

GALLERIA POGGIALI

FAITH & FATHOM

A project by Zhivago Duncan

Vernissage Saturday 17 December 6.00 p.m.

17 December 2016 – 19 March 2017

Via della Scala 35/A and Via Benedetta 3r, Florence

The Poggiali Gallery of Florence presents ***Faith & Fathom***, a group show of eighteen international artists curated by the American artist Zhivago Duncan, which will open on Saturday 17 December 2016 at 6 p.m.

The protagonists of ***Faith & Fathom*** are the 18 artists selected for the ***group show presented by the Poggiali Gallery, brought together for this project by the flamboyant and multifaceted figure of Zhivago Duncan***, an artist born in the United States to a Danish father and Syrian mother, who also exhibits one of his works at the Florence show. All the exhibitors are **transgenerational artists expressing themselves in different media, but bound by a shared vision of the practice of quality contemporary art, with experiences in the experimental international avant-gardes** and already present at the most important shows and the most influential galleries.

Each artist was requested to address the subject of 'Faith & Fathom', taking up the Zhivago Duncan's cue **to trace an association between the two worlds** epitomised by the two words, such as a route from Faith/Belief to Fathom/Reason through works made specially or reconceived for this show.

To explore this journey from ***Faith to Fathom***, Duncan has collected over 50 paintings, photographs, sculptures and video stills from 17 artists: ***Christian Achenbach, Tjorg Douglas Beer, Slater Bradley, Jonas Burgert, James Capper, Max Frisinger, Andreas Golder, Norman Hyams, John Isaacs, Nick Jeffrey, Marin Majic, Polly Morgan, David Nicholson, Dorothea Steigemann, Andrea Stappert, Tim Noble and Sue Webster.***

The works presented at the show, some of them made specifically for the Florence event, belong to the threshold **between Faith and Reason. They inhabit the spaces between unreason and reason, impenetrability and understanding, chaos and order. The 50 works making up the display itinerary of Faith & Fathom** are slippery and elusive, something like the dreams and hallucinations that come to us between sleep and waking. **They are neither intangible nor tangible but they are materialising.** They inhabit a land of shadows: not exactly in the darkness of Faith, but nor as yet entirely in the light of the sun of Reason.

At the **Galleria Poggiali**, the director of the project **Zhivago Duncan** examines the **making of art as a form of spiritual journey** in which the artists and their works *ferry* the observers between the ethereal land of faith and the pragmatic terrain of reason. This is because, as Zhivago Duncan explains: *“Man has always found inspiration for art in the dark depths of Faith, and nowadays this descent is more than a metaphor, since to find art we have to probe the depths of our unconscious through memories, dreams, verses of songs and poems and intimate beliefs. In the midst of these creative fragments we also gradually discover order and consistency and, slowly, we translate all this into a concrete work of art: we bring it forth from the murky, from the intangible realm of Faith, into the realm illuminated by the sun of reason in which the contours of reality are clear and distinct.”*

Catalogue with essay by William Hunt | 196 pages | 160 colour illustrations