

04 June - 04 July

Ermanno Brosio, Nuvola Camera, Martina Cassatella, Letizia Lucchetti, Eleonora Mariani SINE, SOLE, SILEO

The space does not impose itself, but invites. This is the starting point of the exhibition: a hidden place, almost invisible, lying beneath the square. To discover it, one must go down, descending the stairs that lead from Piazza XXV Aprile to the underground space.

“Art will go underground,” declared Marcel Duchamp during a well-known lecture in Philadelphia in 1961, suggesting that art should operate underground, free and unbound by the constraints of the market and prevailing trends. The act of descending typically evokes entering darkness, but here, paradoxically, descending opens us to light. Inverting Plato’s myth, the Sun is not outside but within the cave—protected and preserved. Reality, whatever it may be, is held inside.

If, as Luciano Fabro once claimed, “All new ideas are born from dialogue,” then this exhibition is a choral dialogue centered around light, the sun, and play. Like children in front of Martina Cassatella’s works, we try to glimpse the sun through our fingers, enjoying the way our fingertips glow red-hot. A gentle summer light—shy and a little capricious—animates Eleonora Mariani’s still lifes, where the still life becomes landscape, portrait, abstracted form, and comes to life. A similar fate befalls the toys and anthropomorphic trinkets painted in pastel tones by Letizia Lucchetti, whose works seem to evoke the overwhelming sentimentality that J.P. Sartre described in relation to inanimate objects.

Ermanno Brosio salvages fabrics and old parasols abandoned on beaches, reassembling them into new forms and attributing a renewed meaning to the sun’s fading touch.

Nuvola Camera invites us to see the everyday differently: her paintings, stripped to their essentials, open up seemingly familiar images to multiple interpretations. Sine Sole Sileo—literally “Without the sun, I am silent”—becomes the iconic phrase of the exhibition. Like a grand sundial, the ray of sunlight becomes a dual activator: both a driving force for the artists and a shared revealer of meaning.