



In Our Times

Francesco Lauretta

From February 4th to March 7th, 2021

In Our Times is the title of the first solo show by Francesco Lauretta in our space. About 100 drawings by Francesco Lauretta will dialogue with the ancient Spanish Walls of the late XVI century in the beautiful context of the Museum Room at Tube Culture Hall -located one floor under the famous Piazza xxv Aprile in Milan -.

The title of the show reminds us the actuality of Present time even if the Italian meaning normally refers to past events. Considering the specific situation of our last year Lauretta's title invite us to activate a memory game with endless unspoken wishes.

All drawings were realized in 2020. They are part of two different series: the "Nasty Drawings at C. time" -composed by 65 pieces- and the "Ark Drawings" -about 70 works.

As the artist explains "The Nasty Drawings grown up from the exceeded color while I was drawing other paintings -during the pandemic. I draw the faces of other artists following some suggestion from the web or just because their names come to my mind or memory. My gestures were intentionally unprecise and distracted while chasing their shapes -with quickly brushes. The point was to create a gesture, a sign, that I wanted to "resolve" in a nasty or un-gracious way. (...) The title was born just a moment before I started to make them as a reaction to all "positive messages and good proposals" that filled the web during the first pandemic period (...). I stopped drawing them when it seemed the end of the pandemic was near (...)". After the second pandemic wave Lauretta started the second cycle of works: The Ark Drawings. Those drawings were conceived with opposite spirit, as Lauretta said: "they are like an embrace to friends, artists, personalities of culture, musicians and others".

Francesco Lauretta

Born in Ispica 1964, lives and works in Florence. After the graduation at Accademia delle Belle Arti in Venice, with Emilio Vedova as a professor and a thesis on James Lee Byars he moves to Turin. Here he starts exposing monumental works, performaces, video and -from 2003- paintings. In his intention the painter is an existential condition. From October, 2017 he invented "Scuola di Santa Rosa" with the friend and artist Luigi Presicce: a free drawing school in Florence. Selected solo show: "Pasavento" Fenysia, Florence (2020); "In hora mortis", Tenuta dello Scompiglio, Vorno (2019); "The Battle" Rossini Foundation, Briosco MB (2018), "Due volte", Giovanni Bonelli Gallery, Milan (2018); "Inesistenze", Z2o Zanin Gallery, Rome (2015); "Una nuova mostra di pittura", different historical places in Scicli (2014); "Esercizi di Equilibrio, at GAM Modern Art Gallery in Palermo (2013). Selected collective shows: "Walking on the Planet", Casa Masaccio, San Giovanni Valdarno (2015); "PPS- Paesaggio e Popolo della Sicilia", Palazzo Riso in Palermo and Frigoriferi Milanesi, Milan (2011); "Visions in New York City", Macy Art Gallery, New York (2010).



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