

Special thanks



STILLNESS

Italian Contemporary Still Life Paintings Exhibition

State-of-the-Arts Gallery is brimming with Italian culture for an Italian group exhibition 'Stillness', featuring 5 renowned artists with one style in common: **Realism**. The techniques and composition of still life definitely ponders the imperishable influence of Italian Art on this generation and those to come.

Still life is the depiction of mostly inanimate subject matter which might be either natural or manmade. Originated from Ancient Greek/Roman Arts in the Middle Ages, still life paintings is distinctive in the sense that more leeway is allowed in the composition and arrangement of elements than paintings of other types. In times of bombardment with images from print and multimedia and the general fast culture, to slow down and focus on a image, be it the shininess of fruits or the vein of a wooden cigarette case, is almost against our conditioning. State-of-the-Arts Gallery envisions the significance of Realism in this day and age for the pure appreciation of life itself. Accordingly, some finest pieces of still life painters who contemplate each object and profoundly search for its visual dynamic between art and life are cordially selected. The overtones embedded and modern metaphysical art alluded demonstrate a contemporary re-interpretation of Roman traditional still life.

Artists in this exhibition continue the artistic ferment and revolution of the 20th century, with a tinge of Italian fineness and splendor. **Enrico Gaurino** depicts daily subject matter with very specific consideration of light and shadow and encompasses elements of Pop art. **Marika Fasoli** emphasizes the explosion of colour, originality of compositions and strong contrasts. These contribute to the gesture of the paintings, no matter how simple the subject matter might be. **Marco Picci** adopts watercolour because of its transparency and naturalness, at the same time putting meticulous effort on details and contrasts. On the other hand, **Constanza Papisogli** paints in harmony. Often in a dim context, the dehumanized elements are full of an inexplicable but irresistible emotion. Similarly, the dark and empty background of **Maurizio Meldolesi's** work mirrors the undisturbed intrinsic essence of the subject without time frame or locational boundary.

《靜默》

意大利當代油畫聯展

State-of-the-Arts 畫廊今年夏天將帶大家品味意大利文化。是次名為《靜默》的意大利聯展帶來五位知名現實主義畫家，其靜物繪畫的純熟技巧及精心佈局正正反映意大利藝術代代相傳的深遠影響，證明經得起時間考驗的才是真正偉大的藝術。

靜物寫生以自然或人造靜物為題材，源於中世紀的古希臘和羅馬人，特點在於對構圖及佈局的限制較少，自由度較高。身處速食文化當道的世代，生活充斥各式各樣來自不同媒體的資訊、圖樣，放慢腳步專注於單一事物似乎是天方夜譚。家中一盤水果的光澤，手中一個木製煙盒的紋理，我們都有意無意地忽略、錯過、遺忘。**State-of-the-Arts 畫廊**深信生命在於感受生活，而不是僅僅活著，而重振現實主義便是重要一環。本畫廊嚴選一些靜物畫家最上乘的作品，他們思忖每一件物品的本質，著重藝術與生活之間的視覺交流。當中包含的言外之音和形而上藝術顯示著他們對其意大利傳統靜物繪畫的富有當代特色的重新演繹。

是次參展的畫家承傳了二十世紀的藝術進程及革命，同時帶有意大利精緻華麗的氣息。**Enrico Gaurino**以極仔細的光暗配合描繪日用品，其運用的顏色和選材都令人聯想到普普藝術。**Marika Fasoli**強調顏色的動感、構圖的新穎及對比的強弱，都是賦予藝術作品力量的重要元素。**Marco Picci**主張使用自然透亮的水彩，因著水彩無法修改的特性，他對細節及對比作出最嚴謹的處理。另一方面，**Constanza Papasogli**以和諧為創作主調，她筆下的事物都被置於黑暗中，似是無情，卻又暗暗透出一絲抽象而又令人久久不能已的情感。同樣地**Maurizio Meldolesi**的作品背靠黑暗，突出去掉時間和空間限制後事物的真正本質。

Enrico Guarino

Born in Rome in 1951, Enrico Guarino, started painting at the age of ten, when he began to frequent the studio of Vittorio Tom Novelli, a realist painter, who introduced him to life drawing and to the technique of oil painting.

Once he had gained a firm basis, he dedicated himself to other forms of artistic expression like clay sculpture, collage and photography. His artistic activity knew its ups and downs, coexisting with the passion for music and with the medical profession. The discovery of Pop Art and American Hyperrealism left him completely impressed and began to influence all his works.

His artistic activity is constant, continuous and specific since 1995.



Today's Homes / 80 x 120 cm / Acrylic on canvas / 2009

Erico Guarino



Stephen King / 100 x 150 cm / Acrylic on canvas / 2012

Enrico Guarino



Mohicani / 80 x 120 cm / Acrylic on canvas / 2009

Enrico Guarino

Marika Fasoli

Marika Fasoli was born in Bussolengo (Verona) in 1977.

According to Marika, "The only thing that brings painting out of obscurity is its quality".

It is precisely this definition of quality as the essence of painting that Marika Fasoli interprets. Her training in restoration has permitted her to thoroughly understand the techniques used by the great masters of the past and to apply them to her still life and to her female nudes, creating an effect that certainly recalls classic painting but which, thanks to the explosion of colour, originality of compositions and strong contrasts, differs from it.

Her art is not hyperrealist and nor is it intended to be. Marika Fasoli interprets reality, but her painting is not flat or sterile as a photograph may be. In her paintings you can see the gesture, the skilful brushwork that creates movement in the composition.

Salvador Dalí said: "He who learns from the artists of the past succeeds in doing what he wants, others, however, just take what comes".

Marika Fasoli is passionate about quality, far from those that define themselves "artists" but have no technical knowledge.

Education

In 1995 she was awarded a first class diploma by the Academy Section of the State Art School in Verona.

In 1995 she was awarded 1st Prize in the painting section of the Rotary Club of Peschiera del Garda (Vr).

In 1997 she was awarded a first class Diploma in Preservation and Maintenance of artistic works on wood and canvas at the Santa Paola Institute in Mantua.

2006 she completed her specialization in Artistic Anatomy at the Cignaroli Academy in Verona.

Work Experience

Between 1997 and 2003 she worked on various restoration projects, amongst which:

- frescoes in Santa Chiara, Assisi;
- frescoes of the Giotto school at the O.Trento Institute, Vicenza;
- fifteenth century wooden Christ in San Tommaso, Verona;
- church of San Niccolò, Verona;
- paintings by Jacopo Scarsella, Bassano, Palma il Giovane and Cignaroli.

Since 2004 she has been working on her own as a painter, and has gained much recognition from the press and critics.

Solo Exhibitions:

2010

september/october - *'3Dpinti - Message in a box'*, curated by Luca Beatrice, Museo Fondazione Luciana Matalon, Milan, (catalogue edited)

2006

may - *'Art in Villa'*, Villa Balladoro, Povegliano Veronese, curated by the Culture Chairman (no catalogue)

Selected Group Exhibitions:

2012

february - *'Cum Corde, curated by Fausto Moreschi, San Zenone all'Arco, Brescia*

2011

december - *'Cultura + legalità=libertà, l'arte contro le mafie'*, curated by Roberta Dichiarà, Museo delle Scienze Naturali, Torino / Museo della Mafia, Salemi

december - *'54a Venice Biennale, Padillion Italia, Regione Piemonte'*, curated by Vittorio Sgarbi, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Sala Nervi, Torino, catalogue edited

november - *'Arte Prize'*, curated by Magazine 'Arte', Palazzo della Permanente, Milan

september - *'Young Artists 2011'*, curated by Fondazione Toniolo, SpazioArte Pisanello, Verona, catalogue edited

june/november - *'54a Venice Biennale, Padillion Italia, Regione Veneto'*, curated by Vittorio Sgarbi, Villa Contarini, Piazzola sul Brenta (Padova), catalogue edited

may/june/july - *'Ceres 4 Art / Mtv Prize'*, curated by Luca Beatrice and Valentina Pesati, Lanificio Factory (Roma), Villa delle Rose (Bologna), Centro Pecci (Prato), Museo Madre (Napoli), catalogue edited

june/july - *'The myth of true - Situation'*, curated by Giacomo Maria Prati and Paolo Lesino, Spazio Guicciardini, Milano / Palazzo Guidobono, Tortona, catalogue edited

june/july - *'Finis Valtellinae ? The identities of Valtellina in the contemporary art'*, curated by Giacomo Maria Prati and Paolo Lesino, Palazzo Pretorio, Sondrio, catalogue edited

2010

november - *'Imagine Art in Fair'*, Art Fair Reggio Emilia, Galleria Gagliardi Arte Contemporanea, catalogue edited

march - *'The Glocal Rookie of the year'*, curated by Valerio Dehò, KunstArt/Artfair, Bolzano, catalogue edited

february - *'ACQUISITIONS 2010 - Project of public acquisitions by the Museum of Maccagno'*, curated by Claudio Rizzi, Museo Civico Parisi-Valle, Maccagno (Varese), catalogue edited

2009

october - *'Autumn colours'*, curated by Daniela Savarese, Galleria Colibri Arte, Rome

september/october - *'Inside'*, curated by Alberto Agazzani, Galleria Gagliardi Arte Contemporanea, San Gimignano, catalogue edited

august/september - *'Contemplations: beauty and tradition of New in the contemporary italian painting'*, curated by Alberto Agazzani, Castel Sismondo e Palazzo del Podestà, Rimini, catalogue edited



Without Title 2 / 50 x 50 x 6 cm / Oil on canvas / 2010

Marika Fasoli



With Care / 50 x 50 x 6 cm / Oil on canvas / 2010

Marika Fasoli

Marco Picci

Marco Picci was born in 1974 in Carbonia, in the heart of the Sulcis region where he lives and works. He started drawing in 1992, self taught, urged on by a passion which had been growing since a very young age. He has undertaken private studies in drawing, using pencils, wax crayons (pastels), Chinese ink and charcoals, therefore enabling him to build up his very own personal and recognisable artistic style.

Since 1995 he has concentrated on watercolor painting, an often lesser used technique due to its difficulty and the impossibility of making even the smallest of corrections, but which at the same time brings out extraordinary precision, in light affects, colour and transparency. He prefers portraits and personal models with a hyperrealist inspiration, in which his strong character emerges, and emphasises his love for that technique and a meticulous attention for details.

As Marco says, 'I have always been fascinated by realist painting, from the Renaissance masters, those of the 17th Century, the 19th Century, painters and graphic art masters of the 20th Century to those of the European and American hyperrealists from the beginning of the 1970s. From the latter of these, I have taken ideas for some of my recent watercolor pictures, a rather unusual technique for this style (for which oils and acrylics are normally used). In fact, my own personal research is aimed towards uniting the naturalness of colour, transparency and the very softness of the water-colours to produce an extremely photorealistic image of the subject, obtained by meticulously working on details and emphasising the contrasts.

I attempt to obtain a balance between dark-light contrasts and the strength of the colours. The colour has to "emerge" from the picture and grab the viewer's attention. It is in this way that my research into water-colours is at the moment differing from the more classical way of using this technique, like a flood involving all the water-colours fading away into an undefined line. My love for watercolors includes all its techniques and it forces me to explore other aspects which have always been some what under-rated'.

Awards

The National prize «Comune di Trivero», 2001;

The International «Agazzi», a water-colour painting competition, 2002;

The National prize «Noè Bordignon», 2003;

First prize in the National Competition for water-colour painting «Mario Dibi», 2003 (with the watercolor Progress)

Premio ARTE 2006 : classified among the first 5 selected in the "Graphics" section. His watercolor painting Dopo la pioggia (After the Rain) was shown from 11 to 22 October 2006 at Palazzo della Permanente di Milano.

He is featured in the latest edition of «Guida agli Artisti Sardi Contemporanei» (A guide to contemporary Sardinian artists), by Gavino Colomo - editorial Nuova Europa, Florence.



The Mirror / 40 x 60 cm / Acrylic on canvas / 2010

Marco Picci

Costanza Papasogli

Costanza Papasogli Tacca was born in Pisa in 1980. After high school she enrolled at the Fine Arts Academy in Florence in 1999, and studied with professor and painter Giulietti. She spent two years there and in 2001 left to begin her studies at The Florence Academy of Art. She completed the three-year diploma in Painting in 2004, and 4th year of specialization in 2005. In the same year she participated in the First Annual Alumni Exhibition at the Corsini family stables in Florence.

"My ideas come from nature, and the beauty of the countryside surrounding Pisa where I was born. I like to represent the gestures of everyday life, especially country life. My greatest satisfaction is to be able to paint the natural beauty made up of the lines, color, and nuances of what surrounds me. I was taught from a young age to appreciate beauty, harmony and refined taste; for this reason my love of detail and beauty becomes the subject my still life."

Education

1999 -2001 Accademia di Belle Arti, Firenze

2001 - 2005 Florence Academy of Art

Selected Group Exhibitions

2011

Michael Gallerie, "The Florence Academy Exhibition"
Ann Long Fine Art, Young Collectors Exhibition, Charleston, SC
Two Galleries, **Group Exhibition**

2010

WH Patterson Gallery, London
Carteret Contemporary Fine Art, Group Exhibition, Morehead City, NC
Ann Long Fine Art, Young Collectors Exhibition, Charleston, SC
Corsini Stables, 'Florence Academy Alumni Exhibition', Florence, Italy
Galleria Esposito, Florence, Italy
Two Galleries, **Group Exhibition**

2009

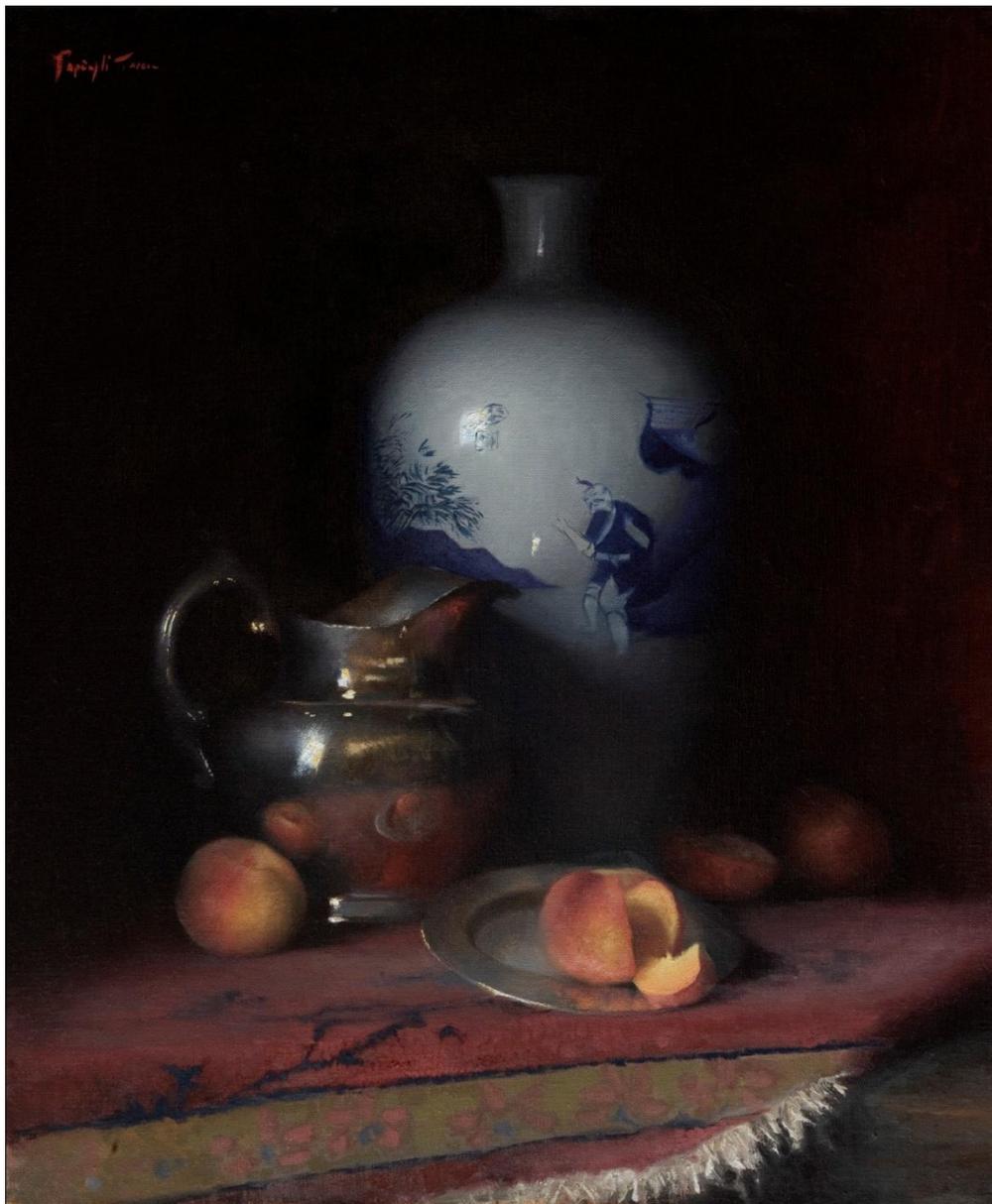
Two Galleries, Group Exhibition
Galleria Paradigma, Florence, Italy
Cami Gallery, 'Contemporary Florentine Realism', Florence, Italy
Corsini Stables, 'Florence Academy Alumni Exhibition', Florence, Italy
Cloister of Santa Maria degli Angeli, 'New Realism', Florence, Italy
Salon 2009 de la Nazionale des Beaux-Art Carousel du Louvre, Paris

2008

W.H. Patterson Gallery, London, England
Grenning Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY
Corsini Stables, 'Florence Academy Alumni Exhibition', Florence, Italy
Ann Long Fine Arts 'Young Collectors' 2007
Corsini Stables, 'Florence Academy Alumni Exhibition' Florence, Italy
W.H. Patterson Gallery, London, England
Grenning Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY

2006

Corsini Stables, 'Florence Academy Alumni Exhibition' Florence, Italy
W.H. Patterson Gallery, London, England
Grenning Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY



Chinese Silver and Fruit / 60 x 50 cm / Oil on canvas / 2011

Marco Picci



Grapes and Silver / 45 x 45 cm / Oil on canvas / 2010

Marco Picci

Maurizio Meldolesi

Inspired by the seventeenth century Dutch artists, Maurizio is a tireless experimenter who is always searching and challenging his limits in drawing and painting techniques. As a self-taught painter, he became an artist for passion, beginning a research on traditional art based on the different values of an image. He currently experiments on expressivity of color combination and drawing in realistic style.

His most important source of inspiration is Rembrandt, whom he admires for the ability to create scenery, a story and a particular atmosphere. Indeed in his early works, Meldolesi focuses on scenery, the things we see behind the subject. Later he decides to leave this approach when Caravaggio becomes his main model and the principle to be close to reality turns into his own principle. So the dark and empty background and not the scenery is the most important part of the painting, the darkness from where the subject emerges with no time or place.

His work is remarkable for its contrasts, chiaroscuro, color and the use of forgotten techniques give a Pythagorean-math flavor to his work. However, his classical work has a higher ambition than the mere imagination of "reality". It is not simply the manifestation of a technique, but the expression of his reflections through brushstrokes of color.

Maurizio's paintings were shown in various group – and personal exhibitions in Italy and Bruxelles.



Curiosi / 90 x 100 cm / Oil on canvas / 2012

Maurizio Meldolesi



Pasticcino / 80 x 100 cm / Oil on canvas / 2012

Maurizio Meldolesi



State-of-the-Arts Gallery is a wonderful gallery to visit both for the wide range of art it has to offer from artists all over the world, and for the setting, on beautiful cobbled Pottinger Street, in Central.

Since opening in 2003 State-of-the-Arts Gallery has organized numerous exhibitions, charity functions and special events for an array of artists worldwide. It has rapidly established itself as a contemporary international fine arts gallery featuring artists from countries across the continents: from Austria to other parts of Europe like France and England; and from Australia to Latin American countries including Mexico, Chile and Columbia. The Gallery offers purchase, lease, or commission of a variety of artwork including paintings, sculptures, photographs and glassware. All artworks are selected within the parameter of high quality and collection value.

Our works share the common characteristics of conceptual originality, thematic consistency, and refined techniques. As well as this, sharing the artists' self-cultivation and philosophy of art has always been our priority when promoting commercial art. This ensures that our customers know about the artist and the work that they are interested in, adding a personal touch. In working with artists from all over the world, we get a range of techniques and content in the art that we show.

Each artist brings to their art their different cultural influences and their own style, adding individual flair. With such a broad range of art, the overriding commonality is high quality at a reasonable price, which makes visitors sure to find something that they love.

Presented by State-Of-The-Arts Gallery

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