

APALAZZOGALLERY

LUCIA PESCADOR *AFRICA PER SENTITO DIRE* *e varia umanità*

curated by Marta Sironi

4 March 2023 – 13 May 2023

APALAZZOGALLERY is pleased to present *Africa per sentito dire e varia umanità* (Africa by rumors and various humanity), the first solo exhibition in our gallery of the artist Lucia Pescador (Voghera, 1943), curated by Marta Sironi, opening on Saturday 4 March 2023.

Lucia Pescador's work focuses on memory, especially since the early 1990s when she started the *Inventario del Novecento con la mano sinistra* (Inventory of the 20th Century with the left hand), within which all her artwork can be ascribed. Fragments of culture - from the European historical avant-garde to other cultures, from Africa to the East - collected and copied on pages of books and notebooks, invoices and commercial registers, generally papers fulfilled with the 'noise of the 20th century'.

"When I hear people say 'the last century', I think of the 19th because, having been born in 1943, the 20th century is my century and for me it has not yet passed. But in this imaginative inventory of mine, thirty years old now, it is clear that it seems a lost time that we carry within us, that culture has no time" says the artist.

Lucia Pescador's works are conceived as an orchestration of many fragments that she continually rearranges, mixing the voices following her will: "A multitude of images, too close together, tend to overlap, like an orchestra while tuning its instruments. But if you have the patience and keep watching and listening even distractedly, a single song can emerge, the voice of the choir."

In the solo exhibition organized by APALAZZOGALLERY, *Africa per sentito dire e varia umanità*, Lucia Pescador proposes a part of her *Inventario del Novecento* with a selection of works from the 1990s to nowadays. After exploring the word *Geometria* in the exhibition at Assab One, Milan, in the autumn of 2021, it is now the turn of the word *Africa*, one of the great cultures that affected the artist for its visual fascination. In the early 1990s, Lucia Pescador dedicated many artworks to Africa, now exhibited together with more recent works: the 'various humanity' of the title in fact concerns current events and in particular the practice done during the pandemic on pages and book covers, as well as a large vase (an identifying element of the artist) dedicated to Coronavirus.

Among the 'various humanity' of the 20th century that Lucia Pescador approaches and brings to light is Walter Benjamin, to whom she has dedicated the *Diario filatelico*, an artist's book made out of an old philatelic album that also becomes a collection of fragments, set up together with a series of drawings and films - a sort of commentary to the book - inspired by the dictionaries Benjamin collected and to which he dedicated many writings.

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Lucia Pescador's exhibitions are an immersion in the poetic flow of her own crossing of life: one is greeted by many images, each with its own voice, which the artist re-orchestrates in a continuous stream like a great flowing river - like life - and drags between two banks the collected and copied voices, precisely to be ferried.

Lucia Pescador was born in Voghera in 1943 and she studied at Accademia di Brera in Milan where she still lives and works today. Her research focuses on themes related to nature through the use of several techniques such as drawing, watercolor, painting and ceramics. In 1965, the Galleria Arte Centro in Milan (today Lattuada Studio) presented her first exhibition. In 1992, at the Refettorio delle Stelline in Milan, the exhibition *Una Nave per Kazimir* was held, curated by Lea Vergine. In the 1990s, she worked at the project *Inventario del Novecento con la mano sinistra*, a collection of images and catalogues of the voices on the art and culture of the century which is currently ongoing. She continued to exhibit throughout the years 2000s in Italy and abroad: *Nero Giappone e Giallo Cina* at the Galleria Corraini in Mantova (2003), the project *Wundernachtskammer* at the Sala Napoleonica of Palazzo Te in Mantova and she held other numerous solo shows among which there are those at the Galleria MEGA in Gallarate, at Spazio Oberdan and at the Triennale di Milano.

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. 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, Raùl 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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