

MARIAN GOODMAN GALLERY

For Immediate Release

Giuseppe Penone: New Work

September 12 - October 28, 2000

Opening reception: Tuesday, September 12, 6 – 8 pm

Marian Goodman Gallery is very pleased to announce an installation of new work by Giuseppe Penone, his first exhibition at the gallery since 1994, which will open to the public on Tuesday, September 12th, and will be on view through October 28th. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, from 10 am to 6 pm.

The Italian artist Giuseppe Penone has long been associated with developments in sculpture in the 60s and 70s and with *arte povera*. Penone's art has always retained its own distinctive character, however, existing outside the idea of the city, and more directly concerned with the interaction between nature and culture and also the corresponding structures to be found in each. Distinguished by his deep understanding of nature, his sculptures, drawings and installations are based on conceptual processes and celebrate natural forms, which, whether in bronze, stone, or natural materials, retain a poetic, emotional, and sometimes ephemeral element.

For this exhibition Penone will create an installation in the North Gallery. Shown earlier this year as part of the Beauty *in Fabula* exhibition at the *Palais des Papes* in Avignon, France, it is now being seen in New York for the first time. Along one entire wall, from floor to ceiling, will be installed a dense covering of laurel leaves inside wire mesh boxes, and punctuated by a bronze sculptural element—a bouquet of bronze laurel leaves. The scent of the foliage is also an important element of the work. In the center of the main gallery is a large sculpture of a bronze tree/fountain with branches from which one sees steady droplets of water. In addition there is a large bronze sculpture on a theme that has fascinated him throughout his career, i.e., the metamorphosis of nature to man.

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Born on a farm in the village of Garessio in 1947, in the northwestern part of Italy, Penone has lived close to the land for much of his life, and this knowledge and understanding of how nature "works" has always been central to the sophistication and poetry with which he depicts nature. Of all the *arte povera* artists his work has been distinguished by its great understanding and connection to nature as a source and resource.

Giuseppe Penone attended art school in Turin, an industrial town, situated at the border between the city and nature, where he now lives. He has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally and has had solo exhibitions at such institutions as: the Fort Worth Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; the National Gallery of Canada; the Centro Galego de Arte Contemporanea, Santiago de Compostela, Spain; the ARC/Musee d'art Moderne de la Ville De Paris; Carre d'Art, Musee d'art contemporain, Nimes; Musee de la Ville de Strasbourg; and Musee de Beaux Arts, Nantes, in France; The Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; The Kunstmuseum Lucerne; The Kunstmuseum Bonn; the Museo de Arte Moderno Buenos Aires; and The Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota Aichi, Japan, to name a few.

Recently, his work has been included recently in *Beauty in Fabula* at the Palais des Papes D'Avignon in Avignon, France; *Le Temps Vite* at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, France; *Enclosed and Enchanted* at the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford in England; and *The Italian Metamorphosis* at the Guggenheim Museum, New York.

This past fall/winter, Penone completed a public project and commission for the Jardin des Tuileries in Paris, France, under the auspices of the French Ministry of Culture. Upcoming projects include a solo exhibition at the Stadt Pulheim, Pulheim.