

Press Release no. 1. May 14, 2005:

Stefano Cagol

> WHITE FLAGS BANDIERE BIANCHE

1000 mini flags+ 1 girl + 1 mini dress + 1 flag

June 10, 2005

51st Biennale of Visual Arts in Venice

WHEN: June 10, 2005, at 11am – 2pm, opening of the Biennale of Visual Arts in Venice

WHERE: Giardini (Gardens), 51. Art International Exhibit - Venice

WHAT: performance

WHO: Stefano Cagol

IN COLLABORATION WITH: JAANA PARKKILA, Designer, Finland

SUPPORTED BY: Archimede.nu

INFO: www.white-flags.com info@white-flags.com

Stefano Cagol introduces one of his projects at the opening of the 51st Biennale of Visual Arts in Venice

The protagonists of Cagol's Venetian performance will be one thousand flags to contaminate the international microcosm created in Venice during the opening days of the Biennale. This spreading will be an ideal universal act able to cancel the borders of space.

The symbol of the flag will then be stylized by an ethereal performer who will become one with the outline of the flag by embodying the contemporary version of a goddess, who will not be invoked to proclaim victory but surrender. A surrender in front of our actual situation of repeatable incomprehension, a surrender in front of our incapacity to act and let us be heard.

To create this image, Stefano Cagol has started a collaboration with the Finnish artist Jaana Pakkila, active at the moment as a stylist for the Finnish label Marimekko.

The project was born out of a video on the American flag made in New York in '99. «**Stars & Stripes**» was projected at the Civic Gallery of Contemporary Art in Trento within the exhibition «*Nuovo Spazio Italiano*» (New Italian Space) in 2002 upon the occasion of the opening of the new seat of Mart – Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Trento and Rovereto: here the flag moved by the wind is doubled and from a military banner it becomes a flying butterfly, from threatening it is transformed into reassuring. A re-edition of the same video – titled «*lies*» - was presented in January-March of this year upon the occasion of Stefano Cagol's one-man show at the Platform Gallery in London curated by Mami Kataoka, chief curator at the Mori Museum of Art in Tokyo.

The following step of this project will be a series of environmental installations at international museums that aim to mirror the concept of the flag and its inner meaning within our society, at the same time joint in communication but still divided by conflicts. The project is supported by archimede.nu