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MOSTRA

Freya Moffat *Denizen*

A cura di **Marco Meneguzzo**

Opening lunedì 13 settembre dalle 18:30

14.09.21 - 12.11.21
Orari dal lunedì al venerdì
10:00 - 13:00 / 15:00 - 17:00

FONDAZIONE ADOLFO PINI

Corso Garibaldi, 2
20121 Milano
T 02.87.45.02

eventi@fondazionepini.it
www.fondazionepini.net

In collaborazione con:



Photographs on pages 7 to 8 taken by Francesca Rossi. All other photographs courtesy of the artist.

Why are these “denizens” barefoot? From the unshod figure of the Flagellation by Piero della Francesca to the cover photo of the album “Abbey Road” where George Harrison strides shoeless, to the zombies of “Night of the Living Dead” by George A. Romero, being barefoot has always been rather disturbing. Although half of the world goes about without or with almost no footwear, in the West donning a pair of shoes is at least a sign that one “exists.” So, do the characters of Freya Moffatt not exist? It is true that tossed in a corner, often slumping under their papier-maché weight, they are not dolls, nor are they statues, and (given their size) they are not even marionettes. They might be “presences,” were it not for the fact that this term suggests a paranormal and filmic aspect of the setting. They are at least inconvenient bedfellows. Inconvenient because we don’t know who they are, because Freya’s photographs show them to us at home, in a house that might be ours, and has nothing special about it, nothing that identifies them as something or someone interesting, nothing to make us feel privileged, though we feel horrified. We turn around and there they are, where they never were before, or where they’ve always been. Above all – who knows why – where might they have been, before us...

Maybe they are three-dimensional mirrors, which would be a cause for real distress, because if they are us – one of the most well-worn metaphors of science fiction – we haven’t much hope. The “crows” are surely not reassuring messages, and Freya leaves us no escape: she sees them, and as is typical to the role of a Cassandra – which is that of the artist, and of anyone who “sees” where others do not, or do not want to see – is forced to show them to us. And that’s the trick: once we’ve seen them, we cannot pretend they are not there.

Marco Meneguzzo

Denizen: “An inhabitant, indweller, occupant of a place or region. Used of persons, animals, and plants.”

This work represents a community. It offers an alternative version of our world, at once familiar and uncanny or unsettling. Its inhabitants—or denizens—wear crumpled office shirts, or pencil skirts, like city commuters.

The exhibition invites us to look again at our communities and the spaces we inhabit, reflecting upon social anxiety and claustrophobia, but also inviting a sense of irreverent playfulness and abandon.

The work is made from recycled materials: delivery boxes, the cardboard from a box of crackers, free newspapers, used clothes (from charity shops and some of my own). The figures themselves are composed of the discarded ‘stuff’ that fills our time and bodies and constitutes how we live.

At the current moment, we feel particularly vulnerable. It’s a strange time to have an exhibition: it feels counterintuitive to expose anything. I wanted my work to communicate that tension. The innards of the sculptures are hidden by the paper surface of the figures which is drawn tight: the glue has dried and stretched the paper taught.

Freya Moffat































All works are framed and mounted. Works by page, left to right, top to bottom. For enquiries, please email Freya Moffat on freya.moffat@gmail.com. POA for sculptures.

Pg. 9

Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2020, 59 x 84cm, £500.

Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 29.7 x 42cm, £200.

Pg. 10

Untitled (top), Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 59 x 84cm, £500.

Untitled (bottom), Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 59 x 84cm, £500.

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Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 59 x 84cm, £500.

Pg. 13

Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 59 x 84cm, £500.

Pg. 14

Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 59 x 84cm, £500.

Pg. 15

Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 59 x 84cm, £500.

Pg. 16

Untitled (top left) , Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 42 x 59cm, £400.

Untitled (top right) , Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 42 x 59cm, £400.

Untitled (bottom left), Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 42 x 59cm, £400.

Untitled (bottom right), Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 42 x 59cm, £400.

Pg. 17

Untitled (top left) , Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 30 x 42cm, £200.

Untitled (top left) , Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 30 x 42cm, £200.

Untitled (right) , Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 30 x 42cm, £200.

Pg. 18

Untitled, Giclee Print, 1/3, 2021, 1/3, 2021, 42 x 59cm, £400.