

## CONTEMPORARY ART

# Thoughts in the time

## Alberto Magrin, «Society, i accuse you»

TREVIGLIO. On Saturday, 20th January was inaugurated the personal exhibition of Alberto Magrin. When you come into the exhibition room you are immediatly amazed because the works of art do not hang on the walls but they lie on the ground, it is about twenty photographs in big format veiled with acrylic colours. The spectator has to walk among the works without a precise route observing the photos in the direction he prefers. The artist admits having left them on the floor because after having hanged some, the works felt down, "they wanted to lie on the ground". This is perhaps a sign confirming his theory: the space can be phisically occupied, the time only spiritually. The photos have an ironic character, at first sight of easy comprehension, but when the thought is absorbed and elaborated in the mind of the spectator they assume a provocative and polemical tone towards the society. It is sufficient to observe "Economic Mount", work giving the name to the show, where a man, or better the man, stands on a mountain of excrements produced by himself. The photo lets the member of the audience taught but it is an accusation against the consumer society, for the artist the possession of the material is actually the ruin of the man. Another



• «The Pope»: Vaginal Retractor, microphone bar and artist handkerchief

even more provocative work is "Virgin Mary with Baby" in which a young prostitute is sitting on the dish of an enormous weighing machine, by remaining lifted even if the other dish is empty. Maybe a protest scream against the social emarginalization, maybe the maternal wish of a woman who has about ten men but cannot love anyone, maybe the representation of the spirit lightness compared to the flesh, a pan of the scale which remains empty and can be filled only with the sensibility of the spectator. The Pope is represented by a white handkerchief and a vaginal retractor

as headgear, in this installation stand out all the artist doubts about the church's ideas concerning contraception and miscarriage. In spite of accusations the artist believes in man's capacities: in a photo mechanic lifts a car with only one hand, in another a man raises a hill with a fishing rod. According to Alberto Magrin art is not in technique, materials, shapes and colours but in the thought, inventor of the time in which we live, the only force and mean permitting us to sculpt our own soul. In the future each work of art will change and evolve abandoning its statics.