

APALAZZOGALLERY

LUCIA MARCUCCI *IL SIGNIFICATO DELLA POESIA*

24 May – 2 September 2023

APALAZZOGALLERY is pleased to present *Il Significato della Poesia* (The Meaning of Poetry), the first solo gallery exhibition of artist Lucia Marcucci (Florence, 1933), which opens to the public on Wednesday 24 May 2023.

The exhibition includes historical works dating from the early 1970s through to recent works from the 2000s and works on paper on sacred subject that have rarely appeared in Marcucci's exhibitions. Banners as well as advertising posters created with her collage technique are the protagonists of the renewed critique of contemporary society, exploiting the irony of Visual Poetry. Also present in the exhibition are the famous object/subject books created between the 1990s and the beginning of the 2000s, which stand between works on paper and the book as an object, aware of the mutation of language. The word, so present in Marcucci's wall-mounted works, becomes almost absent in the books, to make way for vivid colours and strong sculptural elements.

"In my intentions, the work had to be a 'vernacular' as close to today's world as possible, a 'vernacular' however charged, pregnant, politicised, guerrilla, uncomfortable. The work reunifies opposites but at the same time has an enormous explosive, accusatory and executioner charge. The work as a synthesis and mystery but at the same time generating symbolic forms that can move, irritate, create havoc. The work as infiltration into all possible crevices, to cover the smallest perturbation. Strategy and guerrilla warfare to cover the possible uncovered.

Through the work, finally redefining oneself as part of a dynamic culture, a culture that cuts bridges with traditions, imposed roles, a culture that draws from the past what it can use to move and, if the past is masculine and classical, humanistic, Enlightenment, romantic, functionalist, constructivist, etc., well, let us extrapolate what we need and move on, considering this 'rigid masculine' as old, weakened, repeater of its own reflex, master of rites and myths that have already begun to no longer belong to it.

Sinking deep into culture and changing its sign, in that culture paid dearly for the stratagem of exceptionality, of the decontextualisation always carried out; drawing from those codes a language of an opposite sign, revisiting all the places of martyrdom, positively reliving the fire of the pyres." - Lucia Marcucci, 1988

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Lucia Marcucci is among the leading exponents of Visual Poetry in Italy.

Born in Florence in 1933, she has exhibited in numerous exhibitions including "Poesia Visiva", Galleria-Libreria Guida, Naples (1965); "Prima esposizione internazionale di Poesia Sperimentale", Casa del Mantegna, Mantua (1966); "Mostra del Gruppo '70: Poesie e no/Luna Park", Salone degli specchi of Ca' Giustiniani, Venice (1966); "Parole sui muri", Fiumalbo (1967); "Poésies Visuelles", Studio G30, Paris (1967); International Expo of Advanced Poetry "La scrittura attiva", Circolo Italsider, Taranto (1969); "Italianse visuele poezie" edited by P. De Vree, Vecu - Antwerp (1971), "Lucia Marcucci", edited by R. Barilli, Studio Inquadrature 33, Florence (1972); "Le poesie visive di Lucia Marcucci", Archivio Denza, Brescia (1972); "Il libro come luogo di ricerca", edited by R. Barilli, D. Palazzoli, XXXVI Venice Biennale (1972); "Lucia Marcucci. Poesia Visiva", Studio Brescia, Brescia (1973); "La nuova esperienza poetica di Lucia Marcucci", curated by R. Apicella, Galleria Il Canale, Venice (1974); "Lucia Marcucci", curated by R. Barilli, Studio Inquadrature, Florence (1978); "Materializzazione del linguaggio", curated by M. Bentivoglio, XXXVIII Venice Biennale (1978); "Linee della Ricerca Artistica in Italia 1960/1980, 1981", Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome (1981); "Arte come scrittura", XI Quadriennale di Roma, Palazzo dei Congressi (1986); "Miscellanea", edited by G. Dorfler, Spaziotempo Art Centre, Florence (1993); "Lucia Marcucci", edited by R. Barilli, Farsettiarte, Prato (1998); "Poesie visive 1963-2003", edited by L. Saccà, Palagio di Parte Guelfa, Florence (2003); "La Parola nell'Arte. Avant-garde research in the 20th century. Dal Futurismo ad oggi attraverso le collezioni del Mart", curated by G. Zanchetti, Mart, Rovereto (2007); "Venezia Salva. Homage to Simone Weil", curated by V. Surian, LIII Venice Biennale (2009); "Supervisiva" curated by F. Galluzzi, E. Ghezzi, Frittelli Arte Contemporanea, Florence (2010); "Autoritratte", curated by G. Uzzani, Galleria degli Uffizi, Sala delle Poste Reali, Florence (2010); "Sprintpoem", curated by M. Gazzotti, Fondazione Berardelli, Brescia (2012); "Ennesima. Una mostra di sette mostre sull'arte italiana", curated by V. De Bellis, Triennale, Milan (2015); "Altra misura. Arte, fotografia e femminismo in Italia negli anni '70", curated by R. Perna, Frittelli arte contemporanea, Florence (2015); "Da un'avanguardia a un'altra. Esperienze verbosive tra Gruppo 63 e Gruppo 70", curated by R. Barilli, CAMEC, La Spezia (2016); "L'altro sguardo. Fotografe italiane 1965-2015", curated by R. Perna, Triennale, Milan (2016); "Versus. The artist's challenge to his model in a century of photography and drawing", curated by A. Bruciati, Galleria Civica, Modena (2016); "Magma. The body and the word in women's art in Italy and Lithuania from 1965 to the present", edited by B. Carpi de Resmini, L. Kreivyte, Istituto Centrale per la Grafica, Rome (2018); "The Unexpected Subject. 1978 Art and Feminism in Italy", edited by R. Perna, M. Scotini, FM Centre for Contemporary Art, Milan (2019); "Eva VS Eva. La duplice valenza del femminile nell'immaginario occidentale", curated by A. Bruciati, Villa d'Este - Santuario di Ercole Vincitore, Tivoli (2019); "Doing Deculturalization", curated by I. Lafer, Museion, Bolzano (2019); "Intermedia. Archivio di Nuova Scrittura", curated by L. Ragaglia, Museion, Bolzano - Mart, Rovereto (2019); "Il volto sinistro dell'arte. Romana Loda e l'arte delle donne", curated by R. Perna, Apalazzo Gallery, Brescia (2020); "She-Bam Pow POP Wozz! Les Amazones du POP", curated by H. Guenin, G. Gourbe, MAMAC, Nice (2020-2021); "Amazons of Pop! Women artists, superheroines, icons 1961-1973", Kunsthalle zu Kiel, Kiel (2021), then Kunsthaus Graz (2022).

APALAZZOGALLERY was founded in 2008 by Francesca Migliorati and Chiara Rusconi, as a commercial space for new encounters. Inspired by the unique architecture of the gallery, the prestigious Palazzo Cigola Fenaroli, it aims to show contemporary art through a particular perspective, presenting curated solo and group exhibitions on a diversity of themes.

The commitment of the gallery is to develop a multidisciplinary and cross-generational programme. APALAZZOGALLERY organises exhibitions based on a particular theme or, alternatively, on the work of a single artist; and it supports international and Italian artists, both young and historical figures. Every project is built on a long and attentive dialogue between the gallery space and the artist; the result is often a show, in which the artworks engage the space in innovative ways, creating complex connections with the architecture of the palace. The gallery encourages and sustains this dialogue through artist residencies.

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APALAZZOGALLERY promotes the work of the artists through Italian and international art fairs and curatorial projects.

Represented artists are Sonia Boyce OBE RA, Ann Iren Buan, Edsno Chagas, Giorgio Ciam, Raül De Nieves, Nathalie Du Pasquier, Emkal Eyongakpa, the Estate of Larry Stanton, Paolo Gonzato, Ibrahim Mahama, Servane Mary, the Estate of Jonas Mekas, Lucia Pescador, Marta Pierobon, Nathlie Provosty, Alan Reid, Olympia Scarry, Augustas Serapinas, Alexandra Sukhareva, The Reader and Luc Ming Yan.

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