

## NOTEBOOK EXCERPTS

*... Right hemisphere, left hemisphere and rediscovered creativity dramatically suspended between being and not being like the "imprint" of a continuous evolution of experience toward the revelation of new testimony and new meanings.*

These 1,040 *Archaic Heads* or *Mnemosyne* are intended to reflect the state of the artist's soul in the moment he created them.

### Technical notes

The individual tiles were applied to a metal base and allowed to oxidise, additionally, they were subjected to varying quantities of sand, ash, graphite, tar and other materials. Each tile is stamped with a number running from 0001 to 1040. The "heads" were then affixed in a predetermined order onto 26 *cassoni*, or panels, each measuring 360x135x60 cm, painted flat black and arranged to form two "walls", arranged like a funnel to focus attention on the main altar. It was my intention to build an apparently serial sequence of small-scale works which, organised in groups of 40, invite the viewer into an itinerary of increasing perspectival difficulty. The backs of the panels are characterised by niches, like chapels, which contain photographic enlargements by Marco D'Anna relative to 13 imaginary compositions of my own invention and the same number addressing the theme of the skull, in which Coglio ossuary is represented. To complete the composition, each of the 26 images is accompanied by a poem written by my brother, Angelo Casè, recently passed away. My presence in the church of San Stae assumes additional meaning insofar as the splendid, early 18th-century façade was designed by architect Domenico Rossi, a Ticino native. Thus a fine but significant common thread connects that distant event to the present one – yet another reason that *Archaic Heads* or *Mnemosyne* represents a return of memory.

*Pierre Casè*