

LA MIA AFRICA : EMOZIONE E COSCIENZA



Espinasse31 contemporary art gallery in collaboration with Arkios Italia is pleased to announce the exhibition *My Africa : Emotion and Consciousness* , by artist Alvisè Ranieri.

The artist with this exhibition takes a leap into the past , memories lead him to his little green-carpeted bedroom , in which imagining and reading those strange names on maps he finds refuge in Africa . Perennially suspended between ecstasy and damnation , it has never ceased to be his great love . For if Africa can be a beautiful dream , it is above all a theater of raw reality , difficult to accept and complicated to face .

A fabric with a very delicate weave , where each thin thread is interwoven with the others in a fragile game of balances . Where it takes very little for a small tear to spread to create irreparable damage . Things that we unfortunately witness every day and that have made Africa a symbol of the battles for life , those that are finally being fought on the front pages of newspapers , after for too long they concerned only a handful of visionary pioneers .

Alvisè Ranieri , has touched all this with his own hand for a long time , living it even on his skin . That is why he thought up this series of works . As if they were notes taken so as not to forget the great emotions he experienced but above all the reflections that flowed from them .

With the aim of making a contribution , however small , to the birth of a consciousness on issues before which we can no longer afford to remain indifferent .

THE TECHNIQUE

The inspiration for Alvisè Ranieri's Technique comes from afar, and is inspired by the tearing of frescoes. Coming from a deeply artistically connoted family background, with his father a restorer and his grandfather a great collector, technical aspects have been part of his baggage from an early age. In particular, in the chapel of the family's country house is the tear-out of a 15th-century fresco by Bergognone, which since childhood fascinated him greatly because of the idea that from the colors, absorbed by the plaster and thus an integral part of a wall, could be removed and transferred elsewhere. Basically, a kind of magic: that of transferring what was born to be immovable, giving a different life to something that was born to be immutable.

Having collected thousands of photographs over years of travel, at some point Alvisè Ranieri found himself playing with them, thinking of them as integral elements of the places where he had been, ripped out like frescoes and taken away with me. This gave rise to the idea behind his works, to transfer them to canvas by exploiting the same techniques used for tearing frescoes, in which the color is removed with the use of canvases tied to the pictorial layer by means of glues that transfer the painting from the plaster to the canvas itself.

The image, printed in ink on plain paper, is treated with special glues and laid on the canvas from the front side. The products used capture the color which, once the paper that served as "support" was removed, remains applied to the canvas, with different effects determined by multiple factors. And it is the effect, each time different, that this technique is able to produce that makes it particularly effective in giving new lifeblood to the images, putting the subjects in a new and often unexpected light.

THE ARTWORKS

The works in the series cover a life course of several decades spent in different parts of Africa. Each of them deals with different moments and situations and refers both to very personal, almost intimate contexts and vice versa.

In any case, all the works are connected by a common thread, consisting not only of the emotional aspect, but above all of encapsulating themes that impose deep reflections.

In other words, each work aims to represent dream and consciousness, in fact reproducing the very essence of Africa, incapable by its very nature of separating suggestion and reality, making them coexist instead in situations bordering on the unreal.

The common thread of reflection is visually represented by colored lines that mark each of the images. Colored lines that cross the images, blades that want to cut, to break the enchantment of the moment to open the vision to other horizons. To not stop at the surface, but to go to the essence of the issues, in some cases tragedies, that the images themselves subtend.

About Espinasse 31:

Espinasse31 is an art gallery based in Milan, Madrid, Miami and Monte Carlo, which aims to bring together the voices of artists of very different generations, cultures and poetics, giving life to a space of creation and encounter, where to promote the relationship between photography, urban art, painting and sculpture. A place for multidisciplinary and collaborative dialogue that encourages creative exchange between artists and the local community.

For further information:

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You can visit the website <http://www.espinasse31.com> and follow @espinasse31 on social media to keep up to date with all the events.

In collaboration with:

