CARMELO BLANDINO

"the earth laughs in flowers"



You are invited to the venissage on the 9th of December between 17:30 and 20:00 The artist will be in attendance. Cocktail

Exhibition ongoing from December 9th to January 9th

COUTUREGALLERI

Carmelo at his studio in Naples, Florida, 2010.

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THE TITLE OF THIS EXHIBITION was inspired by an obscure line in a Ralph Waldo Emerson poem entitled "Hamatreya", quoted famously by E.E. Cummings, and is a loose translation of a passage in the Vishnu Purana which Emerson copied into his 1845 Journal: "Earth laughs, as if smiling with autumnal flowers". Just as both these poets' work was influenced by Transcendentalist leanings, focusing on love and love of nature, and how the individual copes with the masses, and the world around him; Carmelo Blandino too gestures towards a metaphysical consciousness and its connection to the severe beauty of nature by depicting natural forms and biological structures of flora and fauna whose fossils date back 120 million years, and were instrumental in the cultivation of human consciousness.

SINCE 2005, BLANDINO HAS EXPERIMENTED extensively with the free flowing visual energy inherent to the pleasing form of the flower. Sharper, shapelier, and more fragrant than any of his past efforts, Blandino's new work extends closer towards aesthetic bliss, an infusion of classical refinement, technique and subject, imbued with a distinctly contemporary flavour and scope. The broad feathered gestures of Blandino's paintings are worked, re-worked, confidently applied –in a style that can only be described as Urban baroque–with materials gathered during walks, stencils, spray paint, and oils. Blandino's elaborate images evolve out of wide-ranging meditations on the interrelations between nature, beauty, and the origins of humanity. This new exhibition displays the range and variety of the artist's palette; vibrant colours, charged movement, and the recognition of beauty as the most significant marker in the evolution of human consciousness. Carmelo Blandino's flowers are up with joy, laughter, and drunkenness of spirit, cheerfully reflecting the ragged meadow of the soul.



Il Vuolo oil and aerosol on canvas, 61 x 183 cm, 2010



Magnificenza oil and aerosol on canvas, 84 x 155 cm, 2010



Cuore Del' Anima oil and aerosol on canvas, 102 x 102 cm, 2010



Tre Farfalle e un Uccello oil and aerosol on canvas, 122 x 122 cm, 2010



Principio oil and aerosol on canvas, 122 x 122 cm, 2010



Rinascita oil and aerosol on canvas, 122 x 122 cm, 2010



Euforia oil and aerosol on canvas, 122 x 122 cm, 2010



Creazione oil and aerosol on canvas, 61 x 183 cm, 2010

CARMELO BLANDINO

CARMELO BLANDINO was born to Sicilian parents in Tübingen, Germany, and grew up in the culturally charged city of Montreal, Canada. He studied art and design at the local colleges and began a successful career as a freelance illustrator, working with architects, designers, and advertising agencies. In 2002 Blandino shifted his focus and indulged in the world of fine art. Today, his paintings are widely known for their immediacy and lascivious expressions of colour, movement, and shape. His work has been exhibited in New York, Palm Beach, Naples, Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto and his beloved Montreal. He has conducted summer workshops at Von Liebig Art Center of Naples, Florida, and taught drawing for many years at Dawson College in Montreal before transplanting himself to Naples, Florida where he lives today.



Detail of the painting Rinascita

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2010

The Earth Laughs in Flowers I / solo exhibition / Galerie De Bellefeuille / Montreal Toronto International Art Fair 29th Founders Show / Von Leibeig art center / Naples Florida

2009

Have a Seat II/ Naples Museum of Art / Naples Florida Art 2009 / Group exhibition / Galerie De Bellefeuille / Montreal Breathe / Group exhibition / Judith Liegeois showroom / Naples Florida Nature 2009 / Group exhibition / Galerie De Bellefeuille / Montreal

2008

Naples Museum Studio Tour / Naples Florida Memoria / Solo exhibition / Galerie De Bellefeuille / Montreal Palm Beach Art Fair / Palm Beach Florida

2007

Sanctus / Solo exhibition / Bau-Xi Gallery / Vancouver Chicago Art Fair Toronto Art Fair Palm Beach Art Fair

2006

Vivo / Solo Exhibition / Bau-Xi Gallery / Toronto Solo exhibition / Bau-Xi Gallery / Vancouver Solo exhibition / Galerie De Bellefeuile / Montreal Toronto Art Fair Palm Beach Art Fair / Galerie De Bellefeuille

2005

Figura / Solo exhibition / Galerie De Bellefeuille / Montreal Landscapes and Florals / Solo exhibition / Galerie de Bellefeuille / Montreal Art Chicago - Art Fair Toronto International Art Fair

2004

Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto The Painted Gift / Hubert Gallery / New York Circa 700 / Solo exhibition / Bau-Xi Gallery / Toronto

2003

Pausa / Bau-Xi Gallery / Toronto Galerie de Belefeuille / Montreal

2002

Musée des Beaux-Arts de Montreal Galerie Simon Blais / Montreal Bau-Xi Gallery / Toronto I talk to a lot of talented, passionate people, but Blandino's passion for what he does is like no other. It's electric.

Alicia Aggarabeitia / Things That People Do



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