

**SILVIA HELL**

***Increasing the Wind Pressure***

## PROSPECTUS / SUMMARY

*Air Milano Rossini 20140814 - 20171231*, 2018  
UV inkjet print on piano roll, frame, 125,5 x 35,7 cm.

*Air Milano Arenskij 20130628 - 20171231*, 2018  
UV inkjet print on piano roll, frame, 168 x 35,7 cm.

*Air Milano Scating Danse 20110608 - 20140311*, 2018  
UV inkjet print on piano roll, frame, 102,8 x 35,7 cm.

*Air Milano Turkey Trot\_Pas d'espagne 20150930 - 20170716\_20080717 - 20100902*, 2018  
UV inkjet print on piano roll, frame, 145,3 x 35,7 cm.

*Air Milano Turkey Trot 20110902 - 20161019*, 2018  
UV inkjet print on piano roll, frame, 189,5 x 35,7 cm.

*Voci di corridoio*, 2018  
brass, 4 x 120,5 cm.

A new series of works open up an exploration of a particular space of knowledge, in which the apparent objectivity of data and informations is constantly negotiated with the instability of human habits and environments. A close experience brings out a spectrum of exceptional events, made possible by the coexistence of different sign systems.

Increasing the Wind Pressure oscillates between a subtle presence and a global representation, calling us to experience the volatility of written knowledge when merged to the different ideas of freedom that lay in our interpretations of living.

In 2008 the European Parliament produced a reference text to monitor air quality. I decided to approach this document as if it were a song, instead of reading it I started to sing it repeatedly on blues bases. I am interested in the rhythm of information, the possibility of a regulation to imprint it in an emotional substrate.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of public information on air quality and on make the data public. I asked for these data, I wondered if through

them I could witness a form of expression of reality. I decided to use this raw material and turn it into a visualization to bring out an air score.

The works of the Air series are prints on particular perforated papers. A seven colors system is available on the length and height of the surface, introducing a flow of information. It is a representation of the values of the main potentially harmful substances present in the air, recorded by the municipality of Milan in the last ten years. A substance is associated with each color (PM 10, black; PM 2.5, light blue; Nitrogen dioxide, red; Sulphur dioxide, light grey; Benzene, green; Carbon monoxide, yellow; Ozone, dark blue). Time flows from left to right, one millimeter corresponds to one day. The paper is sectioned vertically by five (now invisible) intervals and the value of each substance is placed in one of the five registers according to its average value on a certain day. The highest band marks a good value, the lower one marks a bad value. The choice of the substances and their division into five bands follows the indications on air evaluation standardized by the Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council held on 21 May 2008. It also refers on how Arpa Lombardia, where the data come from, determines and communicates the five intervals.

The perforated papers are segments of different piano rolls acquired from a private collection in Milan. They are produced between 1910 and the early 1930s, they were used to record the pianist's performance.

Thus the player piano can reproduce the pieces automatically thanks to a pneumatic system that executes the original performance without the performer.

The composition of the wall works follows the temporal logic relative to the writing of the substances present in the air. When objects overlap we can see that the same data frame has been printed on different musical motifs. An exception to this rule is the work exhibited on the right, which represents a temporal gap, from the 16th of July 2017 to the 17th July 2008.

The sculpture "*Voci di Corridoio*" ("*Rumors*") is made on the lathe by a single brass bar. The fullness of the form is pierced in different directions by holes of different sizes.

























