

GALLERIA VALENTINABONOMO

CATERINA SILVA

*THE CRUELLEST MONTH*

presented by Anna Cestelli Guidi



30<sup>th</sup> June – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Via del Portico d'Ottavia 13, Rome

#### PRESS RELEASE

Galleria Valentina Bonomo is delighted to announce the opening of *The cruellest month*, a solo exhibition of work by **Caterina Silva** with a presentation by Anna Cestelli Guidi on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, from 3pm to 9pm at Via del Portico d'Ottavia 13.

**Caterina Silva** (Roma, 1983) returns to the Portico d'Ottavia for her second solo exhibition, with a new cycle of works. The artist uses painting to probe the obscure corners of the mind – things which are impossible to put into words but which do exist and materialise physically, becoming objects and very real presences; receptive images, open to interpretation by the viewer, and product of a process deconstructing their own internal superstructures.

*Il più crudele dei mesi* (the cruellest month), the title of the exhibition, is taken from the opening line of T.S. Eliot's towering poem *The Waste Land*. In these paintings, Caterina Silva seems to suggest a new beginning, much like the magical and stirring moment when nature reawakens every spring. The explosions of light and colour with which the paintings dazzle us recall the coruscating exuberance of the reborn natural world, but they are also the physical embodiment of a new phase in the artist's pictorial research.

As the poet writes, reawakenings bring with them the poignant melancholy of reminiscence, "mixing memories and desire" and inevitable thoughts of death. And so, for all their joyful lightness of touch and luminosity, the aether of these works resounds with echoes of a subliminal disquiet which is not just the artist's own and which regards the disorienting times we live in, prompting reflections on our sense that ours is a fragmenting world – the natural world, but also our political and historical world – a world we seem to find ever harder to comprehend.

VIA DEL PORTICO D'OTTAVIA 13 ROME  
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# GALLERIA VALENTINABONOMO

## CATERINA SILVA - BIOGRAPHY

**Caterina Silva** (born in Rome, 1983) lives and works between Rome and London. She uses painting and performance to probe the boundaries of language. Having studied set design and philosophy in Rome and in London (2001-2006), she was involved in itinerant performance projects that took her to Paris, Sicily and India (2005-2008). Following a period spent in Rome and New York perfecting her craft as a painter, in 2012 she participated in the first of a series of international artists' residencies, including: Cité des arts, Paris, 2012; Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam, 2014-2015; Asia Culture Center, Gwangju, 2016; NKD, Dale, Norway, 2018; ARP, Cape Town, 2018; Fondazione Spinola Banna, Poirino, 2019; and BOCS, curated by Giacinto Di Pietrantonio, Cosenza, 2019. In 2022 *Pink for Flower*, a monograph documenting Caterina's pictorial and performance-based research from 2012 to 2022, was published by Bosse&Baum (London) and viaindustriae (Foligno).

Selected exhibitions and performances: Il più crudele dei mesi, Galleria Valentina Bonomo, Rome, 2022; Summer Unknown, Bosse&Baum, London, 2022; Body en thrall, Rugby Art Gallery and Museum, Rugby, (UK), 2022; L'invenzione della giovinezza, Fondazione SMART, Rome, 2022; Cartacoreana, Museo Carlo Bilotti, Rome, 2021; Pittura, Pittura, Pittura, Marignana Arte, Venice, 2021; Ad ampio respiro, Rita Urso-Artopia, Milan, 2021; Moira / Mjra / Mjra, MACTE Digital, Fondazione MACTE, Termoli, 2021; I.T.P.A. Immersive Tantric Painting Awareness, Retramp, Berlin 2021; Pietre Volanti, Lunetta 11, Cappella della Sacra Famiglia di Dogliani 2021; Unpowered, Vortic London Collective, XR, 2020; Talent Prize, Museo Pietro Canonica, Rome, 2020; Due quadri e un tavolo, Richter Fine Arts, Rome, 2020; Mistici Sensuali Contemplativi, Metodo, Milan, 2020; Present Future, Artissima, Turin, 2019; Tutto apposto tutto bene, Galleria Nazionale di Cosenza, Cosenza, 2019; Diary tra diari, Fondazione Spinola Banna, Poirino, 2019; Graffiare il presente, Casa Testori, Milan 2018; Impressioni, Bosse&Baum, London, 2018; Combat Prize, winner of the painting section, Museo Giovanni Fattori, Leghorn, 2018; Finite-Infinite, Everard Read Circa, Cape Town 2018; Premio Francesco Fabbri, Fondazione Fabbri, Pieve di Soligo, Treviso, 2018; Amor Proprio, Centrale Montemartini, Rome, 2017; Deposito d'arte italiana presente, Artissima, Turin, 2017; You see me like a ufo, Marcelle Joseph Project, Ascot, 2017; SSOL/AP, Rozenstraat a rose is a rose e varie location, Amsterdam 2017; Münster, Galleria Valentina Bonomo, Rome, 2016; Senza Sistema, Bosse&Baum, London, 2016; Jolly Joker (duo show with Maria Barnas) Laboratoriumstraat, Amsterdam, 2016; Sacrosanctum, Oratorio di San Mercurio, Palermo, 2016; tbc(August), Bosse&Baum, London, 2015; Soggetto.Oggetto.Abietto, Galleria Riccardo Crespi, Milan, 2015, 16° Premio Cairo, Palazzo della Permanente, Milan, 2014; The reconfigured painting, Canal 05 Gallery, Brussels, 2015; La paura mangia l'anima, l'anima mangia la paura, Galleria Riccardo Crespi, Milan, 2014; Reality Show, Galleria Tiziana Di Caro, Salerno, 2012; Portonaccio, Ex Magazzini di Via Arimondi, Rome, 2012; Non è facile, Palazzo Incontro, Rome, 2011; Subverting dualities, Galleria VM21, Rome, 2010; Impresa Pittura, Museo C. I. A.C., Genazzano, Rome, 2010.

## ANNA CESTELLI GUIDI - BIOGRAPHY

Anna Cestelli Guidi trained as an art historian in Rome, Siena and Berlin, focusing on the transformation of theory, exhibition practice and the museological structures of the 60s and 70s. She has worked in a range of institutions in Spain, including the Centro Galego de Arte Contemporanea of Santiago de Compostella (CGAC), Museu de Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) and the Fondazione Metrònom in Barcelona. Since 2007, she is curator of the visual arts program at the Fondazione Musica per Roma at the Auditorium – Parco della Musica Roma. In addition to the variety of exhibitions she has curated at the Auditorium, since years her research focuses on interdisciplinary practices, in particular on the relations between sound and visual arts with the periodical projects Sound Corner and One Space/One Sound.

### For further information:

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### Gallery opening times:

Monday to Friday, 3pm to 7pm, or by appointment