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**MyOwnGallery - Superstudio Più**

Via Tortona, 27 - Milan

**Antonella Quacchia**

**Orizzonti sensibili**

**[Sensitive Horizions]**

*curated by Fortunato D’Amico*

**9 November – 8 December 2023**

**opening Wednesday, 8 November at 18:00**

*press release, 04.10.2023*

From **9 November to 8 December 2023 MyOwnGallery - Superstudio Più’** will host the exhibition **Antonella Quacchia: Sensitive Horizons**, curated by Fortunato D’Amico.

Based on a selection of **over 40 works**, the exhibition traces the artistic career of Antonella Quacchia, who has skilfully transferred her inner world onto canvas and panel using a variety of techniques and materials.

With a constant focus on her past, characterised by a difficult childhood, a prestigious career at the CERN and at the ILO within the UN, as well as incessant travel, the artist uses **vivid colours** to relate her emotions and reflections, paying particular attention to diversity and minorities, and the critically important themes of **nature**, **sustainability** and **environmental protection**.

Her work reflects a faithful analysis of personally experienced facts and events, positive and negative alike, from which a glimmer of hope for improvement always emerges.

The theme of **duality** is consistently present in her work at different levels and in the forms of rationality and fantasy, inner and external stimuli, an exploration of the micro and the macro, and the real and spiritual world. Commenting on this, curator Fortunato D'Amico writes: ‘*A union between two dimensions of the human mind that often seem at odds, but when mutually enriched, as in this case, bring power and expression to the content of the message*.’

Drawings, geometries, symbols, signs and figurations permeated with references to Abstraction, Expressionism and Informalism, are represented by two-dimensional forms that once again emphasise the presence of a binary rhythm.

The **exhibition itinerary** includes works belonging to different but interconnected series, which together convey a unified vision of the scenarios the artist has explored.

Works belonging to the *Our Planet* series share an identical composition, in which a clear horizon line bisects the canvas, demarcating the division between high and low, and earth and sky, a boundary that simultaneously juxtaposes and compares two opposing realities. Through these works Quacchia urges us to reflect on the relationship between man and nature and the damage that has been and is being caused to the environment, emphasising the importance of individual and collective responsibility for the well-being of the planet. The invitation to respect and protect the Earth is addressed to everyone, especially future generations.

Unlike the preceding works, the series *Floating Forms* represent a shift to a fluid, suspended, undefined dimension. We discern anthropomorphic figures, symbols, details and naturalistic elements as if they were immersed in a liquid; they trigger recollections and references to past experiences. The use of colour is no longer sharply defined, light and neutral tones prevail, sometimes invaded by dark colours to further delineate the forms.

*Amo la Vita* [I Love Life] is the series most associated with Antonella Quacchia's scientific career. Particles represented by signs and symbols, abstract shapes and lines, celebrate a love for all forms of life, and a kaleidoscope of layered meanings juxtapose emotions with rationality.

The most recent series is *Serendipity*, which alludes to the unexpected discoveries that occur in life, such as the newly experimented technique adopted in these works. Using resin on panel for the first time, Quacchia has developed new forms of artistic expression and creative solutions. These works see a return to a focus on nature and, in particular, a love of the sea and water. The creation of 'liquid dimensions', combined with Quacchia’s personal affinity to this element, investigate the theme of ocean pollution, a subject that especially concerns her.

In conjunction with the exhibition, a bilingual **monograph** *Antonella Quacchia. Orizzonti sensibili / Sensitive Horizons* is to be published by **Editoriale Giorgio Mondadori**. Edited by Fortunato D'Amico, with contributions by Chiara Canali, Fortunato D'Amico, Chiara Ferella Falda and Matteo Galbiati, the book will be presented on **Wednesday, 15 November** as part of **BookCity 2023**. The event will include a discussion between the artist, the curator and the authors of the critical essays.

**Antonella Quacchia** was born in Gorizia in 1957. Between the age of three and twelve she lived in the care of her aunt and uncle in São Paulo, Brazil, where she absorbed the colours, music, liveliness and exuberant nature of the country. She completed her studies in Italy, in Ivrea, then Turin, where she graduated in computer science. From childhood on she nurtured a passion for art, which led her to experiment with different techniques and expressive forms, and to attend art schools in Italy, Switzerland, France and Austria. She lived for many years in Geneva, where she worked for the CERN (European Centre for Nuclear Research). After spending a year in Florence, she returned to Geneva and worked for several years at the UN in the ILO (International Labour Organisation), which is responsible for defining international labour regulations concerning the world of work, and for promoting technical cooperation projects aimed at social justice and the defence of human rights.

Antonella Quacchia exhibits her work in public and private venues in various European capitals, among them Geneva, Madrid, Vienna, Paris and London, as well as in major Italian cities, in particular Rome, Milan, Venice and Genoa. A number of publications document her work. She currently lives and works in Vienna and Prague.

[www.anton4art.com](http://www.anton4art.com)

**Event details**

**Title** Antonella Quacchia. Orizzonti sensibili / Sensitive Horizons

**Curated by** Fortunato D’Amico

**Venue** MyOwnGallery - Superstudio Più,Via Tortona, 27 - Milan

**Dates** 9 November – 8 December 2023

**Exhibition Opening** Wednesday, 8 November, 18:00

**Hours** every day 10:30 – 19:30

**Free admission**

**Public information** anton4art@gmail.com

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