

# ABC • ARTE

## *De-rive*

*Segno e scultura dal 1950 al 2014*

**Arnaldo Pomodoro**

curated by Luca Bocchicchio

with curatorial contribution by Sharon Hecker

ABC-ARTE ONE OF, Milano

**Opening: Thursday 27 March 2025**

27 March 2025 - 24 May 2025

ABC-ARTE, Genova

**Opening: Thursday 17 April 2025**

17 April 2025 - 14 June 2025

**ABC-ARTE** is pleased to present a new exhibition project, developed with the scientific contribution of Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, across the gallery's two venues in Milan (opening March 27) and Genoa (opening April 17).

The exhibition's original concept, curated by Luca Bocchicchio (Professor of Contemporary Art History at the University of Verona and Scientific Director of the Museo della Ceramica in Savona and Casa Museo Jorn in Albisola), is the result of a collaborative effort over the past months between ABC-ARTE and Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro.

De-Rive presents a multi-stage journey through different moments of the artistic research of the Montefeltro-born sculptor (born in Morciano di Romagna in 1926, raised in Pesaro, and based in Milan since 1954). The exhibition features around thirty works, spanning nearly sixty years of his career.

However, the display—divided between the two locations in Milan and Genoa—does not follow a chronological order; instead, each section offers the opportunity to observe and engage with the dynamic dialogue between Pomodoro's works, ranging from the mid-1950s to the 2000s.

The vernissage at **ABC-ARTE ONE OF** in **Milan** will take place on **Thursday, March 27, from 6:30 PM**, at Via Santa Croce 21.

The vernissage at the historic gallery **ABC-ARTE** in **Genoa** will be held on **Thursday, April 17, from 6:30 PM**, at Via XX Settembre 11a.



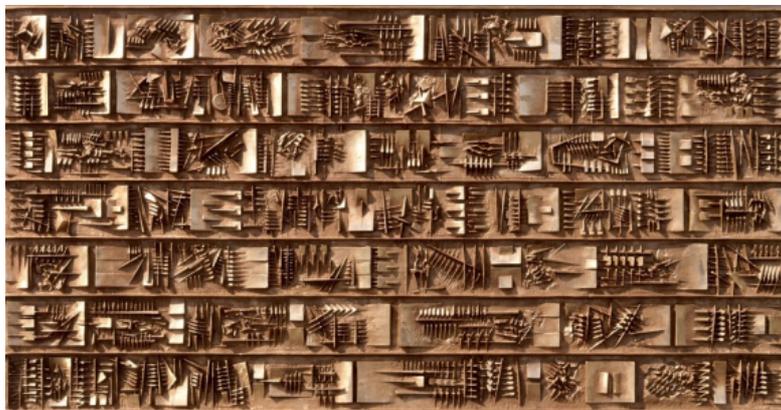
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**ABC-ARTE ONE OF** via Santa Croce 21, 20122 Milano T.02 89 76 80 94

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The idea behind the exhibition is to explore the plastic and visual tensions that emerge from the wall—from the symbolic surface of the panels—toward expansion and the exploration of space. From the slightly fractured two-dimensionality of the early wall reliefs, with a look at drawings and studies, the exhibition moves to the large friezes and the solid, multi-material panels, which stand as true mural sculptural complexes.



The increasingly monumental dimensions of these reliefs, which inevitably engage in a dialogue with archaic classical architecture, are counterbalanced in space by a select number of fully three-dimensional sculptural forms, chosen specifically for their communicative force as signals that cut obliquely through space: wedges, arrows, shields, astrolabes.

In this progressive conquest of space and the sign's assertion of meaning, a key motif emerges in its full symbolic depth: the cuttlefish bone, understood both as a primordial plastic material and as a symbolic sub-fossil remnant. The exhibition title, *De-Rive*, plays with poetic and literary references to sea shores, evoking the changing forms, shifting layers of signs, and shadows on wet sand, of which the cuttlefish bone becomes an extension offered to the human engraver.

Among the other key themes explored in the exhibition—analyzed in a critical essay by Sharon Hecker (art historian, curator, and internationally recognized expert on sculptural techniques)—is Pomodoro's nomadic approach, as he moves across different sculptural techniques and materials, bringing them into dialogue through a shared visual and sculptural language.

A bilingual publication by ABC-ARTE Edizioni will be produced, featuring original texts and a rich selection of documentary materials curated in collaboration with Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro.

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