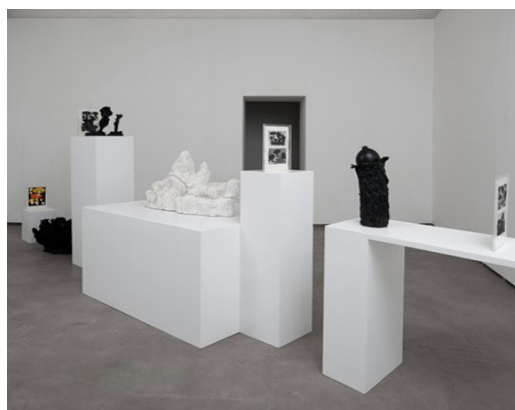


cura.

**The Little Man of the Forest With the Big Hat.
Salvatore Arancio**

Posted by cura. magazine February 15th, 2013
Part of [tips](#)



The Little Man of the Forest with the Big Hat, 2012

Salvatore Arancio's solo exhibition hosted at Federica Schiavo Gallery represents the final outcome of the residency held by the artist at Museo Carlo Zauli in Faenza in 2012. At the centre of the space and at the core of the show's concept is a sculptural installation (from which the show brings its title) designed and produced during this period of time. The work consists of a series of cera-

-mics and manipulated illustrations taken from books of mycology, which depict mushrooms and toadstools. Phallic shapes, mysterious conformations appear as a small-scale imaginary landscape. The display of the images and the look of the sculptural objects recall an aesthetic traditionally linked to scientific collections and museums. The artist uses a detached and methodical approach to analyze mysterious and exotic natural forms. The permanent fascination for a visual disorientation aims to make the viewer question and reconsider socio-cultural elements that lie behind our gaze.

The film *Birds*, shot at the zoological museum in Bologna, juxtaposes a subjective vision of the early-20th century ornithological collection with rumbling sounds by Kansas City cult music project *Expo 70*, giving shape to an ambiguous and confusing visual experience.

Another sculptural piece and a series of works on paper conclude the exhibition itinerary. Here again, nature and science are combined with myths and legends.

Until March 16 2013