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GALLERIA CONTINUA

SAN GIMIGNANO BEIJING **LES MOULINS**

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ANISH KAPOOR

until 21/12/2014

from Wednesday to Sunday, 12-6pm

GALLERIA CONTINUA / Les Moulins is pleased to present the British artist Anish Kapoor's first exhibition at the industrial site of the Moulin de Sainte Marie.

The space of the old paper mill, where diverse materials from steel to brick to concrete sit side by side, seems tailor-made to hold Kapoor's monumental sculptures. The curved contours of these severe and refined sculptures are elaborated in the large orthogonal spaces of the central building.

Anish Kapoor's work at the Moulin de Sainte-Marie operates along the lines of a dialogue. The site's raw materials are echoed by an almost powdery weathering steel whose rusty color underscores the subtle curves high above the visitor, these curves themselves contrasting with the strong vertical, horizontal, and oblique lines of the industrial architecture. While their design already makes inherent reference to the world of industry, the towering metallic structures here work in tandem with it. The visitor finds himself at the heart of a spectacular play on scale that enables an experience of the space and materials. Opening onto themselves, the steel works conjure a sort of dark, indistinct abyss. At the threshold of the cavity, it

is as though the spectator is inhaled into the piece. The visitor's gaze, his sense of hearing, his body, and his mind converge in the contemplation of this deep interior, which is both the catalyst and the receptacle for his meditation. Anish Kapoor's sculptures oscillate between two states: between an object whose proportions and spatial placement we gaze on admiringly and the basis for a sensitive, contemplative experience.

Born in Mumbai, India in 1954, Anish Kapoor has lived and worked in London since 1973. Recognized as one of the most important artists worldwide, his works have been exhibited in world-class institutions such as the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, the Royal Academy of Arts in London, the CAPC in Bordeaux, the Prada Foundation in Milan, and the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi. On the occasion of the 2012 Olympic Games in London, he designed the 115 meter-tall Orbit tower with engineer Cecil Balmond, which is the largest public art project ever to be realized in the United Kingdom. In 2011, Anish Kapoor created Leviathan, a special project for Monumenta at the Grand Palais in Paris.

Anish Kapoor was awarded the Primo Duemila prize at the Venice Biennale in 1990 and received the prestigious Turner Prize in 1991. Elected Member of the Royal Academy in 1999, he was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2003.