

Timeless Alchemy

Claudio COSTA / REVERIE

Duo Show with critical essays by

Stefano CASTELLI & Raffaella PERNA

Opening December, 14th, 6 pm

14.12.23 – 24.02.24

C+N Gallery CANEPANERI

Via Caffaro 22 R – 16124 Genoa (GE)

Timeless Alchemy is a captivating duo exhibition in Genoa's venue of **C+N Gallery CANEPANERI** featuring the distinct generationally yet harmonious artistic visions of **Claudio Costa** and **Reverie**. Through their profound creativity, the artists transcend the boundaries of time and reality, offering viewers an immersive experience into the ethereal realms of existence.

Claudio Costa, known for his mastery in capturing the alchemical essence of nature, brings forth a mesmerizing collection that reflects the fluidity of time. On the other hand, Reverie, an enigmatic artist whose work defies conventional understanding, presents a series of works that delve into the metaphysical nature of time. The interplay of textures, vibrant and enigmatic symbols invite contemplation on the fluidity of time and the interconnectedness of all things in the universe in both artists.

"The time is the substance of which I am made," wrote Jorge Luis Borges in his 'Nueva Refutación del tiempo', thus establishing an inseparable connection between temporality and his existence, earthly and corporeal, as a man. **Reverie** in the series of "timeless" hourglasses exhibited in the show originates from an idea somewhat similar: these are objects that serve not so much to measure the passage of time but rather to give it shape, to provide substance and a tangible form to the flow of time, inherently intangible." (Raffaella Perna)

"Each work by **Claudio Costa** inaugurates a new, autonomous world, a free territory asserting itself as an alternative to the status quo. In his 'unthinkable' creations, the 'repressed' of mass society takes concrete form and demonstrates, with the weapons of aesthetics, the possibility of experiencing modernity in a different way. The utopian and consecratory dimension that is created appears credible and realizable precisely because reality is the starting matter: common objects, more factual than artistic materials, geometries and anatomies already experienced in everyday life, but which are here completely transfigured by a lateral gaze, immune to the dominant ways of thinking."
(Stefano Castelli)

Claudio COSTA was born June 22nd, 1942 in Tirana to Italian parents. His biography is marked by numerous and pivotal experiences abroad, from his time in Paris involved in the May '68 events to his travels in Africa during the '80s and '90s. Among his significant accomplishments, he is remembered for participating in Documenta 6 in 1977 in Kassel. His life ends prematurely on July 2nd, 1995. In 2020, the Mucem - Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations in Marseille acquired two of his historical works, placing him in the French national collections.

REVERIE was born in 1994 in Vinci, Italy, and lives and works in Milan, dedicating every moment and action of her life to art. Her chosen name, dedicated to Bachelard's Poetics of Reverie (nomen est omen). She has presented a new series of works dedicated to everyday ritual. Reverie also focused her practice on dreams, the connections between people through gazes, and conceptual and emotional reactions, starting from inner thoughts and profound solitude. She creates performances representing society, contemporaneity, and feelings, blurring the lines between reality & the virtual. Crossing anthropology, literature, philosophy, psychoanalysis, and sciences, she transformed dream studies, even 'daydreaming,' into an original research line to develop an artistic language for investigating reality by intersecting archetypes like memories and 'collective dreams.' She has produced various works on this theme & published 'librosogni,' with Skira (2021).

Stefano CASTELLI is an art critic, independent curator, and journalist who adopts an anti-formalist approach to art, combining aesthetics and ethics. In 2007, he won the competition for young critics organized by the Castello di Rivoli. He has been regularly publishing articles since 2007 on Arte, since 2011 on Artribune, and since 2018 on IL-mensile de Il Sole 24 ore. He also collaborates with Antiquariato. From 2004 to the present, he has curated numerous exhibitions in private and public spaces, featuring established and emerging artists. Since 2016, he has been part of the curatorial committee of the San Fedele Visual Arts Prize. In 2020, he published the essay 'Radicale e radicante – Sul pensiero di Nicolas Bourriaud' and translated the essay 'Inclusioni' by Nicolas Bourriaud (Postmediabooks).

Raffaella PERNA holds a PhD in Art History and teaches Contemporary Art History at the University of Rome La Sapienza. Her studies have focused on the connections between art and photography in the 19th and 20th centuries, the relationships between art and feminism, and more broadly, the contribution of women in art, photography, and art criticism in Italy and North America. Another area of her research has been the neo-avant-garde in Rome between the late 1950s and the 1970s. Since March 2022, she has overseen the "Inter-University Network" project promoted by La Fondazione Quadriennale di Roma, aimed at fostering relationships between the institution, universities, research centers, and promoting the study of 21st-century Italian art. She is currently the unit coordinator for the PRIN 2020 project 'Italian Feminist Photography' and is part of the FAF - Photography, Art, Feminism Research Center, affiliated with the University of Bologna, Italy.