

MAGAZZINO

Macchine Inutili

Gianni Colombo Bruno Munari

Curated by Marco Scotini

In collaboration with Filippo Percassi

24/11/2023 - 28/02/2024

Exhibition dossier

via dei prefetti, 17 | Roma [📍](#)
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Gianni Colombo e Bruno Munari

Macchine Inutili

2023

November 24, 2023 - January 20, 2024

Macchine Inutili is a double solo show by two historical masters of the second half of the Italian 20th Century such as Bruno Munari and Gianni Colombo, united by many factors despite coming from very different generations.

The works on display, including *Negativo Positivo* by Munari and *Spazio Elastico* by Colombo, aim to resume the threads of an open dialogue between the two artists: a dialogue that began already in 1960 with the first exhibition of Gruppo T (of which Colombo was a member), *Miriorama 1*, in which Munari was recognized as an immediate precedent (together with Fontana, Tinguely, Manzoni and Baj) and which would then continue in 1962 when Munari himself included the Group in the milestone exhibition *Arte Programmata* at the Olivetti shop in Milan and much desired by Munari himself, who had recognized in the Gruppo T a new generation of artists carrying an innovative message, that of art in movement.



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Bruno Munari

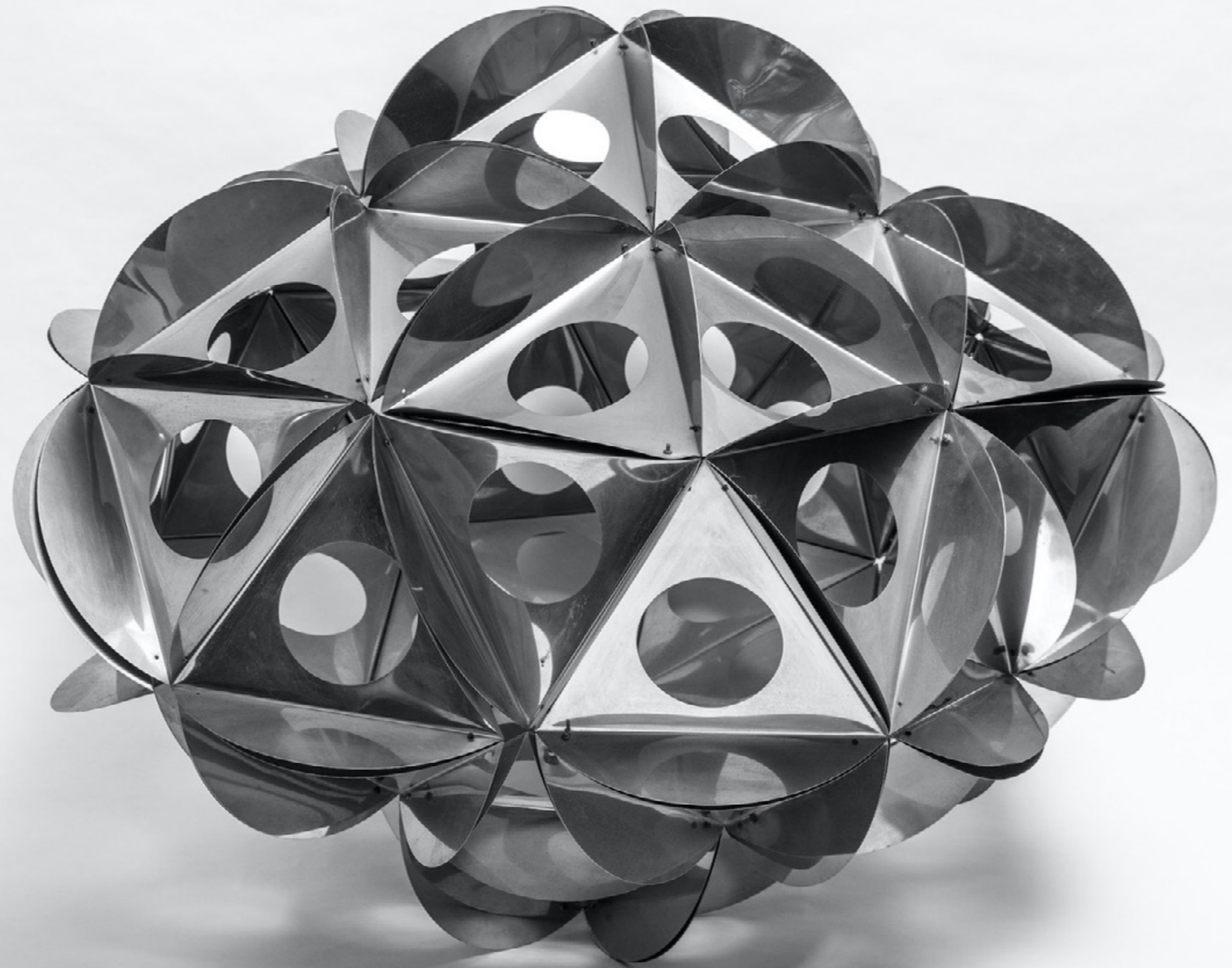
Aconà Biconbi

1965

Stainless steel

ø110 x h100 cm

Ed. 50



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Gianni Colombo

*Spazio elastico- 6 doppie linee
bianche (intermutabile),*

1965

Wood and elastics

125 x 125 cm



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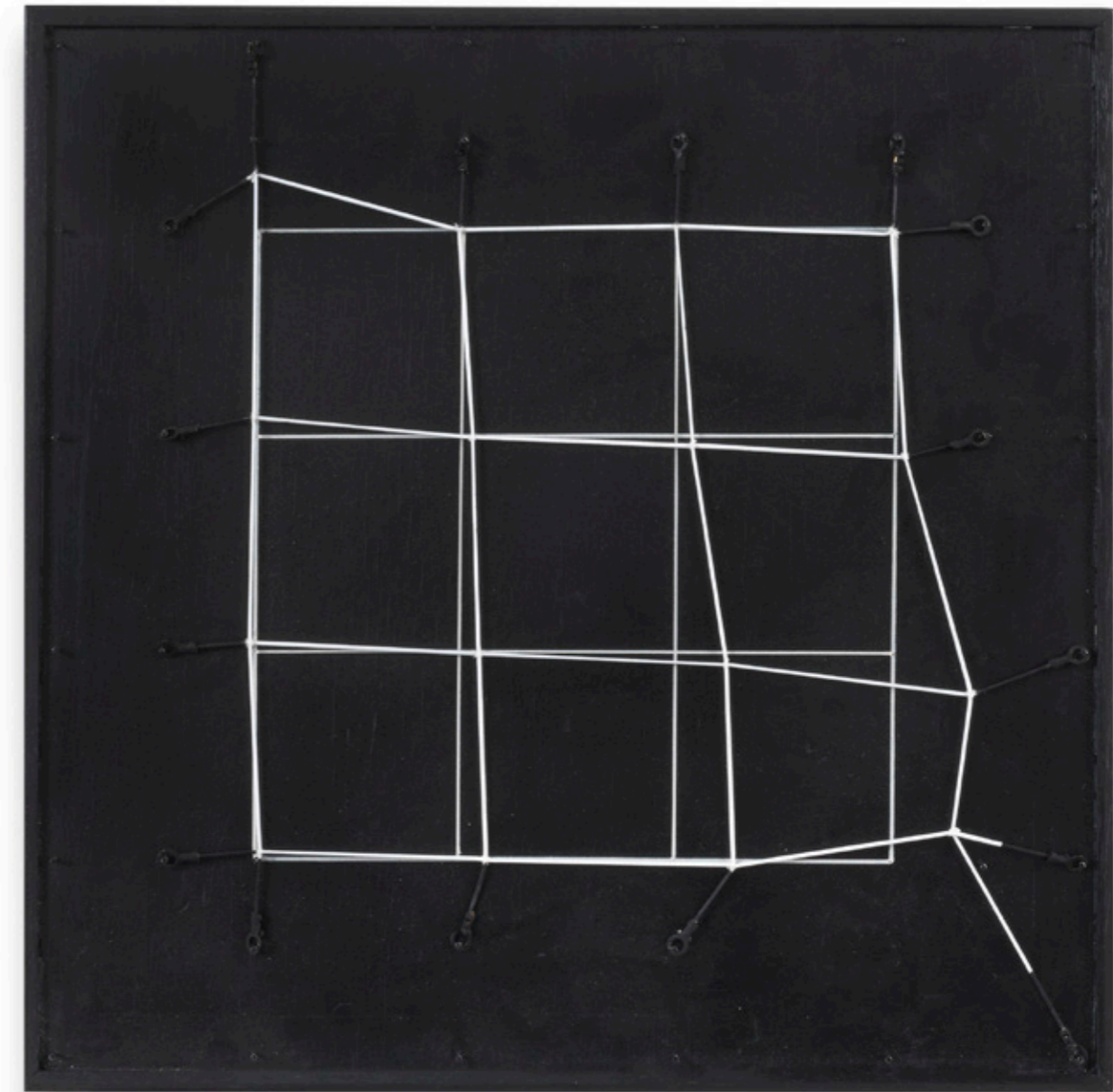
Gianni Colombo

Spazio elastico

1974

Nails, eyelets, elastics on painted board

35 x 35 cm





MAGAZZINO

Gianni Colombo

Spazio elastico

1973

Nails, eyelets, elastics on painted board

35 x 35 cm

50 x 50 cm (framed)



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Bruno Munari

Negativo positivo

1951

Tempera on board

35 x 35 cm

50 x 50 cm (framed)



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Emancipating themselves from the narrow confines of painting, sculpture and architecture, the works of Colombo and Munari find common ground in the idea of perceptive instability: the viewer's perception is modified and the space is participated, becoming a fundamental element of the work.

If on the one hand, Munari's *Negativo Positivo* series leaves the viewer free to choose what to see and what to put in the foreground and what in the background, Colombo's *Spazio Elastico* series, on the other hand, by disorienting the visitor, makes him an active part of the works, thanks also to the movements of the rubber bands seen through Wood's light. In both cases, however, it is clear how the two artists were moved by the same intent: the study of space and its ability to be manipulated and become a work of art itself.





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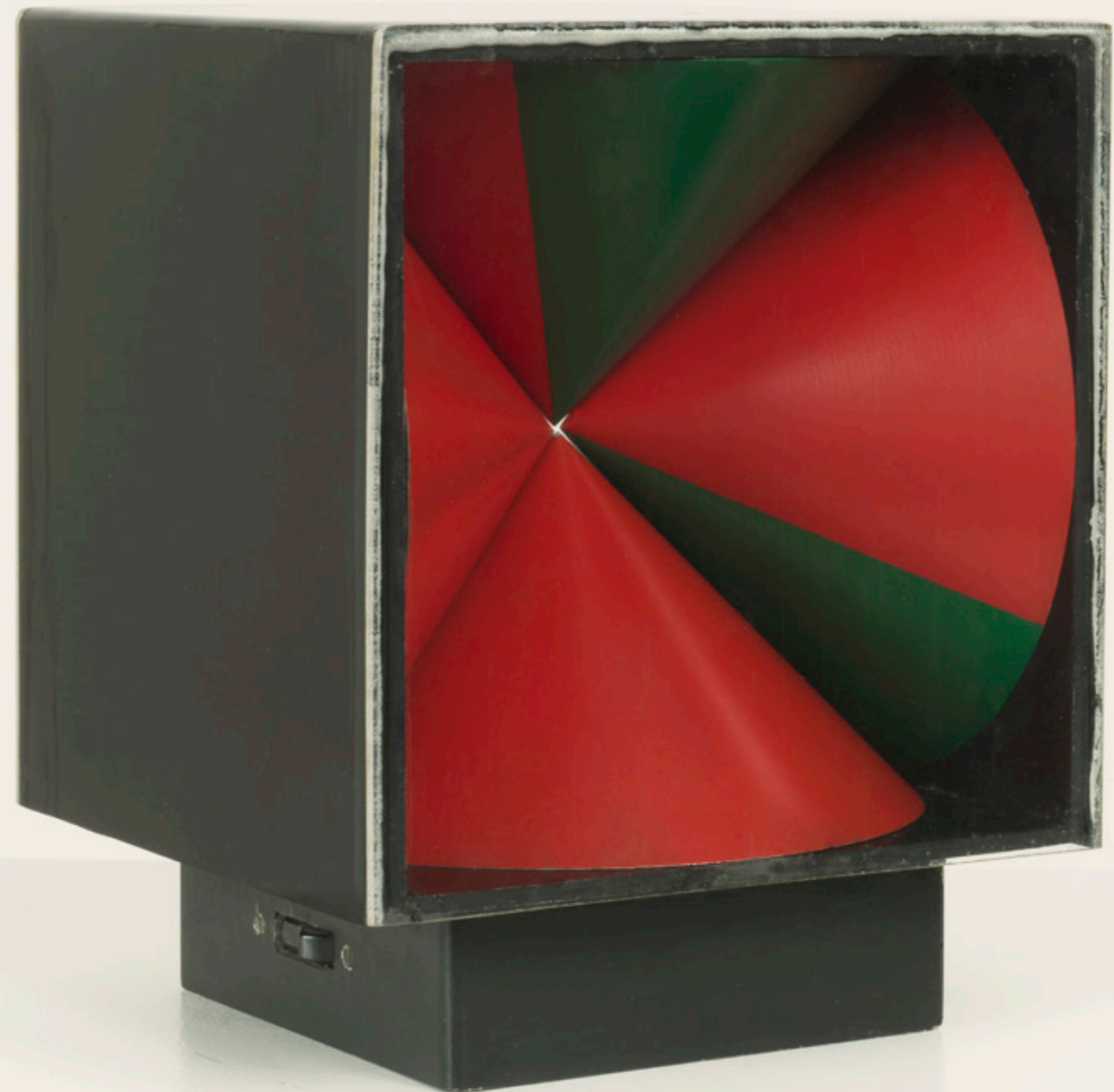
Bruno Munari

Tetracono "PROTOTIPO"

1965

Metal cube and moving colored cones
(green-red) with electromotor, wire
(metal chassis, four aluminum cones
painted, electric engine, switch, wire)

26,5 x 21,5 x 21,3 cm



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Gianni Colombo

Spazio elastico

1978

Nails, wire with electromechanical
animation and photographic coatings
on wood

100 x 100 x 8 cm



MAGAZZINO

Gianni Colombo

Strutturazione fluida

1960

Lacquered metal, aluminum band,
glass, electric motor

45 x 35 x 16 cm



MAGAZZINO

Gianni Colombo

Rotoplastik

1960

Wood

15,5 x 14,5Ø cm



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Bruno Munari

Senza Titolo

1952

Tempera on board

42,5 x 42,5 cm



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Gianni Colombo

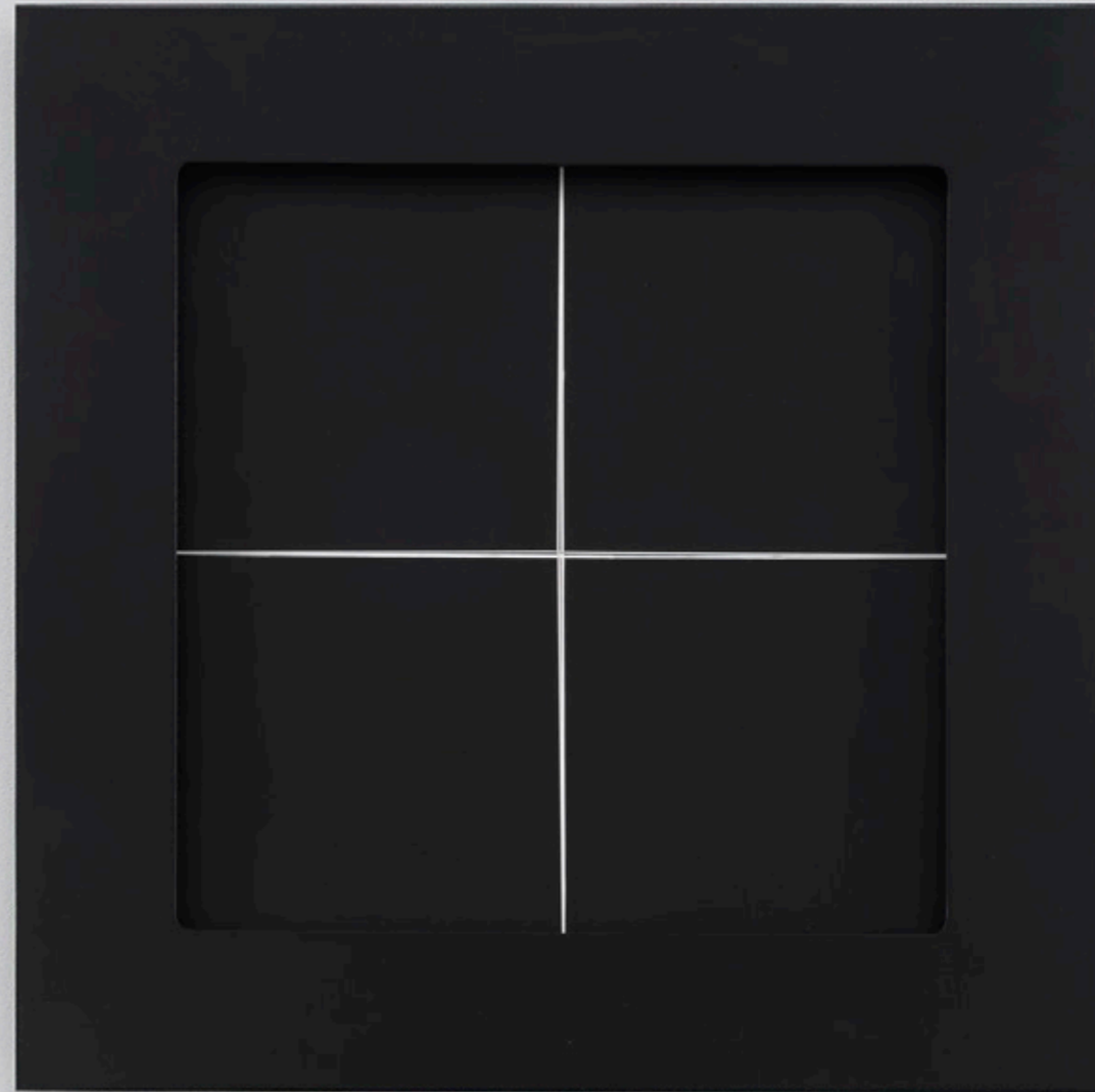
Spazio Elastico

1974

Wood and elastics

Ed. 100, realized for Studio Casati

64 x 64 x 5,5 cm



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Bruno Munari and Gianni Colombo are two innovators and pioneers, united by the common objective of going beyond the conventional functions of space, materials, objects: advocates of a new language that still today keeps all its contemporaneity intact.

According to the curator Marco Scotini: "The aim of the Roman presentation at Magazzino is to propose a sort of close and imaginary dialogue between the two artists but to reveal the common ground that hides behind the small and tenacious utopias of both."



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Bruno Munari

Quadrato a tre dimensioni

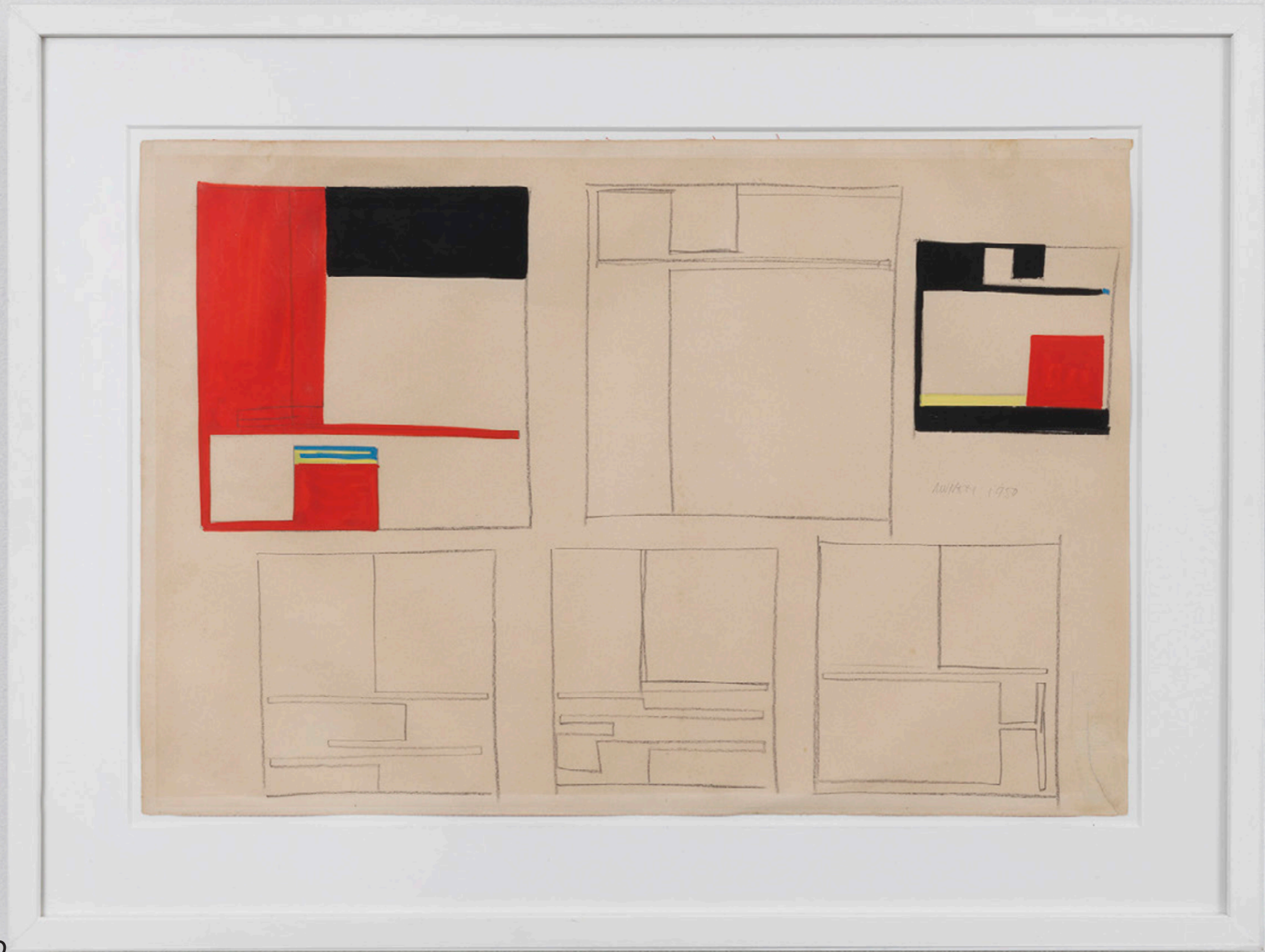
1960-1968

Fiberglass, two rivets (bolt and nut)

66 x 66 cm (flat square)

70 x 50 x 61 cm (one of the multiple shapes)





Bruno Munari

Progetto per
Negativo Positivo

1950

Gouache and pencil on paper

350 x 508 mm

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Bruno Munari

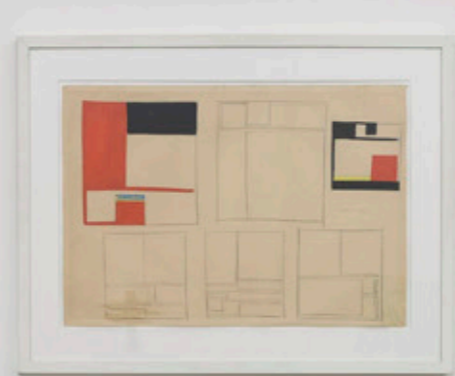
Negativo positivo

1951

Acrylic and gouache on paper

178 x 190 mm





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Gianni Colombo

Strutturazione acentrica

1962

Plastic, painted metal, electromagnetic
animation

20,5 x 21 x 10Ø cm

Ed. 100



MAGAZZINO

Gianni Colombo

Cromostruttura

1960

Steel, plexiglass, colored gel, light bulb,
electric motor

100 x 120 x 20 cm



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Bruno Munari

Antenato in cartagloria

1970

Ink on paper

25 x 20 cm

49 x 40 cm (framed)

