

ENZO NASSO

ART AND INVENTION. WRITING

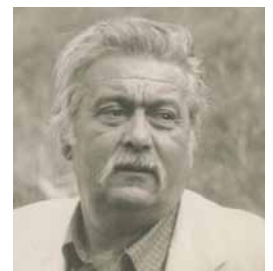
ARTE E INVENZIONE. LA SCRITTURA

(2009), PAGES 363 WITH 216 COLOUR ILLUSTRATIONS

The artistic and intellectual itinerary
of a leading figure of the Rome School
– one of the most important art movements
to emerge in Italy in the last fifty years

Best known around the world as the pioneer of the techniques of dripping and *décollage*, the Calabrian-born polymath Enzo Nasso also earned himself fame in the United States with his films, short stories, poetry and novels. This volume is a testimony to his astounding artistic output: from the “readymade” sculpture to the *décollages*, to his prolific and highly original painting. But *Art and Invention. Writing* also bears witness to his extraordinary intellectual contribution to the arts in Italy in the post-war period and for the rest of the last century – through his writings, his work in film, television and the media, and particularly his teaching and encouragement of future painters and writers. Yet to define Nasso a novelist, artist, journalist, poet and film-maker does not do him justice. He is “a writer of art and invention” who “makes an essential contribution to civilization”. And the impact of that contribution, as this very valuable collection of his life’s work shows, will last well into this century.

Enzo Nasso was born in Taurianova, near Reggio Calabria, Italy. He lived in Rome, where he worked as a journalist and was active in cinema and television, as well as in the figurative arts, for over fifty years. As Arts Editor of a number of major Italian daily newspapers, he also contributed on a theoretical level to the avant-garde artistic movements in Italy after the war. In 1961 he founded the Laboratorio di ricerche cinematografiche (Film Research Laboratory), which has assisted the development of underground directors and actors in Italy significantly. Various critical works have been written on Enzo Nasso the poet, writer, artist and cinematographer (including the volume *La personalità del gioco*, edited by Annalisa Saccà, Fordham University Press and Lincoln Center, New York). He has published several volumes of poetry: *Paura dello spazio*, La giraffa 1948; *Poesie*, Porfiri 1952; *Un nome giallo*, Porfiri 1956; *Dissidio*, Porfiri 1971; the “meta-novel” *Il nome della mimosa*, Ciuffa 1987 and the anthology of socio-political essays entitled *Tà-pù*, Turani 1993.





E... E... E... E...
1987, collage on plywood, 65x84 cm



A Kiss on the Cheek for Lenin
1992, iron, 18x22x28 cm



Enamel n. 5
enamel on paper