



LET THE BĀD SPEAK

curated by Exo Art Lab

8 October - 26 November 2023 • Saturday-Sunday from 2 to 7 p.m.

AMEN

site specific project of Federico Piccari

critical text in catalog of Tiziana Conti

single date Saturday 7 October • from 11 a.m to 7 p.m.

opening Saturday 7 October 2023 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Let the bād speak presents the works of seven artists from Iran and Afghanistan: **Elmira Abolhasani, Hoda Afshar, Elyas Alavi, Armin Amirian, Hangama Amiri, Latifa Zafar Attai, Naseer Turkmani.**

Acting as a common thread is the heartfelt strive to establish an intercultural dialogue, deconstructing the classic interpretative categories of the Middle Eastern scenario by drawing attention to the events and stories of the people coming from those contexts.

Bād, in dari/farsi, means 'wind'. The wind is also, metaphorically, the voice of the Afghan and Iranian people. Every year, for 120 days, it visits Afghanistan and the Iranian plateau, howling impetuously across their steppes. The wind can pick up and carry stories, making them travel across borders. Through its intangible essence, it embodies transience, and yet, it is the best teacher in showing how to survive in uncertainty and impermanence. The title of the exhibition – appealing to a fortunate assonance with the English word *bad* – aims to summarise the desire to fight against any superficial ethical polarisation between 'good' and 'bad', the eagerness to give the Iranian and Afghan people back their voice, and the choice to observe their situation beyond stereotypes, in all its complexity, also accepting its striking contradictions.

With a plurality of media, the featured artists will not fail to evoke unexpected correspondences between the Afghan-Iranian scene and the rest of the world. Working on themes such as the relationship between personal identity and eradication from the motherland, the interlacement between cultural memory and individual biographies, *Let the bād speak* paints landscapes in which everyone can mirror, recognize and re-discover themselves.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, for the first time and only on that day, Fondazione 107 opens to the public a temporary space in which it presents **Amen** a site-specific project by **Federico Piccari**. The artist exhibits an articulated project in which bronze sculptures interface with paintings, video, photography and installation. The project takes place in an atypical territory, an abandoned shed where neglect and the passage of time have left their mark. In this place we do not find the parameters of the typical museum or art gallery, and the works are integrated with the abandoned objects, originating an endless chain of meanings.

The crucial categories of existence became temporariness, vertigo and the difficulty of accepting anything and anyone different from ourselves.

These troubled and troubling signs have been detected perspicaciously in thirty years of research by Federico Piccari, who penetrates into the crevices of reality to grasp its fissures, its ambivalences and its losses of meaning. Nothing is as it seems. Diversified in the areas of sculpture, painting, photography, video and site-specific installations, his works always lead back to the impenetrable reality that lies concealed behind appearances, the ontic fragility that is so typical a characteristic of today's human dimension, defining its ambiguity. It also emphasizes the need to recover «humanity» as a foundational element.

FONDAZIONE 107

via Sansovino 234, Torino. Italy

Full rate 8 euro – reduced rate 5 euro (students 13-18)

Guided tours on Saturdays and Sundays

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