



ANGELO BELLOBONO

eastside
the journey

BFAJA
ART SPACE

BIASA ArtSpace
presents the exhibition

ANGELO BELLOBONO
eastside
the journey

Opening Exhibition on July 30th, at 6 pm
Jalan raya seminyak 34, Kuta, Bali, Indonesia

BIASA ArtSpace, will present the first solo show in Asia for the Italian artist Angelo Bellobono on Friday, July 30, 2010 at 6 pm.

Angelo has always placed humanity and the territory at the centre of his artistic research, stressing the difficult relations of belonging and identity, understood not simply in the socio-cultural sense but also in a biological sense. The mechanisms by which biochemistry translates into behaviours and emotions is the thread running through all his paintings, videos and performances, taking the emphasis away from the presumed spirituality animating human existence.

His portraits thus convey a sense of dramatic irony, lost in a blinding whiteness or in a dark sea of crude oil, at once liquid and solid, conceptually unstable and temporary, dependent on their chemical sense of biological precariousness. They reveal the constant efforts made to seek out an identity and a place in which to belong, a constant freezing and unfreezing of hidden or denied existences and of an ideal well-being. Bellobono gives form and consistency to a sampler of emotions experienced by all human beings; in his most recent works, which also probe the drive to immigrate, this investigation once again coiled painting with performance and video art.

Indonesia, located south of China and east of India is the heart of Southeast Asia, a crossroads of new economies. **Eastside - the journey** exhibition at the BIASA ArtSpace is a raw and direct analysis, at which it's necessary to create a gap in an apparently logical system passively accepted. Once again the author invites us not to give up and force us to face the ambiguity of our "being human and biologically unresolved".

The artist, who takes up different media, including painting, drawing, animation and performance, continues his journey of contemporary anthropologists in recent years, at which it has led him to carry out projects with a strong social impact. Thus antagonistic cultures reveal their glamorous and ephemeral side, or migrants reveal the effort to reposition their lives, or armies of plasticine face off each other across the icebergs obstinately and in decay to defend ephemeral borders. The journey is outlined through the works from previous projects together with new works conceived in Indonesia, which will be featured at the BIASA ArtSpace until September 15, 2010.

Venue:

Jl. Raya Seminyak No. 34
Kuta, Bali, Indonesia
July 30th, at 6 pm

Contact:

BIASA ArtSpace, Bali
tel. +62 361 8475 766
email : media@biasaart.com

INTRODUCTION FROM THE GALLERY

Angelo Bellobono is an Italian artist who lives and works in Rome and New York. Through his paintings, installations, videos and performances, he focuses on the body intended as a vehicle of identity in its physical, psychological, social and cultural meaning.

His analysis on the human being and the social pressure over relationships characterizes several of his projects, such as the recent “Lowlife Wellbeing Center”, which is a series of paintings and drawings along with a video that investigates the gap between private emotions and social behavior, ironically represented in the video by people training in a wellbeing center. This becomes a place of limits and boundaries over the body, like a fake refuge from fears. In Bellobono’s project “Chist’è o’paese d’o’ sole”, his analysis involved globalization and immigration, and the body of the ‘other’ as a symptom of the necessity of a re-humanizing socio-economical politic. His strong sense of poetry and irony have made his art appreciated since the first time it was exhibited in 1995. It is in his paintings where the artist’s concept is most expressed, where poetry and chemistry blend and are able to provoke an emotional response. Angelo Bellobono paints bodies fading in their own fragility. He liquifies and defines them in color, and hides their identity in their intense glance that deeply penetrates inside us. Their eyes tell us about captivity inside the body of social and cultural roles. Bellobono paints the struggle between being and appearing. His paintings seem to reveal our fragile essence that we hide in the shadow, far from indiscreet gazes, together with our deepest desires.

ANGELO BELLOBONO
SHORT BIOGRAPHY

From the very beginning of his career, Angelo Bellobono has always placed humanity and the territory at the centre of his artistic research, stressing the difficult relations of belonging and identity, understood not simply in the socio-cultural sense but also in a biological sense. The mechanisms by which biochemistry translates into behaviours and emotions is the thread running through all his paintings, videos and performances, taking the emphasis away from the presumed spirituality animating human existence.

His portraits thus convey a sense of dramatic irony, lost in a blinding whiteness or in a dark sea of crude oil, at once liquid and solid, conceptually unstable and temporary, dependent on their chemical sense of biological precariousness. They reveal the constant efforts made to seek out an identity and a place in which to belong, a constant freezing and unfreezing of hidden or denied existences and of an ideal well-being. Bellobono gives form and consistency to a sampler of emotions experienced by all human beings; in his most recent works, which also probe the drive to immigrate, this investigation once again combines painting with performance and video art.

His major exhibitions include: in 1995 "Meeting in America" at the Galleria Spagnolo in San Diego (CA), followed by "Aria Compressa" a Casa Pratesi in Rome; "Futuro Italiano" at the European Parliament curated by Lorenzo Canova; "Arterritory" curated by Gianluca Marziani and Dominique Lora at Rome's Centrale Museo Montemartini, "TEC" at the Scuderie Aldobrandini in Frascati curated by Alessio Verzenassi. In 2003 he held "Extrasistole e Pacemaker" curated by Raffaele Gavarro at Livorno's DagArtGallery, "Body Life Program" and "Recruitment", both curated by Lorenzo Canova, in Bari and at the Galleria Altri Lavori in Corso in Rome. In 2005, he was awarded the "Premio Celeste" for painting, participated in the "Pasolini e Roma" exhibition at the Museo di Roma and was invited by Gianluca Marziani to exhibit at "Eterno Presente Primordiale" at Bologna's Galleria Art Sinergy. In 2006 he held the exhibition "Temporary Civilization" at Sole Arte Contemporanea, curated by Francesca Franco. In 2007 he was invited to participate in the travelling exhibition "On the Edge of Vision" at the Victoria Memorial Hall in Kolkata and in the New Delhi and Mumbai Museums of Modern Art and in the "Ficci Frame Festival" held at the Renaissance Hotel in New Delhi, both curated by Lorenzo Canova.

In 2008 he was invited to participate in the "Rome Quadriennale" at Rome's Palazzo delle Esposizioni and in "Esperimenta" at the Italian Foreign Affairs Ministry; he presented the "Chist'è o'paese d'o' sole" project at Rome's Fondazione Volume, curated by Alessandro Facente, and participated in the collective exhibition "Young Blood" at New York's OperaGallery. In 2009 he has participated with an installation at the event "Gustovagando" at Rome's Macro Future and at the exhibition "I_D Intersecting identities" at the Halles de Saint Gery Museum in Bruxelles. In June 2009 was his first solo show at the Envoy Gallery in New York titled "Lower East Life" and in October has his solo show "Lowlife Wellbeing Center" at the Changing Role Gallery in Naples; in December he was invited at the Wunderkammern in the show "Titled Untitled". In 2010 he was included in the group show "Impresa Pittura" at the Center of Contemporary Art in Genazzano, Rome and "Under Italian Eyes" at the Museum of Modern Art in Cairo, Egypt.

ANGELO BELLOBONO
SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Selected Solo Exhibition

- 2009 "Low Life Wellbeing Center_Bunker House" curated by Alessandro Facente, Changing Role Gallery, Napoli
- 2009 "Lower East Life" curated by Serena Trizzino – Envoy Gallery, New York
- 2008 "Chist' è o' paese d'o' sole" curated by Alessandro Facente Fondazione Volume L'Union, Rome
- 2006 "Temporary Civilization" curated by Francesca Franco Galleria Il Sole artecontemporanea, Rome
- 2006 "Consolato italiano a Londra" Winner Premio Celeste 2005
- 2006 "Futuro Presente Primordiale" curated by Gianluca Marziani Galleria Artsinergy, Bologna
- 2005 "Osservatorio Bellobono" curated by Alessio Verzenassi Galleria il Sole artecontemporanea, Rome
- 2004 "Recruitment" curated by Lorenzo Canova - Galleria Altri lavori in corso, Rome
- 2003 "Body Life Program" curated by Lorenzo Canova – Studio d'Arte Fedele, Monopoli
- 2003 "Extrasistole e Pace Maker" curated by Raffaele Gavarro DAG Art Gallery, Livorno
- 2002 "Aria Compressa" curated by Ludovico Pratesi and Lorenzo Canova, Casa Pratesi, Rome

Selected Group Exhibition

- 2010 "Under italian eyes" Museum of Modern Art, Cairo, Egypt
- 2010 "Impresa Pittura" curated by Raffaele Gavarro and Claudio Libero Pisano, CIAC Centro Internazionale per l'Arte Contemporanea Castello Colonna Genazzano (Roma)
- 2009 "Titled/Untitled" curated by Alberto Dambruoso and Micol Di Veroli, Wunderkammern, Rome
- 2009 "I_D Intersecting Identities" curated by Dominique Lora Halles de Saint Gery, Bruxelles
- 2009 "Gustovagando" curated by Simona Cresci and Lina Calenne Macro FUTURE, Rome
- 2008 "Young Blood" Opera Gallery, New York
- 2008 XV Quadriennale di Roma – Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome
- 2008 "Experimenta" Farnesina Collection Ministero degli Esteri, Rome
- 2007 "Paesaggi Metropolitani" curated by Giorgia Calò – Museo laboratorio La Sapienza, Rome

ANGELO BELLOBONO
SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 "Ficci Frame Festival" Renaissance Hotel, New Delhi, India
- 2007 "On The Edge of Vision" curated by Lorenzo Canova - Victoria memorial hall Calcutta - Museum of Modern art Mumbai and New Delhi, India
- 2006 "Art Territory" curated by Simona Cresci and Dominique Lora Centrale Montemartini, Rome
- 2005 "Pasolini e Roma" curated by Lorenzo Canova and Enzo Siciliano - Museo di Roma in Trastevere, Rome
- 2005 "Winner Premio Celeste" Final show at Magazzini del sale, Siena
- 2005 "TEC" curated by Alessio Verzenassi and Manuela Annibali Scuderie Aldobrandini, Frascati

SELECTED ARTWORKS



imploded
2010
acrylic on canvas
150x150 cm



east rider
2008
acrylic on canvas
100x100 cm



low life
2008
acrylic on canvas
150 x 150 cm



liquidscape 01
2007
acrylic on wood
20 x 30 cm



lifehope
2008
drawing on paper
20 x 14.5 cm



lowlife meditation
2008
drawing on paper
20 x 14.5 cm