

PAULA SEEGY

GALLERY

via San Maurizio, 14 – Milan

DOMENICA REGAZZONI MONOGRAPH PRESENTATION BY ALLEMANDI

Curated by Luca Beatrice

Tuesday, September 24th, 6 PM

With the curator and the artist in attendance

EXHIBITION

Opening on Tuesday, September 24th, 6 PM

September 24th – October 15th, 2024

Press Release, 10.09.2024

The **Paula Seegy Gallery** reopens its exhibition season on **Tuesday, September 24th at 6 PM** with a double event: the **presentation of Domenica Regazzoni's monograph**, curated by **Luca Beatrice** and published by **Allemandi**, and the **inauguration of an exhibition** dedicated to the artist, which will be open to the public **until October 15th**.

Inside the **monograph**, Luca Beatrice's **critical essay** provides an in-depth look at the key stages of Domenica Regazzoni's artistic career, from the 1970s, when she attended the Brera Academy, up to the present day. It's a journey filled with evolutions, transformations, and experimentation, highlighting how art has been central to her life. From figurative and landscape painting, her work shifted in the 1990s towards a more abstract vision. Her techniques also evolved; temporarily moving away from pastels and watercolors, she developed a greater interest in collage, assemblage, and mixed media. The curator writes: *"Simplicity and expressive minimalism have become Domenica's new signature style — not minimalism in materials, but a true return to the essence and purity of the work, where one can fully immerse themselves. By moving beyond the perception of the figure, the multi-material nature of the painting's content expands the mind's capacity to venture into the dreamlike realms of the subconscious."*

A significant focus is placed on an important element that has always characterized Domenica Regazzoni's art: music, which has driven her to explore sculpture and create mixed media works with a strong tactile quality. Music has been a constant presence in her life since childhood, growing up in a family where her father was a luthier, her brother a composer, and now her son a violinist. She has also formed close connections with prominent figures in the music world, including Lucio Dalla and Mogol.

The monograph includes **a rich section of images** of her works, accompanied by an **interview** with the artist by Luca Beatrice. This interview offers a more intimate and

detailed exploration of several themes, such as self-portraiture, figurative research, music, sculpture, and series like *I colori del buio* (*The Colors of Darkness*) and *Haiku*.

The **exhibition** at the **Paula Seegy Gallery**, featuring a selection of **25 works**—including drawings, pastels, watercolors, mixed media, engravings, and sculptures—highlights Domenica Regazzoni's versatility and her preference for expressing herself through a wide range of media and techniques.

Particularly noteworthy is the *Haiku* series, mixed media works on paper created from the 1990s to the present. Inspired by the Japanese poetic form of the same name, these pieces explore natural worlds and introspective meditations that arise from them. The colors, often soft and blended, contrast with bold, vibrant tones that cover the entire spectrum, from cool shades to warm hues. These compositions, with their minimalist and essential appearance, invite intimate reflections linked to both personal experiences and everyday life.

The exhibition also dedicates ample space to tempera paintings on canvas and watercolors depicting the "Liguria landscapes of the Sestri Levante marina", where the narrative captures the beauty of the places, the simplicity of the fishermen's lives, and their daily gestures. These works, such as *Tornando dal porto* (*Returning from the Port*) (1988), *Ultime luci* (*Last Lights*) (1992), and *Pescatore alla rete Sestri* (*Fisherman with Net, Sestri*) (1990), have a strong evocative power, with lines, drawings, and splashes of color that evoke sensations and perceptions engaging all the senses.

The collection also includes wooden and aluminum sculptures, whose subjects are closely linked to the world of music. Among them is *Fiore di violino* (*Violin Flower*) (2019), an aluminum piece that serves as the model for a permanent installation in Barzio (Lecco), and is highly representative of Regazzoni's distinctive sculptural style, where instruments like violas, violins, and double basses are dismantled and reassembled. Her experimentation leads to original solutions, both in terms of form and material use, as seen in this piece where the highly reflective surface creates a strong visual impact—an effect further amplified in her monumental works permanently displayed in open spaces and urban areas.

Biographical Notes

Domenica Regazzoni was born in Valsassina (Lecco) in 1953 and began painting in the early 1970s while attending the Brera Academy in Milan.

In the 1990s, she transitioned from figurative painting to a more abstract and informal approach. In 1992, she illustrated *Canto Segreto* (*Secret Song*), a collection of poems by Antonia Pozzi, for Vanni Scheiwiller's series *All'insegna del Pesce d'Oro* (*Under the Sign of the Golden Fish*). Inspired by the most poetic songs of Mogol and Lucio Dalla, she held her first exhibitions: *Colore Incanto* (*Color Enchantment*) in 1996 and Regazzoni & Dalla in 1998.

Between 1997 and 2001, she held solo exhibitions in Tokyo and in numerous Italian cities, including Milan at the Fondazione Stelline, Rome at the Complesso del Vittoriano, Bergamo at the Centro Culturale San Bartolomeo, and Bologna in the former church of San Mattia.

In 2000, she published a monograph inspired by Haiku poetry, edited by Viennepierre. Following the passing of her father, she created the exhibition *Dal Legno al Suono* (From Wood to Sound), curated by Gillo Dorfles, with a catalog by Skira. This exhibition was displayed at Palazzo Vecchio in Florence (2003), Teatro Dal Verme in Milan (2004), Villa Manzoni in Lecco (2005), and the Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome (2006).

In 2008, she presented the exhibition *Scolpire la musica* (Sculpting Music), curated by Martina Corgnati, with a catalog by Skira, at Bocconi University in Milan, the International Museum and Library of Music in Bologna, and the Galerie Miyawaki in Kyoto.

Starting in 2007, she began working in the field of engraving at the Giorgio Upiglio print shop.

Between 2010 and 2011, she held the exhibition *Ultime luci: Sestri 1980–1990* (Last Lights: Sestri 1980–1990), curated by Stefano Crespi, at the Municipal Palace of Sestri Levante.

In 2011, she participated in the 54th edition of the Venice Biennale, and the following year she exhibited a series of works inspired by Milan, featuring photographs by Gabriele Basilico, as part of the project "La fabbrica e la città" (The Factory and the City). In the same year, she collaborated with government cultural institutions in Shanghai, presenting solo exhibitions at the Italian Shanghai Center and the Faculty of Architecture at Tongji University. In 2014 and 2017, she participated in the second and third Rome Triennale.

In 2015, as part of Milano Expo in Città, she exhibited *Convergenze Parallele* (Parallel Convergences), curated by Ivan Quaroni, with a catalog by Allemandi, at Palazzo della Permanente in Milan.

In 2020, she exhibited *Domenica Regazzoni & Lucio Dalla a 4 mani* (Domenica Regazzoni & Lucio Dalla Four Hands), curated by Silvia Evangelisti at Palazzo d'Accursio in Bologna, at the invitation of the Municipality of Bologna and the Dalla Foundation. A large selection of these works was showcased again at Rome Arte in Nuvola in 2021.

Since 2009, her large bronze sculpture, *Violino spaccato* (Broken Violin), has been on permanent display in the square of the University of Bucharest. Since 2019, her monumental sculpture, *Fiore di violino* (Violin Flower), presented by Angelo Crespi, has been placed in Barzio (Lecco), in front of the headquarters of the Mountain Community Authority. Other public works are permanently displayed in Segrate (Milan) in Piazza San Francesco and in Vieste (Foggia) in the Court of the Élite located within the Town Hall.

www.regazzoni.net

DETAILS

MONOGRAPH PRESENTATION

Title: Domenica Regazzoni

Curator: Luca Beatrice

Publisher: Allemandi

Date and Time: Tuesday, September 24, 6:00 PM – with curator and artist in attendance.

Monograph Information

Title: Domenica Regazzoni

Publisher: Allemandi

Curator: Luca Beatrice
Dimensions: 30 x 30 cm
Binding: Paperback
Pages: 136
Illustrations: 95
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EXHIBITION

Title: Domenica Regazzoni
Opening: Tuesday, September 24, 6:00 PM
Dates: September 24 – October 15, 2024
Venue: Paula Seegy Gallery, Via San Maurilio 14, Milan
Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 12:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Admission: Free
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