
PRESS RELEASE**BEATRICE MEONI**

Tra un atto e l'altro / Between the acts

curated by Davide Ferri

september 7– october 26, 2019

opening september 7th, 2019 - 6.30 pm

Cardelli & Fontana artecontemporanea, Sarzana

There's something unprecedented in the works Beatrice Meoni presents in her second personal show entitled *Tra un atto e l'altro/Between the acts* at Cardelli e Fontana: the abandonment of a recurring subject in her paintings - still life as portrait of a partial, fractured object. As an underlying but insistent reference to an autobiographical footnote, a startling stumble and fall brought her to the discovery, at adult age, of a body's fragility, leading her also to discover a different posture (in regard to the painting as well) based on proprioception, or rather the positioning of one's own body in space by inner vision. A blind way of painting with an approach to the image of the body that in some way appropriates an experience more pertinent to the artist's body.

Hence the body in Meoni's paintings can take on different appearances: the hint of a bloodless, provisory figure moving in search of a precise location and position in space (as happens in a painting of minute size and unusually murky tones and depths in which the outline of a vase opens itself to the possibility of becoming a populated landscape), partial, close-up visions of women's legs stepping over treacherous ground or heads laid out as objects on a plate or surface, or bodies addressing the consequences of a fall: disjointed postures, masses of arms and legs splaying out and twisting in implausible motion to the edges and corners of the canvas and taking possession of the surface of the painting.

This attempt to relate the body as a state of turmoil, an evolving form that eludes any single definition, as an image that expresses itself outside solid elaboration in figure and background, proceeds through a development of the painting's internal spatiality as a succession of shifting, unstable planes, its surfaces as theatre of conflict and a stammering discordant score capable of harboring unresolved gestures and scraps of blind painting tending towards abstraction.

The show's title *Tra un atto e l'altro/Between the acts* comes from a novel by Virginia Woolf, the ideal accompaniment to the gestation of these paintings, and alludes to the awareness of the painting process as a series of intermediate, unproductive moments, interstitial movements and passages (continuous adjustments of which the image inevitably bears trace), together with an inexhaustible redefinition of posture. Not only that of the figures, mind you, but also that of the painter and her body before the easel.

Beatrice Meoni (Firenze, 1960) After graduating in foreign literature, the artist acquired further training by working with theatrical troupes and acclaimed stage designers that complemented her work as a scenery painter and designer for poetry, opera, and dance productions right from the start. Since 2000 she has been concentrating primarily on painting, experimenting with linguistic possibilities of painting. She began working with Galleria Cardelli & Fontana in Sarzana in 2012.

Selected exhibitions: *Tra un atto e un altro*, Cardelli & Fontana, Sarzana; *Premio Lissone*, MAC Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Lissone (MB); *Selvatico 13*, Museo Civico Luigi Varoli, Cotignola (RA); *Slittamenti e Margini*, Galleria Passaggi arte contemporanea, Pisa; *Lunedì o martedì*, GAFFdabasso, Milano; *Oggetti solidi*, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Villa Croce, Genova; *L'inizio di una sedia*, Museo Guido e Anna Rocca, Chiavari (GE); *Tra le cose*, Cardelli & Fontana, Sarzana; *L'attenzione è tessuto novissimo*, Centro Espositivo Villa Pacchiani, Santa Croce sull'Arno (PI); "[dis]appunti", Museo Arte Contemporanea, Lissone (MB); *Paper weight*, Dolomiti Contemporanee, Ex Cartiera di Vas (BL).

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