



GALLERIA CONTINUA

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EYES IN THE SKY

Leila Alaoui, Kader Attia, Alejandro Campins,
Jonathas De Andrade, Shilpa Gupta, Aziz Hazara, Jorge Macchi,
Ahmed Mater, Susana Pilar, José Antonio Suárez Londoño, Nari Ward
Curated by Luigi Fassi and Alberto Salvadori

Opening Saturday 29th May 2021, via del Castello 11, 3pm-9pm
Until 31st August 2021, Monday to Sunday, 10am-1pm, 2-7pm, by appointment only
In order to respect safety regulations, it's necessary to book your visit via the appropriate form on [galleriacontinua.com](https://www.galleriacontinua.com)

Galleria Continua is pleased to present *EYES IN THE SKY* a curatorial project by Luigi Fassi and Alberto Salvadori that brings together works by Leila Alaoui, Kader Attia, Alejandro Campins, Jonathas De Andrade, Shilpa Gupta, Aziz Hazara, Jorge Macchi, Ahmed Mater, Susana Pilar, José Antonio Suárez Londoño and Nari Ward.

“In a 1982 text, now a classic of contemporary culture, *All That is Solid Melts into Air - The Experience of Modernity*, Marshal Berman defined modernity as the coming together of all attempts by men and women to become subjects as well as objects of the modern world in order to affirm one's dignity and live in the world feeling at home in it. Being modern is thus living an experience, of space and time, self and others and the possibilities and dangers of life, which promises adventure, power, joy, growth, and a transformation of ourselves and of the world, and which, at the same time threatens to destroy all we have, all we know, and all we are. For Berman, wanting to be modern implies living along a risky precipice in an open and expansive way, where understanding culture and forms of life without dividing them into separate fragments and incidents and living in a place where all kinds of artistic, intellectual, religious and political activities, can be seen as part of a single dialectical process in mutual creative interaction. It is an open dimension that creates the conditions for dialogue between the past, the present and the future. It crosses the physical and social space by broadening the vision of our perspective, and shows how there is more in our lives than we think, giving our days a new resonance and depth. It is, however, a paradoxical unity, Berman warns, a unity of disunity: it pours each of us into a vortex of perpetual disintegration and renewal, of struggle and contradiction, of possible ambiguity and anguish.

This is why history becomes easier to understand and approach if the point of view adopted is the one that comes from below, from the vision dictated by individual presences and experiences, from everyday events that are in some cases tragedies. Taking care of these everyday testimonies and approaching them means welcoming personal positions and points of view, telling individual stories and observations that do not always correspond to the official version of the story. This is the task that the artists who make up the exhibition *Eyes in the Sky* undertake, an exercise in listening in which art is a continuous source of nourishment for life. Like a puzzle, their works on display form a larger

image that can put us in a position to focus on our often deceptively approximate idea of what is apparently inexplicable, elusive and distant.

In *Eyes in the Sky*, the artists' work acts on memory in order to safeguard it and help it to define itself, creating images and records. Their task is to prevent our memory from reproducing events in a distorted way, creating false memories and alienating ordeals that repress a living reality that's made up of real and authentic images and experiences. How do you save your life from the disasters that are looming over it? The artists' work sometimes raises questions concerning the unfiltered reality that their critical action puts in front of us: would it not be better to keep the past at arms' length when it is too disturbing? And if this is a theater of alarm and despair, to do the same with the present? Looking elsewhere is a powerful temptation, even with the awareness that keeping silent or repressive doesn't make the narration of truth or the spectre of its presence disappear.

The answer to these questions is given by a gaze that turns upwards. In *Eyes in the Sky* the artists keep their eyes open to the sky in order to make history without suffering it, transiting through it via its duration and adventure, the concrete matter of time and the individual and collective form of men.”

(Luigi Fassi and Alberto Salvadori).

In compliance with the measures in place to contain the spread of Covid-19, admission to the exhibition will be limited.

For further information about the show and for photos:
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