

PHILOSOPHY

“Mentacoli”! A made up Italian word that can be considered the union of two words: "mind" and "tentacles". We can think at them as entities born from the mind that spread through the air with tentacle-like movements. They are always different, never predictable or identical, like the hexagonal shapes of individual snowflakes, all six-pointed, all different.

The individual strokes that form each “mentacolo” are simple lines that intersect, connect, touch or avoid each other to create complex embroideries with a distinctive identity. The shapes that come out of the union of a few simple brush strokes demonstrate how geometry can coexist with fantasy. The first-time observer can appreciate the explosion of creativity into unpredictable shapes that spring out of the combination of those simple signs.

Looking at “mentacoli” the viewer's eye wanders from one twine to another in search of analogies, but he is astonished to discover how each part has its own precise order and complexity, sometimes unimaginable.

The word "mentacoli" is made up of letters that never repeat, therefore the term itself underlines how it is not possible to find any repetition of signs.

Just like the diversity of men manifests itself only when they establish a relationship, so “mentacoli” show their uniqueness only when they are inserted in a complex context that combine them to form an articulated whole. In Italian, the singular form for “mentacoli”, that is “mentacolo”, loses the characteristic of being made of unique letters. “Mentacoli” are therefore really unique and meaningful when they exist as a multitude. How can all this not be considered a metaphor of our species?

The human mind, so complex, is itself a source of extraordinary diversity. Each individual is a single representative of humanity with a distinctive physical and mental uniqueness that makes him different from any other living being. Every man thinks differently and the thoughts of a single individual vary, twist, spread like a set of tentacles that whip the air, each independent, each following its own will and its own design, unpredictable, harmonious in its random and chaotic movement.

This is what “mentacoli” want to remind, and if the viewer reflects on the deeper meaning beyond the single graphic signs, he can inspect them with his mind’s eye and he can try to find out the one that represents himself!