RENAISSANCE
AliPaloma, Monia Ben Hamouda, Costanza Candeloro, Filippo Contatore, Isabella Costabile, Binta Diaw, Giorgia Garzilli, Sophie Lazari, Lorenza Longhi, Magdalena Mitterhofer, Jim C. Nedd, Luca Piscopo, Raphael Pohl, Davide Stucchi, Tobias Tavella

23.03.2024 – 01.09.2024
Press preview: 21.03.2024, 12.15 pm
Opening and VG Award Ceremony: 22.03.2024, 7 pm
3rd and 4th floor

Curated by Leonie Radine
Exhibition design by (ab)Normal

Bolzano, February 22, 2024. Museion, Bolzano’s Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, is pleased to announce its highly anticipated exhibition devoted to the celebration of young contemporary artists from South Tyrol and Milan. RENAISSANCE highlights transdisciplinary artistic positions who share a commitment to a regenerative and critical examination of their cultural heritage.

On the occasion of one of the highest grants for young art in Europe, awarded by the Vordemberge-Gildewart Foundation, Museion presents an exhibition featuring selected works by 15 young artists from northern Italy. Despite the diversity of their practices – including sculpture, installation, painting, drawing, video, photography, and performance – all artists share a regenerative approach towards remnants from the past. How does a young generation of artists process their weighty cultural heritage, shaped by aesthetic and social “standards”, values, role models, icons, or expectations of the artist figure? How do they build upon ruins of the past which still cast long shadows?

All 15 artists in the exhibition use found methods, images, or materials to lay bare the foundations of hegemonic patterns of representation in order to build something new on top of them. While some set out to trace traditional rituals and spiritual practices, along with the experiences of migration or the family histories that accompany them, others undertake a critical analysis and re-evaluation of formative pop-cultural images, urban fictions, or stereotypical gender roles in literature, film, design, architecture, and advertising. Several of the artists devote themselves to recycling waste products from the creative industries, in which they sometimes work at the interface between fine and applied arts. In various transdisciplinary ways, all
the artists address questions of belonging based on an understanding of cultural identity as something fluid and not set in stone. In this sense, familiar regenerative concepts of “Renaissance” or “Arte Povera” are translated into the Now and take on a new meaning.

The Milan-based design collective (ab)Normal created the exhibition’s scenography which, through the interplay of backgrounds, lights, and shadows, enables a fluid walkthrough between the various positions.

RENAISSANCE takes place in conjunction with a grant of 60,000 Swiss francs, which the Swiss-based Vordemberge-Gildewart Foundation annually awards in collaboration with an European art institution – in 2024 this is Museion – to an artist from the respective region up to the age of 35. The exhibition forms the base from which the grantee will be selected by an independent international jury. There are no conditions attached to the use of the grant money given to the recipient of the VG Award.

On the occasion of the exhibition the first Museion Private Founders Award will be assigned, as well an Audience Award. Both these prizes are linked to acquisitions for the Museion collection.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with texts about all participating artists, edited by Leonie Radine.

Collateral events:

- 22.03.2024, 5 pm until midnight: OCCUPY Museion – THE YOGA OF STEALTH, curated by Haunter Records and Museion Art Club
  Talk about Macao Milano, followed by Boli Group live performance, Cecilia live performance, and Lutto Lento DJ set
- 13.04.2024: Leonie Radine about RENAISSANCE, Speaker’s Series at miart – Milan’s international modern and contemporary art fair
- 16.04.2024, 3–5 pm: Erzähltreff / Incontri di Storie – Die Geister der Vergangenheit / I fantasmi del passato (GER/IT)
- 08.06.2024, 2–5 pm: Im Kontext / Nel contesto with Filippo Contatore in the forgery of Franz Messner (GER/IT)
- 27.06.2024, 7 pm: Curator’s tour with Leonie Radine (ENG)
- 22.07–26.07. & 29.07.–02.08.2024, 9 am–1 pm: Museion Art Club Young – SummerLab for youngs between 11 and 14 yo with Isabella Costabile and Sophie Lazari, artists from RENAISSANCE (GER/IT)
- 25.07.2024, 6 pm + 7 pm: Performances by Magdalena Mitterhofer and by Sophie Lazari in the exhibition in collaboration with BolzanoDanza/TanzBozen
Main Partner & VG Award:

Vordemberge-Gildewart Foundation

In collaboration with:

TANZBOZEN
BOLZANO/ODANZA

Biennale
Gherdëina 9

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