



Written by Teresa Stoppani
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PUBLIC LECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GREENWICH

Tue 17 February 2009 - 5.30pm

Mario Fallini in conversation with Enrico Ferraris, Lifehouse, IT for Cultural Heritage
CONCETTISMO AND GIULIO CAMILLO'S
THEATRE OF MEMORY



Mario Fallini's work strives to uncover the relationships between words and images. More recently he has approached the themes of mnemotechnics and the iconological connections that inform the description of 'The Theatre of Memory' in Giulio Delminio Camillo's text *The Idea of Theatre*. Fallini has recreated and reconstructed Camillo's theatre, taking into account the few sources available and previous studies on it (by Frances Yates of the Warburg Institute and by Lina Bolzoni of the Scuola Normale di Pisa among others). Fallini juxtaposes to Camillo's theatre his own theatre, combining the conceptual structure of this Renaissance architecture with the tools of contemporary information technology, to represent his own trajectory of memory, both personal and artistic: "If Camillo was trying to embrace the history of culture by breaking the boundaries between disciplines and fusing them into the history of Memory, my theatre will mirror the model of Camillo's with seven screens projecting images and details of my own artwork. In this way, new forms and compositions will emerge from pre-existing ones and thus delineate other memories to come."

Speaker: Mario Fallini's art practice explores the relationship between words and images. The relationship of his work with architecture and design is fundamental in his creative process, which combines invention and techniques in the project of the art object. Fallini employs the techniques and materials of the visual arts to respond to suggestions derived from other disciplines (iconology, mnemotechnics, Warburghian criticism), which he translates and incorporates in his works through an analogical and metaphorical process. Since 1989 he has worked on the calligraphic inscription of literary masterpieces such as *One Thousand and One Nights*, which was exhibited in the Library of the University of Pisa as 'The Map of Memory' (2004). A recent work of calligraphic inscription is the wall covering for the church of the Santissima Annunziata in Alessandria: here 231 ceramic tiles were inscribed with the unabridged text of the Old and the New Testament. Fallini is currently working on the fullscale reconstruction of Giulio Camillo's Theatre of Memory, on the basis of his text *L'Iddea del Teatro* (1550). Fallini lives and works in Alessandria (Italy).

University of Greenwich School of Architecture & Construction
Norbert Singer Lecture Theatre (M055)
Mansion Site, Avery Hill Campus
Bexley Road, Eltham, London SE9 2PQ
Tuesdays 17.30

Directions to Avery Hill Campus

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