

Galerie Rompone

Maurizio Pibia @Salone Rompone

28. Januar - 15. April 2023

***When you look at your oeuvre do you have subjects and themes that are constantly to be found in your work?**

Yes, I believe there is a recurring theme in my work: **the environment that surrounds me and especially the objects that form it.**

The **beauty of those objects of daily life** become little different stories of their own. I think in my work they are a reflection of my way of seeing things.

At the moment I'm focused on painting still lives.

The chair is the main subject of this series.

***How did your interest rise in dedicating to chairs and furniture as the protagonists on your paintings?**

On one day I was sitting in my studio and looking around me.

My attention stopped on an empty chair located in the corner of the room.

In the first moment I didn't know why I was so interested in it, but I started to think about **the meaning of the chair**, the way of using a chair, and **the power of an empty chair**. It brought up more questions in me and I started to do some research of its meaning. **The empty chair is often used as a symbol for self reflection.**

For me the most interesting symbolisation is how strongly it expresses the power of absence.

***Is there a special reason why you chose these dark red, brown and rusty colours for this new series of works?**

As a painter I think that one of the most important things is **to find a balance between composition and the colour palette** that we use **to express ideas.**

The way to define our gaze into the world. **These warm tones create a romantic environment.** In combination with the subject of a still life **I want to create a moment that should last forever. A moment that embraces you in warm colours** and in which time stands still. Like in 'Late Night Drinks'.

***How do your Italian roots interfere into the way you paint or what you paint ?**

It is a difficult question to answer. I spent my life travelling between the Netherlands and Italy. For most of my youth I lived in Sardegna, where I stayed until I was 25.

The effect of growing up with two different cultures is that you become two different cultures. I think that the beauty of the **italian nature** and the calm of it has a **big influence on my way of painting**. But even more the pure way of living in Italy gave me a calm that formed who I am and how I express myself in my work.

***How did it come that you became a painter ?**

At the age of 25 I came back to the Netherlands to join my family business and I still am part of it. My family has a restaurant and we, as kids, naturally became part of it.

The love for painting began on a summer holiday that I spent with friends in **Finland**. One evening they started to draw a still life, a vase with a plant from the forest that surrounds the house. They asked me to join them and actually I was a bit doubtful about it because I never drew in my life before. When I started, a very unexpected feeling came up in me, as if I got the chills from excitement. From that moment I continued to draw and started painting as well. Some years ago I found my atelier in Maastricht and from that moment it became a very serious aspect of my life.

Maurizio Pibia

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Ausstellungen/ exhibition:

*Salone Rompone, 2023, group show

*Galerie Artichoque Art, 2022

*Gelée royale, 2021, group show, Galerie Rompone, Cologne