

PRESS RELEASE

EVENT: Exhibit of painting, sculpture and photography

TITLE: Fineries in contemporary art

curated by Danielle Villicana D'Annibale

ARTISTS: Vladimiro Andidero, Enrico Borgogni, Dina Cangi, Paolo

Caponi, Giustino Caposciutti, Marco Cipolli, Danielle Villicana D'Annibale, Lucio Gatteschi, Rino Giannini, Giacobbe Giusti, Walter Hubert, Susan Leyland, Carmelo Lombardo, Giovanni Maranghi, Giancarlo Montuschi, Beatrice Nencini, Sergio Poddighe, Eliana Sevillano, Christopher Slatoff, and Franco

Tanganelli

EVENT DATES: Saturday, April 5 – Tuesday, April 8, 2014

LOCATION: Arezzo Fiere & Congressi S.r.l.

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PRESS RELEASE

Fineries in contemporary art
Group exhibition of painting, sculpture and photography
from Saturday April 5 to Tuesday April 8, 2014 at OroArezzo

Danielle Villicana D'Annibale is pleased to present a group exhibition of a select and exceptional group of national and international artists entitled *Fineries in contemporary art* for the 35° Edition of OroArezzo. The exhibit contemplates both figurative and abstract expressions, including painting, sculpture and photography. The selection of twenty works of art created by twenty artists among which are some of the greatest contemporary talents of the Tuscan, American and English territories. The exhibit inaugurates Saturday, April 5, 2014 at Arezzo Fiere & Congressi and continues until Tuesday, April 8 with the following hours: Saturday to Monday from 9:30AM to 6PM and Tuesday from 9:30AM to 4PM, with the entrance reserved to wholesalers, retailers and import-export companies, chains stores and designers in the gold industry.

The artists (15 Italian and 5 international): Vladimiro Andidero, Enrico Borgogni, Dina Cangi, Paolo Caponi, Giustino Caposciutti, Marco Cipolli, Danielle Villicana D'Annibale, Lucio Gatteschi, Rino Giannini, Giacobbe Giusti, Walter Hubert, Susan Leyland, Carmelo Lombardo, Giovanni Maranghi, Giancarlo Montuschi, Beatrice Nencini, Sergio Poddighe, Eliana Sevillano, Christopher Slatoff, and Franco Tanganelli.

Brief biographies:

Vladimiro Andidero was born in Reggio Calabria in 1963, where he went to the High School for the Arts "Mattia Preti" and afterwards to the Academy of Fine Arts. Since 1984 he exhibits with success in Italy as well as abroad. Since 1990 he lives and works in Arezzo, where he teaches Plastic Disciplines at the High School for the Arts "Piero della Francesca."

Enrico Borgogni was born in 1953 in Arezzo. He began photography in the early Eighties, and since then his activity has been incessant, with personal and group exhibitions in Italy, Germany and Spain. The photographer is member of the photo club "La Chimera" of Arezzo and is part of the Polaroiders, otherwise known as the "instant" Italian artists. His works have been published by Polaroid, Hasselblad, Fotoit, FIAF and Reflex. In 2012, the Villicana D'Annibale Gallery curated the catalogue published by Blurb of his solo exhibit *Fiore Nudo* and in 2013 a catalogue for the successive solo exhibit *Fleurs*.

Dina Cangi was born in Arezzo, where she lives and works in the locality Chiani. After high school graduation she devoted herself to art by exercising, with a constant search for colors, lights, materials and surfaces, the practice of painting. She's passionate about anthropology and archeology. The artist has a deep appreciation for the tradition and culture of the past, that tends to recycle, filter and return through the suggestions of her work, with the eyes and heart of those who live militant by the art of living in the state of being contemporary. Since her earliest appearances in group exhibitions, reviews and competitions, Cangi has immediately obtained awards and critical acclaim. Since the Nineties she exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in Italy and abroad. To remember are the successes in Berlin, Düsseldorf and Regensburg (Germany), Atlanta (U.S.A.) and Ghent (Belgium). Her works are part of public and private collections.



Paolo Caponi was born in Arezzo in 1943. After having frequented the Academy of Fine Arts of Perugia (Accademia di Belle Arti di Perugia) in the Sixties, he went researching for his own personal language in photography as well as sculpture. In his career he has exhibited with solo exhibitions in Italy, Venezuela, France, Spain and the United States. In 1986 he realized a project for Caracas entitled Colonna Androgena. In 1994 he created the medallion for the 50° Anniversary for the Resistance for the City of Arezzo. He is represented by *Galleria Immaginaria* of Florence and promoted by *Via Cavour 85* of Arezzo.

Giustino Caposciutti was born in Civitella in Val di Chiana (Ar) in 1946. He graduated in painting from the Academy of Fine Arts in Torino (Accademia Albertina delle Belle Arti di Torino), city where he works as an artist and educator. His is a simple painting and at the same time cultured, which takes movement from the analytical painting from the end of the Sixties. His work has evolved in time, characterized by existential and social messages. By "participated art" he intends an art that is defined by a plurality of subjects, not only people, but also other entities, as for instance the canvas nails, the wall, light, Caposciutti for at least two decades is one of the principal protagonists of international level, thanks to the creation of events such as *FiloArx*, *Arte Plurale*, *Tessere*... and *Heart Art* which brought him to be known throughout the world. Before the solo exhibit *Stuff about nails*, at the Villicana D'Annibale Gallery of Arezzo, the artist was present at the Special Olympics Italy, which was held in Arezzo from April 23 to 28, 2013. He coordinated a project of participated art with disabled kids at the Arezzo Fiere e Congressi. Many painted canvases were united in a "living canvas," to form a large mosaic-work for the ceremony of the manifestation, which was held in the historical venter of Cortona.

Marco Cipolli was born in Montevarchi (Ar). Painter, graphic artist, sculptor and ceramicist, he approached art at an early age. After the first experiences in graphics and the apprenticeship at Richard Ginori Porcelains as decorator, he undertook the activity of artist utilizing the most varied of materials and techniques. Meeting the family Bellini of Florence, historical gallerists representing artists of world fame, brought him to exhibit with masters such as Manzù, Bueno, Greco, Fazzini, Alinari and Rapisardi. From the beginning of the Eighties he has exhibited in solo and group exhibits in Italy and abroad.

Danielle Villicana D'Annibale was born in the United States in San Francisco, California, in 1972. In 1994 she graduated with a B.A. from Occidental College of Los Angeles in Art History and the Visual Arts. The love for the Renaissance took her to Italy in the same year, where she attended important masters and Florentine atelier, from Charles Cecil Studios to the Florence Academy, to the studio of Silvestro Pistolesi in 1996. Afterwards she learned the technique of fresco at the school of Leonetto Tintori of Prato. In 2001 she enrolled in the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome (Accademia di Belle Arti Roma). She continued on the meantime her plastic and pictorial research, veering towards abstraction: the series Cigarette Box Paintings took life. With the academic diploma obtained in 2006, the American transferred to Arezzo. Collaborating with her husband Maurizio D'Annibale, light designer, Villicana began working on the project Villa Margherita a Paradise for Artists in Tuscany and opened, in 2010, a contemporary art gallery in the heart of the city, immediately becoming a favored meeting place for Italian and foreign artists. Since 1994 she has participated in solo and group exhibits in Italy and the United States. In the past couple of years she has held three important solo exhibits: American Spirit, curated by historian and art critic Michele Loffredo, Mimì Cocò & Co, curated by historian and art critic Matilde Puleo, Angelo Andriuolo and art critic Francesco Giulio Farachi as well as her most recent Cocktails.

Since 2010 to today she has curated and organized over sixty exhibits, concerts and literary encounters inside the *Villicana D'Annibale Galleria D'Arte* and new exhibition space *Via Cavour 85* of Arezzo.



Lucio Gatteschi was born in Chianciano, of an ancient Aretine family. "Chianciano healthy liver," town of thermal water and millennial history of Etruscan civilization in the province of Siena, famous for its Palio. We are in Tuscan earth, region where an incredible number of artists have been born. In this fantastic and beautiful region, Lucio Gatteschi, for vital necessity moves himself to the sea of Pisa to the mountains of Pistoia, to Montecatini Terme, to Bibbiena in Casentino, from Borro of S. Giustino Valdarno in Laterina, to Cortona, small Etruscan city of antique Roman origin, until Arezzo, where he lives today. The seasons of these beautiful cities follow him. Gatteschi has breathed the suggestions and the states of minds. The springs, the summers, the autumns and the winters, so different from the sea to the mountain, suggestions that now contribute to the realization of his beautiful works. His works are in collections in private collections in every angle of the world.

Rino Giannini was born in Pietrasanta (Lu) in 1939 and grew up in the surroundings of the working of marble. After various experiences, he decided to dedicate his time to sculpture and received a diploma from the Art Institute of Pietrasanta. As a professional sculptor, he obtained many important commissions amongst which is notable the portrait of *Father Ciampicon* for the Church Chiesa Dei Servi di Maria di Massa, four sculptures of *Oranti* for a chapel of a cemetery of Staglieno (Ge), the official portrait of *Federico Milkovich*, founder of the U.I.L.M.D., the portrait of *Henry Laurens* for the Historical Society of Charlestown and the *Madonna with Child* for the House of the young child of Seycelles, the monument for the commercial area of Seano (Prato) and the commemorative sculpture of *Mr. Moulin* and *Charles De Gaulle* for Cannes in the French Riviera. In 1975 he was invited to teach and became professor of the course entitled "*Techniques of marble*" in the School of Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts of Carrara, where he taught for twenty years.

Today the artist continues to sculpt in his studio entitled the Superior School of Sculpture of Pietrasanta. Giannini is also an organizer and curator of artistic events, and he was invited to sculpt in symposiums and other manifestations of figurative nature in the entire world (France, Spain, Greece, Switzerland, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, and the United States).

Giacobbe Giusti was born in Subbiano (Ar). In 1992 he graduated in Economics and Business at the University of Perugia. His interests range from film to theater, from fashion to sculpture. At the end of the nineties he experimented with a new metal processes and focalized on a technique of welding aluminum, carried out with oxygen and acetylene. Among his most noted works are those for the new cemetery, those in piazza Martiri della Libertà in Capolona (Ar), and one in Palazzo Albizzini in Città di Castello (Pg). Since the mid-nineties he has participated in personal and collective exhibitions.

Walter Hubert, was born in the United States, and graduated from Otis Art Institute of Los Angeles with a masters in art. Founder, creative director and visionary of Silver Birches of Pasadena, California, for over forty years he works on prestigious projects for renowned clients all over the world, including the *National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (The Grammys)* and *The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences (The Oscars)*.

Hubert has had numerous solo exhibitions and has participated in various group exhibitions, and his works have been bought by important corporate clients including *The Times Mirror Corporation* and *Pacific Bell*, and also may be found in private collections of international level. Designer and painter of excellence, he lives between California in the United States and Italy.



Susan Leyland was born in 1952 and grew up in England near Cambridge. Her grandfather, a veterinarian and horse breeder, gave her first pony at the age of four, establishing what would become a life-long passion for horses. Her school years were spent away from home at boarding school where she enjoyed sports, riding and studying, especially art and art history; she began to draw and paint in her free time. After finishing her studies she worked for a year as a secretary at the Cambridge Institute of Criminology, and then in 1973 she moved to Italy making Florence her home. Here Susan worked as a fashion model from 1973 – 1980 with a number of fashion houses including Ferragamo. Susan married in 1978 and moved to Impruneta, where her family was completed with the arrival of her two sons in 1981 and 1986. From 1982 - 2000 she worked as an English language teacher and then as a riding instructor. Since her early school days Susan had drawn and painted avidly in her free time and this love of art and creativity continued through her adult life. She became fascinated by the work of the Impruneta terracotta artisans and encouraged by the Mariani family Susan began to make her first sculptures. In 1998 Susan held her first exhibition, the success of which led to a second exhibition at the Galleria Tornabuoni the following year. In 2000 Susan made the decision to dedicate her time to her equestrian sculpture, so uniting her love of horses and art.

Carmelo Lombardo was born in Caltanissetta, but he was formed artistically in Tuscany. He learned the rudiments of painting from his father Joseph. In the vivacious environment of Arezzo in the Sixties, as a teen-ager he is welcomed in the group of local painters, affirming his seriousness and originality of vision. In the Seventies he frequented, through the Gallery Orfino of Venice, great Italian artists of the moment: from Cesetti a Migneco, to Monachesi and Guttuso. In Rome he becomes friends of writer and art critic Franco Cagnetta. Overcome the cultural schemes and compositional schemes of the province, he matures concepts and experiences that bring him to be welcomed in Paris in an international group of artists denominated "Figuration Critique," founded in 1978 by Maurice Rapin and Mirabelle Dors. Today, Lombardo lives and works in Arezzo.

Giovanni Maranghi, born in Lastra a Signa in 1955, he carried out his studies in nearby Florence, getting his degree at Leon Battista Alberti High School, and afterward began his university studies under the Architecture faculty of the Florentine Athenaeum. Just turned twenty, he launched his first solo exposition at the San Frediano Gallery in Bari. From this moment o, many successful solo and group expositions followed both in Italy and abroad. Among the most important dates of these first years must be remembered: the exhibit at the Dalders Gallery in Amsterdam (1985) and at the Diva Gallery of Bruxelles (1987). In the Nineties' he was in the United States with solo exhibits in Carmel, Chicago and New Orleans. The new century opened with "Gnacchi and Timparlini" at the Excelsior Hotel in Florence, an exhibition inspired by the "metasemantica poetry" of Fosco Maraini. In the same year he exhibited in Holland, France, Russia and the U.S.A. 2008 was the year of "Extra - Large Barocco," exposition inside the Basilica della SS. Vergine del Carmelo in Piacenza, where the subject of the woman was confronted with the theme of seclusion. In a short time, other two events of equal importance followed: "Women" at the Brunetti Gallery in Ponsacco (Pi), and "Breakfast at Maranghi," inside the Antico Spedale degli Innocenti in Florence for occasion he presented the "Mukki Latte" calendar for the year 2009. At the beginning of 2012, he worked in collaboration with Lorenzo Pescini and other artists on the project "Sulla strada di Venere," where music, painting and poetry were melted together.

Most recently, last April, he exhibited at Galerie Plexus in Montreux, as well as a solo exposition named *Casta Diva*, inside "*Sala delle Colonne*" in Pontassieve, presented by Antonio Natali, Director of the Uffizi Gallery of Florence, and a solo exhibition in Arezzo, *An Adorable Lie*, curated by Danielle Villicana D'Annibale, at the Villicana D'Annibale Gallery.



Giancarlo Montuschi was born August 9, 1952 in Faenza (Ra). He studied at the Artistic High School and the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna (Accademia di Belle Arti di Bologna), and afterwards in Ravenna. In 1976 he was assigned the teaching post of Pictorial Disciplines at the Artistic High School of Sansepolcro (Ar). Always in Valtiberina, in San Leo of Anghiari (Ar), the artist has brought forward for years together with his ceramicist wife Madga Garulli, one of the most important and prolific atelier of the Aretine territory. The research of Montuschi embraces various techniques and moves from pop art and from the post-pop languages of the secondo half of the 1900s to affront in the years the *alchemico-esoteric*, lucid themes, diversified cycles linked to myths, animals, literature and music. Since 1972 has exhibited with success in Italy and abroad. He participates regularly in International Fairs and has won many prizes in painting, sculpture and ceramics. He has received ample consent among critics, art collectors and art lovers.

Beatrice Nencini was born in Siena and currently resides and works in the countryside of Castelfiorentino (Fi). She graduated in 1987 from the National Institute of Art of Porta Romana (Istituto Statale d'Arte di Porta Romana) in Florence, in the section Plastic Decoration. Subsequently she attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence (Accademia delle Belle Arti di Firenze). She worked in scene design with the firm Scenotek, realizing furnishings for swimming pools in Germany and built, for a theater on the water of the Costanza lake, a platform afloat and lighted with fiber optics. After over ten years of professional activity, she continues to collaborate with artistic foundries in Tuscany and Emilia, with artists including Galligani, Borghi and Talani, and cities such as Pontedera (Pi) for the realization of sculptural works in various materials such as bronze, aluminum, brass, terracotta and resins.

Sergio Poddighe was born in Palermo in 1955 from Genovese father of Sardinian origin. He graduated from the Art High School of his city, and afterward from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome (Accademia di Belle Arti di Roma). He teaches Pictorial Disciplines at the National Institute of Art in Arezzo, city where he lives and works since 1990. He became interested in the symbolic and psychological aspects of the graphic mark and for this reason frequented for one year the Studies of Graphology in Urbino. His work was lent for the execution of decoration, book covers, manifestos for exhibits and cultural events as well as theatrical set design. He has had numerous solo exhibitions and been included in many reviews on contemporary art, in Italy and abroad. His works may be found in numerous private and public collections.

Eliana Sevillano, was born in La Paz (Bolivia) and studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Caracas (Accademia di Belle Arti di Caracas, Venezuela), as well as in Italy. Her works may be found in private and public collections, in Italy as well as abroad. She lives and works in Arezzo.

Christopher Slatoff studied in the United States and in France. He graduated in 1978 in Sculpture from California State University of Long Beach, where he teaches life sculpture. The artist also teaches sculpture at Art Center School of Design in Pasadena, and during the summer, Medieval and Renaissance Art History in Italy, in Orvieto. He is the sculpture chairman of the California Art Club. In 2002 he worked for a prestigious project for the Cathedral of Los Angeles, realizing groups of sculptures on a large dimension in bronze for various Stations of the Cross. In 2011 he completed the execution of *Fr. Electrico* in collaboration with the writer Ray Bradbury. A version of reduced dimensions was awarded the Gold Medal for sculpture at the 97th Annual Gold Medal Juried Exhibition at the Pasadena Museum of California Art. Amongst his most well known works is *Sheltering Wings*, commissioned by the Port District of San Diego and installed on Coronado Island. In 2013 he completed a *Crucifix* in bronze for the Chapel *Our Savior* at the University USC in Los Angeles.

Franco Tanganelli was born in Castiglion Fiorentino (Ar) and at age seventeen, he settled down in Florence to complete his studies and follow his artistic vocation. Realist Painter, he found in Guttuso the first maestro, yet also loved the art of Van Gogh, Picasso, and Bacon and experimented with every type of technique. The first personal exhibition dates to the early seventies; then followed by a long activity in Italy and abroad, where he completed extensive stays in France and Great Britain. In 1989 he fell in love with Sarna, in the Casentino area, and transferred studio and residence, followed in 1992 by Beatrice Rosai who became his companion of life and art. In 1995 the School of Sarna and the Cultural Association Castle of Sarna were born. In the range of sculptural he has performed important public commissions especially in bronze, such as *The Fountain of Life* for the Foundation Order of the Camaldolesi Monks in Ponte a Poppi (Ar) and *The Guardian of the Memory* for the door of the Castle of Sarna.

For more information on the group exhibition or the artists, please contact **Danielle Villicana D'Annibale** at +39 338 6005593 or at <u>danielle@villicanadannibale.com</u>.

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vladimiro andidero enrico borgogni dina cangi paolo caponi giustino caposciutti marco cipolli danielle villicana d'annibale lucio gatteschi rino giannini giacobbe giusti

walter hubert susan leyland carmelo lombardo giovanni maranghi giancarlo montuschi beatrice nencini sergio poddighe eliana sevillano christopher slatoff franco tanganelli

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