail Art. In 1975-1976, it adheres to the initiatives of the Union of Artists (Artists' Union Group), which became one of the highest representatives of the Mail Art, developing a new and highly personal conception man-artist as a product of social work and community that is reflected in a specific project: whenever Shozo Shimamoto meets an artist or a politician important invited him to intervene with slogans, drawings and objects on his shaved head, preserving the photographic documentation of the action. In addition, since 1986, he will continue unceasingly to use his head shaved as a means for its activities of mail art by participating in the Peace Run through Europe continuing to lead and spread through his performances, messages of peace. In 1987, invited by the Museum of Dallas staged a performance on the centenary of the birth of Marcel Duchamp: peace messages and film clips are projected on his shaved head. The New York Times critic Roberta Smith has described it as one of the most daring experimenters and independent of the postwar art scene in the fifties. His works are in the collections of museums such as the Tate Gallery and the Tate Modern (London and Liverpool) and the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art in Kobe, Japan and in major collections and private collections.