

ENGLISH

# GALLERIA CONTINUA

SAN GIMIGNANO BEIJING LES MOULINS HABANA ROMA SAO PAULO PARIS

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## MARTA SPAGNOLI

### "In primo luogo"

13/05/2022 - 25/06/2022

Until 25 June 2022, Tuesday to Saturday, 11am-7pm

In compliance with the latest health measures, we recommend booking your visit by writing to: roma@galleriacontinua.com.

Galleria Continua is pleased to host the young artist Marta Spagnoli's solo exhibition, "In primo luogo", in its Rome gallery. On display are a series of unpublished works - medium and large format canvases, and paintings and drawings on paper made between the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022 - in which the artist returns to a theme that's dear to her, the natural universe.

The title, "In primo luogo" (meaning "in the first place" or "mainly") refers, on the one hand, to Spagnoli's need to indicate the themes and subjects dealt with in the exhibition - the closeness and proximity between man and the natural environment that surrounds us - and on the other, in a more figurative sense, the physical places which precede us. Escaping the nostalgic temptation to merely evoke an Eden-like imaginary, the artist intends to highlight the feeling that still deeply binds us to the natural context, to the point of recalling the traces of our origins as primates on earth.

Marta Spagnoli's works weave together a visual dialogue that embraces themes such as the wild and the primordial. The disposition of each work reflects on different points that are all linked to the natural context, such as: the constant activity of redesigning the morphology of the landscape, which is typical of human nature; the development of the imagination and perception of the landscape in which we place ourselves (like an emotional cartography); up to the representation of man in close relationship with the animal world, indicating our biological and spiritual origin.

The starting point of the whole exhibition is the drawing "Teriantropo", a sort of procession consisting of animal bodies in motion which proceeds homogeneously, reconciling in itself a human "intention" and an animal instinct. There is an allusion to the support and closeness of animality within the vitality of the child. Traditionally, a Therianthrop is a creature, part man and part animal, of myth and imagination. The word comes from the Greek words therion, which means beast, and anthropos, which means man. In "Teriantropo" and in the other drawings in the exhibition, hybridizations between human, plant and animal bodies are dealt with.

**Marta Spagnoli (Verona, 1994)** lives and works in Venice. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice, in 2019 she won 3rd Prize of the 102nd Young Artists Collective of the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation in Venice. Among her solo and group exhibitions, we mention: *Earthly Body*, Galleria Continua, Les Moulins, France (2021); *Italian Twist*, Gallerie delle Prigioni, Treviso (2021); *Truc à faire*, curated by JR, Galleria Continua, Paris (2021); *Felicia Munera, Una Boccata d'Arte*, Ronciglione (2020); *Whiteout*, Galleria Continua, San Gimignano (2020); *Libere Tutte*, curated by Daniele Capra and Giuseppe Frangi, Casa Testori, Novate Milanese, Milan (2019); *BocsArt*, residence curated by Giacinto di Pietrantonio, Cosenza (2019); *Art Zagreb*, Zagreb (2019); *Immersione Libera*, Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi, Milan, 2019; *Veritatem Inquirenti*, curated by Walter Ferri, Castello Borromeo di Corneliano Bertario (2019). 102ma Collettiva Giovani Artisti, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Galleria di San Marco, Venice (2019); *Braintooling*, Forte di Monte Ricco, Pieve di Cadore (2018); *Progettoborca*, Dolomiti Contemporanee residence at the ex-Villaggio Eni, Borca Di Cadore (2018); *Opera Prima*, spazio ASP-ITIS, Trieste (2018); *Collezione Malutta + Black Market*, Galleria Monitor, Rome (2017); *Personalini*, Finestra Illuminata, Venice. (2016).