

GALLERIACONTINUA SAN GIMIGNANO BEIJING **INSTITUTUTING** HABANA ROMA SAO PAULO PARIS

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MARTA SPAGNOLI *Earthly Body*

Opening on June 13, 2021 In compliance with the measures for the containment of the contagion of Covid-19, reservation is recommended

Galleria Continua / Les Moulins is pleased to present for the first time in France a personal exhibition dedicated to Marta Spagnoli. *Earthly Body* digs into the physiological attachment of man to nature, creating a dialogue between Earth's bareness and the nudity of the human body.

Marta Spagnoli's starting point is a fragment, a vestige, the shape that emerges from color as from the water of the Venetian lagoon where the artist lived for over six years. Her fluctuating figures, come from myth, from an oneiric dimension. These figures create a universe through the pictorial practice, populated by vegetation, animals, human and mythical shapes, somewhere between dream and reality. This is the power of the artist: representing the natural world in its thick complexity, fragmentation and mutation potential by layering recurring elements.

Algae (2021), *Sonetto* (2021), *Idra Femmina* (2017), like all the other works in the exhibition, are scriptures in continuous mutation linked by a natural filament. This pictorial element comes to life from the moment it frees itself from the paintbrush, often originating from her own perspective. The artist doesn't have preliminary sketches or pre-established techniques, but finds inspiration in her immediate environment : photos, illustrations, and images. This is the reason why recalling myths and the ancestral dimension is not simply a reference, but the awakening of psychic and mystical forces that have always been a part of us, from ancient times until today.

The artist highlights how man's interactions with the animal and vegetal worlds have enriched human experience over the centuries. Marta Spagnoli creates a symbolic universe, raising awareness about ecological sustainability and questions the livability of the planet and man's capacity to be a "guardian of the Earth". The lagoon's inspiration remains essential, evoking stratification, cycle, bringing to light relics from the abyss, just to submerge them again. In this case, the lagoon represents a millenary natural system which preciousness has to be protected.

Marta Spagnoli, born in 1994 in Verona, lives and works in Venice, where she recently graduated

from the Accademia di Belle Arti. *Earthly Body* is her first solo exhibition in France, presenting a series of paintings in medium and large formats. In 2020 the artist inaugurated her first solo exhibition at Galleria Continua / San Gimignano, titled *Whiteout*, from the name of the natural phenomenon where sky can't be distinguished from the earth, everything blending into a white unicum. In 2020 Marta Spagnoli took part in the first edition of *Una Boccata d'Arte*, a project originating from the collaboration between Fondazione Elpis and Galleria Continua, meant to promote an encounter between contemporary art and the historical artistic patrimony of small Italian villages, which become venues for site-specific projects by young artists. Marta Spagnoli participated with a project in Ronciglione, a village in the district of Viterbo in Lazio. In 2019 the artist won the third prize of Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa. In June 2021, she will have a solo show at Galleria delle Prigioni in Treviso.

Marta Spagnoli was exhibited in several solo and group shows, among which: *Truc à Faire*, Galleria Continua / Paris (2021); Felicia Munera, *Una Boccata D'Arte*, Ronciglione (2020); *Whiteout*, solo show, Galleria Continua / San Gimignano (2020); *Libere Tutte*, curated by Daniele Capra and Giuseppe Frangi, Casa Testori, Novate Milanese, Milan (2019); *Estate Autunno*, State Of, Milan (2019); Art Zagreb, Zagreb (2019); *Immersione Libera*, Palazzina dei Bagni Misteriosi, Milan, (2019); *Veritatem Inquirenti*, curated by Walter Ferri, Castello Borromeo di Corneliano Bertario, Milan (2019); *Braintooling*, Forte di Monte Ricco, Pieve di Cadore (2018); *Progettoborca*, a residence for Dolomiti Contemporanee at the ex Eni Village, Bocca Di Cadore, Belluno (2018); *Opera Prima*, ASP-ITIS space, Trieste (2018); *Malutta Collection + Black Market*; PersonaliNI, Finestra Illuminata, Venice (2016).