

A MISURA

The spatial tension in the works featured in this exhibition creates a circular assonance, thanks to a continuous triangulation of the expressed thoughts and positions, in a ricochet of opposite similarities; it acts as a strong point to redefine the physical and emotional relationship with the work. Using the measure of the Self to redesign the world becomes a metaphor for the revealing process of art. Video, painting, drawing, performance, actions, are structures of thought; they are not merely tools but mental substance, complex geographies of perception and measurement that enable us to redefine the space around us.

Because it is art that gives shape to the things of the world.

Lucia Bricco, Diana Legel, Wang Ximan, Alexandra Wolfram, Aura Monsalves Muñoz, Juliane Schmidt, Diana Sirianni and Maria Giovanna Sodero also have in common part of their artistic training: all of them, at different times, were my students at the Accademia Belle Arti in Rome. The Academy can therefore be, in some lucky cases, a place that triggers awareness. There are thus some students with whom you stay in touch over the years, because you shared a very deep level of knowledge, specific to the time invested in developing the work and, therefore, the way of observing the world. Teaching is an active process, which, in my opinion, only takes place by reacting to a light that is already present, to a landscape that appears, whose radiance is clearly perceptible. And also by exercising a good dose of intransigence. You cannot teach people to be artists, but you can teach them rigour and awareness, because nothing can be imprecise.

In the construction of a Hindu temple, the measurements are based on those of the architect's body; in these works, the point of origin, from which gesture and form find their way into the work, is physical and emotional unity.

The body is the measure in the drawings of Diana Legel, architect of modern temples, in the performances/actions of Lucia Bricco, Wang Ximan and Diana Sirianni, who redesign space using their bodies, in the analysis of the "simple" mechanisms of the construction process of the work (Juliane Schmidt), in the observation of nature, memory and disappearance (Aura Monsalves Muñoz, Alexandra Wolfram, Maria Giovanna Sodero). The works in this exhibition are not formally similar, but intimately related, because they all investigate the complexity of our relationship with the world, with memory, nature and pain, transforming conflict into a tool for knowledge.

A Misura would not have been possible without the commitment and support of the Accademia di Belle Arti in Rome, who sustained the project, and the enthusiasm of Cristina Dinello Cobianchi, President of Album Arte, who hosted and strongly believed in this exhibition.

Donatella Landi, Roma 18th March, 2021

¹ "Unità di misura per la costruzione di un tempio è il pollice (la prima falange), e il cubito (ovvero il "gomito" del costruttore, inteso come la misura del suo avambraccio, dal gomito al polso)."

Alain Danielou, *L'Erotismo divinizzato, Il tempio indù*, pag. 60 (*L'erotisme divinisé*), 1962

