



## LORENZO PUGLISI

Born Biella, Italy, in 1971. He works and lives in Bologna, Italy.



*“For me even the light, in the darkness, represents something that begins to appear shyly from the nothingness that is my condition.”*

*Lorenzo Puglisi*

Lorenzo Puglisi's paintings are the result of a pictorial research based on a strong interest in human nature and therefore in the mystery of existence urged by the obsessive attempt to portray it. Since 2015 his large canvases present references to art history and are related to masterpieces of the past filtered by his personal iconographic repertoire.

His tactile paintings are characterised by the widespread use of black colour on the canvas which creates an absolute dark background, and from this darkness emerge volumes, faces and hands with vague outlines and features, consisting of vigorous brushstrokes sketching out the lineaments. These images are only recognisable (apart from the titles of the works referring to the original models) by their identical positions on the canvas and they bring to mind the great tradition of light and shadows as expounded by Leonardo, Caravaggio, Rembrandt and Goya: deconstructed details of their pictures appears to materialise through a dazzling white light that pierces the black background, as if they were relics, traces, memories or remains.

Among the most significant artworks, Puglisi has recently exhibited *“Il Grande sacrificio”* in April 2019 at the Bramante's sacristy at Santa Maria delle Grazie Church in Milan, a few meters from Leonardo's Last Supper, and a painting called *“La Misericordia”* displayed along with *“The seven works of mercy”* by Caravaggio during the exhibition *“The truth in the dark”* in 2017. Among the recent exhibitions, *Pitture nel Buio*, double exhibition by Lorenzo Puglisi and Riccardo Paternò Castello at Palazzo Borromeo in Milan; *Lorenzo Puglisi – Popolo e Memoria* at Copernico Torino Garibaldi in Turin; *Shades from the Shadow* at The Crypt gallery in King's Cross, London in collaboration with Cris Contini Contemporary gallery, London.

In June 2019 Puglisi's monography, curated by Hatje Cantz (Berlin), was published in Italian, English and German, with a special essay by Mark Gisbourne.



## ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

#### 2019

*Pitture nel Buio*, double exhibition by Lorenzo Puglisi and Riccardo Paternò Castello, Palazzo Borromeo, Milan, Italy

*Lorenzo Puglisi – Popolo e Memoria*, Copernico Torino Garibaldi, Turin, Italy

*Shades from the Shadow*, The Crypt gallery in King's Cross, London in collaboration with Cris Contini Contemporary gallery, London, UK

*Pitture di Luce e Tenebra (Paintings of Light and Darkness)*, Biffi Arte Gallery, Piacenza, Italy

*Lorenzo Puglisi: Il Grande Sacrificio*, Bramante's Sacristy, Church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, Milan

*Il Grande Sacrificio*, Studio Guastalla Modern and Contemporary Art, Milan

#### 2018

*Lorenzo Puglisi per Mario Sironi: una sostituzione*, curated by Mari Fratelli, Casa Boschi Di Stefano Museum, Milan

*Una discesa verso l'alto*, Ipogeo Bacile, curated by Toti Carpentieri, Spongano / Lecce

*In a Silent Way*, Studio Guastalla Modern and Contemporary Art, Milan

*La Misericordia*, with poetry by Davide Rondoni, Chiesa di Santa Caterina, Bologna

*Scintille di un fuoco nero*, curated by di Martina Cavallarin, Labs Gallery, Bologna, Italy

#### 2017

*Un'oscurità sconosciuta*, Fabula Fine Art, Ferrara, curated by A. Restieri, Italy

#### 2016

*Lorenzo Puglisi: L'ignoto che appare*, Il Milione Gallery, curated by Roberto Borghi, Milan

*Lorenzo Puglisi: New Paintings*, Galerie Sobering, curated by Mark Gisbourne, Paris

*Ecce homo*, (da Antonello da Messina), Galleria Nuovospazio, curated by R. Borghi, Piacenza, Italy

#### 2015

*Lorenzo Puglisi*, SetUp Art Fair Special Project, Bologna

#### 2014

*Lorenzo Puglisi*, essay by Bruno Corà, Museo del Territorio, Biella

*Lorenzo Puglisi*, presented at Villa Reale, Monza, text by V. Casacchia, A. Crespi, Italy

*Lorenzo Puglisi*, Villa Cusani Tittoni, Desio (MB), text by B. Corà, V. Casacchia, A. Crespi, Italy

CRIS CONTINI CONTEMPORARY

15-16 Brook's Mews, W1K 4DS London

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## **2013**

*Dimenticare il tempo*, curated by Valerio Dehò, Il Milione Gallery, Milan

*Nero di fondo*, introduction by Alberto Zanchetta, Palazzo Monferrato, Alessandria

## **2011**

*Presenze*, Grossetti Contemporary Art, Milan

## **2009**

*Pitture*, curated by Emanuele Beluffi, Obraz Gallery, Milan

## **2008**

*Lorenzo Puglisi*, essay by Valerio Dehò, Piccola Galleria, Asolo

*Portraits*, Palazzo Berva, Cassano d'Adda, Milan

## **2007**

Scenography for the Drama "La spia di Giorgio Celli", Teatro del Navile, Bologna, Italy

## **2006**

*Dipinti*, Lanificio Pria, curated by U. Zampini, Biella, Italy

## **2005**

*07-06-05*, Palazzo della Provincia, Biella

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

### **2019**

*Looking for Monna Lisa. Misteri e ironie attorno alla piu' celebre icona Pop*, various venues, Pavia, Italy

ArtVerona, stand Cris Contini Contemporary, Verona, Italy

*Preparing for Darkness, Vol. 4: True Romance*, Kulhaus Berlin, Berlin

### **2018**

*Lorenzo Puglisi: Visioni di luce e tenebra* (with Omar Galliani), curated by Maria Fratelli and Raffaella Resch, Church of San Sisto Museum, Milan

*Scintille di un fuoco nero*, curated by Martina Cavallarin, Labs Gallery, Bologna

Art Paris, Galerie Sobering, Paris, France

*Esprit Decadentisme e Maestri del '900*, Galleria Fondantico, Bologna, Italy

### **2017**

*Passion*, Galerie im Park / The Historical Museum, curated by Uwe Goldenstein, Brema

*Hallucination*, Martin Mertens Gallery, curated by U. Goldenstein, Berlin, Germany

*Nero su Nero: Da Fontana e Kounellis*, Villa Bardini, curated by Vera Agosti, Florence

*La pelle dei pittori e il sangue dei poeti*, Museo delle culture (MUDEC), Milan

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St-Art, Strasbourg art fair, Galerie Sobering, Strasbourg, France

## 2016

*Lorenzo Puglisi | Caravaggio, la verità nel buio* (with Omar Galliani), curated by Raffaella Resch and Maria Savarese, Coronation Chapel, Riso Museum, Palermo / Pio Monte della Misericordia Church, Naples

Salone della pittura bolognese dal 1940 ai giorni nostri, Galleria Fondantico, Bologna, Italy

## 2015

*Je me souvien: Mounir Fatmi, Jonathan Monk, Pierre Petit, Lorenzo Puglisi, Lawrence Weiner*, Centre d'Art Contemporain La Traverse, Paris

*Acqua è*, Expo Milan 2015, curated by Willy Montini, Venice

YIA 2015, Galerie Sobering, Carreau du Temple, Paris, France

*Je me souviens du génocide arménien*, Galerie Sobering, Paris, France

## 2014

*Posterity is a Form of the Spectator*, Galerie Sobering, Paris

## 2013

Selected for the Artist Pension Trust, London

## 2012

*Lorenzo Puglisi: Zilli, l'Art de vivre* (with Carlo Bernardini), Palazzo Bagatti Valsecchi, Milan  
*Oltre l'attimo*, Grossetti Contemporary Art, Milan

Art First Bologna, Galleria Grossetti Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy

## 2011

*1000+1000+1000*, Palazzo Fava, Bologna

*A Collection 1958/2011*, Galleria Grossetti Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy

*ArtVerona*, Galleria Grossetti Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy

## 2009

*L'antico incontra il moderno*, Galleria Fondantico, Bologna, Italy

KunStart 2009, Studio Maffei, Bolzano, Italy

## 2007

Scenography for *La spia*, a drama by Giorgio Celli, Navile Theater, Bologna

## 2005

*L'arte e il silenzio*, Oropa's Sanctuary, Biella

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## **Selected Monographs and Catalogues**

*Lorenzo puglisi*, essay by Mark Gisbourne, Hatje Cantz, Berlin (2019)

*La Luce oltre il Nero*, essay by Toti Carpentieri, Manfredi Edizioni, Bologna (2019)

*Il Grande Sacrificio*, Manfredi Edizioni, Bologna (2019)

exh. cat. *Il Grande Sacrificio*, Sacrestia del Bramante, Santa Maria delle Grazie, Milano

*Lorenzo Puglisi 15–18*, Prearo Editore, Milan (2018)

*Lorenzo Puglisi | Caravaggio, la verità nel buio*, essay by Mark Gisbourne, exh. cat. Coronation Chapel, Riso Museum, Palermo / Pio Monte della Misericordia Church, Naples (2016-2017)

*Lorenzo Puglisi: New Paintings*, essay by Mark Gisbourne, exh. cat. Sobering Gallery, Paris (2016)

*Lorenzo Puglisi*, essay by Bruno Corà, exh. cat. Museo del Territorio, Biella (2014)

*Dimenticare il tempo*, Bollettino of Il Milione Gallery, Milan (2013)