



Dr. Peste

2017

40 x 30 x h 165 cm, Base diamt. 30 cm, sculpture 17x40 x h 48 cm

Black and white painted mask and rusted iron.

Daniele Basso

Dr. Peste (Dr. Plague) is a mask whose origins are rooted in reality. Doctors used to wear it with handkerchiefs stuffed into its enormous nose to avoid being infected by plague. Today it stirs superstition and inspires mistrust, almost transforming Medicine into witchery and Science into magic. Meaningful black replaces white where this was by tradition: a play of opposites indicating how fanaticism can confront knowledge. Behind this mask hide technique nuts, bureaucrats, and devotees that safely ensconced in even spiritual regulations, are miles away from life and its emotions. Scared by the opportunities change brings about, they spread terror in the world with their fanatic stupidity.

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