

Giancarlo Neri

The Writer

21 June to 08 October 2005

Venue : Hampstead Heath, London

'Eighty percent of the people who see my installations happen to see them by chance, without knowing what they are, who did them or what they mean. There is no label, no fact sheet, no artist's statement, no instructions. I love that. The challenge for me is to make these people, young, old, men, women, stop and wonder: what is this? Why is it here? Who did this?'

Born in Naples in 1955, Giancarlo Neri moved to New York in 1978 to play professional football. After studying painting and sculpture at the Art Students League in America it was there that his artistic career began, with large-scale installations such as *Esame Finestra* (1982) in Union Square and *Still Night* (1989) on the rooftop of the Clocktower Gallery (PS1) in Manhattan. Since then, Neri has done projects in Washington A Monument to Bureaucracy (1990), in Brazil *Ouro* (2000) at the Museu da Republica in Rio de Janeiro, and many in Italy; some of which include *OTTO* (2004) at the Studio Angeletti in Rome, *Napoli da Lontano* (2002) at the Fondazione Carlo Rendano in Naples, and *La Fabbrica a Palazzo* (2000) at the Royal Palace in Naples.

Simon Gillespie, Director of ROLLO states, 'I am delighted to be representing Giancarlo in the United Kingdom and I am particularly pleased that The Writer is in the location for which it was originally intended, to be enjoyed by so many.'

The installation and exhibition have been organised by ROLLO Contemporary Art in conjunction with the London Italian Cultural Institute, The Art Newspaper and London Art Fortnight. The Italian sponsors are UNICREDIT, DARC, ROTTAPHARM and Incontri Internazionali d'Arte. The UK sponsors are ROLLO Contemporary Art and the London Italian Cultural Institute. The Writer was constructed by Atkins Global and Hadham Engineering. The Corporation of London have fully endorsed this project.