

## **Progresso Scorsoio**

ALESSANDRO APRILE – GIUSEPPE FRANCALANZA – EMMA FRANCIA

RUGGERO GIANCASPRO - LETIZIA LUCCHETTI

YUNRU QUAN – ATHINA M. SARAJI - ZHENZHI ZHAO

Curated by **Lelio Aiello** and **Leonardo Regano**

Opening 23 giugno 2022, h.3pm – 11pm

23 June – 23 July 2022

TUE - SAT 10am – 1pm / 3pm -7pm and on appointment

"In this slipstream progress, I do not know whether I am being swallowed or swallowing ". Andrea Zanzotto described with these verses the anxiety that gripped him in his mature years, tormented by the exasperation of a certain omnipotence achieved with age and his vocation to continue to research and deepen his knowledge of the world, without resignation, so typical of youth.

"Progresso Scorsoio" is the title of a workshop program held by artist Giulia Cenci in collaboration with Leonardo Regano open to students of the Three-Year Bachelor Painting Program at the Academy of Fine Arts. In the confrontation with the artist, former student of the Bologna Academy, the latter pursued the formulation of their own research path, which, exactly as in a slipstream progress, condenses fears and certainties of an age devoted to research and training.

LABS Contemporary Art presents a selection of works by eight workshop participants, curated by Lelio Aiello and Leonardo Regano. In the exhibition, the confrontation between languages and experimentations is implemented, all of which have at their center a questioning of pictorial technique but also an anxiety of research and deepening, between omnipotence and fragility.

A special thanks to the teachers of the painting courses:

Prof. Simone Pellegrini, Prof. Leonardo Santoli, Prof. Luca Caccioni

for the participation of their students in the exhibition project

**Zhenzhi Zhao's** painting is intense and charged with matter as well as with references, allegorical, to her own experience and existence. Reflected in the torment of her brushwork are the doubts and uncertainties of a passing moment in her life, between what has been and what soon will be.

**Yunru Quan** is the author of felt sculptures that use the plant form as a reminder of the seduction of the organic and the human body. Her anatomy-buds are installed in space, creating new possible relationships and meanings from time to time.

**Ruggero Giancaspro** mixes media and languages to define dystopian narratives, in which the concerns of his generation are projected through a dubious and difficult to decipher historical period. Anchored firmly in the expressive possibilities of today, he creates a dialogue between painting and new technologies.

**Letizia Lucchetti** has created ironic and disturbing works, which in the bucolic and dreamlike quiet of the subjects represented tell of a fatal resignation to the happenings of fate. Her pictorial action, a perfect synthesis of the precarious balance between id and ego, translates into a twisted gesture softened by clear colors that transform the harshness of the portrayed event into a joyful moment of sharing.

The fusage used by **Giuseppe Francalanza** on canvas creates compositions in which images remain latent, hinted at, and silent. His painting is an intimate one, made up of nuances, undefined times, and investigations of matter and its expressive potential.

**Emma Francia** focuses on the concept of sign, which she investigates indifferently in the expressive potential of sculpture and painting. Her reference to minimal gesture is used to describe the essence of the forms represented.

In **Athina Mehry Saraji's** works are condensed suggestions in which the stratifications of her own experience are revealed. Athina combines drawing and weaving, painting and sculpture, East and West, dream and vigilant state, memory and desire, in a unique and autonomous language that is extremely coherent.

**Alessandro Aprile** is the author of works with clear pop assonances in which hints related to the very essence of painting can be found. Between line and color, the young author emphasizes the essence of a centuries-old debate, at the origins of modern painting.