

Claudio Secchi: Mysterious Geometry

Geometry is an ancient discipline, dating back to thousands of years ago. Employed to solve practical problems, it has been adapted to the mystical to represent abstract concepts and give these a concrete appearance. Graphical signs that recall symbols of a superior, natural or spiritual order, the logic of which is greatly shared.

Claudio Secchi approaches symbolic geometry by means of a series of patient works on canvas. From the first glance, they appear to be much more than simple lines that interweave.

The first aspect that strikes you in the works of Claudio Secchi is the contrast between the significance of the colours and the straight lines that give shape to a plethora of angles, rectangles, rhombuses and squares, which are difficult to perceive. One can immediately notice how the encounter of different geometrical shapes creates what we define as *optical illusions*: a circle curves a straight line and changes the perception of angles so as to create a volume that should not exist since there are no areas of shadow. The rhombus at the centre of the canvas distorts the straight lines so that we see imperfect parallels.

By virtue of a far-seeing and serene technique, Claudio Secchi demonstrates how colours alter the perfection of half-lines and vice versa; how regularity modifies the shades perceived. An inlay pattern of optical laws skilfully organised in works that have deep cultural roots.

Titles, such as 'The geometrical representation of God', 'The Immortality of Soul', 'Union' and 'Beyond', make reference to oriental cultures that have employed the same geometrical symbols to abstract common semantic reference points. As a consequence, each work of Claudio Secchi acquires a much deeper meaning. One can retrieve age-old traditions, handed down from father to son, which still stand out in mosques and temples, from Syria to Tibet.

The search for signs and symbols that one can find in the works of Claudio Secchi show the way forward, amongst geometry and colour, to reasoned elements that entwine as concepts in everyday life.

Lines like words repeated to form phrases that come to life thanks to emotions. Colour that allows lines and angles to vibrate.

Even if an artist's painting does not represent familiar images since it considers them understood by our reason, it teaches us that reasoning is a condition that should not be experienced in itself. It is always connected to sensations that real life can provide us in profusion if only we understand the many rules.