

TRAUMA. Forays into Contemporary painting.

Giuseppe Adamo, Stijn Ank, Steven Cox, Francesco De Prezzo, Maurizio Donzelli, Serena Fineschi, Silvia Infranco, Anne Laure Sacriste, Roy Thurston

Marignana Arte

Opening: 14 September, 6 PM

14 September – 9 November 2019

The exhibition project curated by Ilaria Bignotti offers an unusual, irreverent, and provocative appraisal of the main trends - chronological organization and critique of contemporary pictorial research -, by presenting mid-career and new generation artists never yet brought together in an exhibition dialogue.

Sharing the attempt to renew and challenge from within the foundations of the pictorial genre as traditionally understood, without rejecting them - relation between drawing and color, project and process, comparison between vision and layering of materials, dialogue between the work's two-dimensional character and three-dimensional space -, the selected artists re-elaborate their assumptions, modalities, and methods, offering results charged with linguistic novelty and iconic significance.

Several of them proposed by Marignana Arte for the first time - Stijn Ank, Steven Cox, Francesco De Prezzo and Anne-Laure Sacriste -, others already well represented and analyzed in several exhibitions in galleries and institutional spaces, the eight artists display their freedom of expression either through traditional materials, or adopting new media, reinterpreting the painterly gesture and breaking up interpretation parameters.

In this sense the project's title, *TRAUMA*, has a twofold meaning: on the one hand it preemptorily claims a break with the paths outlined by art history, proposing unknown artists yet to be discovered in a process that becomes a dialectic incursion; on the other, containing the root of the German verb *träumen* and the English *to dream*, it suggests a stunned, violent vision, required of the beholder confronted with the intensity, amazing even today, of the pictorial work: a field of vision open onto the world and still bound to it, in its becoming and un-becoming, between the artist-human being's intention and reason.

Maurizio Donzelli opens the way, chronologically as well, with new works: in the resin-coating of the surface and total deflagration of the abstract-lyrical image, they impetuously interpret the history of painting tending to an autonomous, lofty poetics, free of any conditioning; in the opposite direction, Roy Thurston, who with Donzelli represents the first generation explored in the show, known as an artist followed and present with many works in the Panza collection, analyzes the relation between surface and support, reinterpreting the trend in painting towards an analytical and conceptual investigation through markedly iconic works steeped in totemic intensity. Responding to these two directions, abstract-lyrical and analytic-conceptual, represented by two mid-career artists, several new-generation artists follow in the exhibition: Giuseppe Adamo, choosing pure painting, visually layers waves of color, tone on tone, evoking anew sea drifts and landslides, telluric landscapes in becoming; Silvia Infranco responds with stratified materials, organic or non-organic, recovering the alchemical process of painting in memory-laden and secret works. Serena Fineschi, on a more conceptual line, pursues a

careful investigation: by repeating the pictorial gesture she champions and critically reinterprets the chromatic palettes of the great history of art. The works by Stijn Ank, one of Galleria Marignana Arte's new proposals shown here, are tensed between pictorial dimension and architectural relation, beside those by Stephen Cox whose color layering generates evaporation and surfacing of the image; Francesco de Prezzo, who strives toward a radical pictorial synthesis: concealing or dissolving the subjects of his works, from figurative sources he achieves an uneasy monochrome approach; and Anne-Laure Sacriste, with her painting strung between narration and emotion - the scenario of an accurate, highly delicate investigation -, complete the visit, demanding of the beholder a diligent approach able to respond in an equally traumatic way – meaning new and evocative – to the works on exhibit.

The exhibition is accompanied by a bilingual catalog of all the works on display and featuring a critical essay by Ilaria Bignotti.

Artists

- Giuseppe Adamo (1982, Alcamo, Italy; lives and works in Palermo)
- Stijn Ank (1977, Brussels, Belgium; lives and works between Berlin and Brussels)
- Steven Cox (1986, Aberdeen, Scotland; lives and works in Edinburgh)
- Silvia Infranco (1982, Belluno, Italy; lives and works in Bologna)
- Francesco De Prezzo (1994, Lecce, Italy; lives and works in Brescia)
- Maurizio Donzelli (1958, Brescia, Italy; lives and works in Brescia)
- Serena Fineschi (1973, Siena, Italy; lives and works between Siena and Brussels)
- Anne Laure Sacriste (1970, Paris, France; lives and works in Paris)
- Roy Thurston (1949, Huntington, Long Island, N.Y. United States; lives and works in Los Angeles)

Curator: Ilaria Bignotti

Assistant curator: Alice Menegaldo

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Opening hours: Tuesday - Wednesday, 2:00 - 6:30 pm; Thursday - Saturday, 11:00 am - 1:30 pm / 2:00 - 6:30 pm; Sunday and Monday closed or by appointment

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