

SPERONE WESTWATER
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Farago, Jason. "Mario Merz." *The New Yorker*, 30 May 2016, p. 12.

Mario Merz

The titan of Arte Povera, who died in 2003, saw mathematics—especially the Fibonacci sequence—as a link between industrial materials and the natural world. Among the works from the nineteen-eighties in this eye-opening show are a glass table in the form of a logarithmic spiral heaped with fresh fruits and vegetables and four steel tables covered in beeswax, whose configuration evokes magnolia leaves, which Merz esteemed for their Fibonacci-like proliferation. Big paintings of bison and prehistoric animals will appeal to the degree that your taste runs to spray enamel and echt-eighties color schemes. It's easier to appreciate the sculptures, which feel at once hieratic and openhearted. *Through June 18. (Sperone Westwater, 257 Bowery, at Stanton St. 212-999-7337.)*