

Design & Crime

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Organized by Franklin Melendez

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Renato Giuseppe Bertelli, *Profilo Continuo (Testa di Mussolini)*, 1933

Galerie Eric Hussenot is pleased to present, *Design & Crime*, a group exhibition on view from 23rd of April of 4th of June, 2016. The show brings together a disparate arrangement of objects that are staged together in an aggressive clash of styles, forms, periods, disciplines and mediums. Rather than visual harmony, the *mise en scene* seeks to generate dissonance, creating tensions between viewer, architecture and the discrete pieces on display.

A key point of reference running throughout is the contentious status of ornamentation in 20th century Italian design, from Futurism and neo-classical revivals through the innovations of the Memphis Group and beyond. These are addressed—either directly or obliquely—by a series of functional or potentially functional objects whose hybridity trouble pre-defined boundaries. Along the way, this blurring interrogates historical modes of display and the politics of reduction, while raising questions of perversion, fascism, decadence and obsolescence, nationalist domesticity and the use value of 'bad taste' as it comes to bear on specific, fleshy bodies.