

HIDE BEHIND. Matteo Giuntini

Curated by Caterina Frulloni

Augmented reality show

May 27th - July 31st 2021

<https://www.vera-artconsulting.com/en/>

After the success of the sold out exhibition "Cromoblock" dedicated to Riccardo Ten Colombo, Vera Canevazzi Art Consulting inaugurates "HIDEBEHIND", the second curatorial experience in augmented reality, focused on the artist Matteo Giuntini and curated by Caterina Frulloni.

Just click on the link <https://www.vera-artconsulting.com/en/> in the A. R. Gallery section until July 31st, to see the artworks by the Livorno based artist, ready to be set on the wall of your home. A unique opportunity to plunge in the figurative universe of Matteo Giuntini: a fairy world, but at the same time grotesque, in which man, animals and nature overlap in a constant metamorphosis.

The project includes ten paintings specifically realized for the AR exhibition and takes inspiration from the legendary monster located in the forests of North America, to deal with the theme of the hidden: from the artist's pictorial practice, to what is concealed in our imagination.

Hidebehind is literally 'what hides behind' which by its very nature always eludes us. It is such a frightening concept that among the popular folklore of the Minnesota and Wisconsin inhabitants, embodies a huge dark monster with feral claws: a creature with the uncommon habit of hiding behind its victims' back, where they are unable to see it.

From this legend gets its inspiration Matteo Giuntini, born in 1977, for whom the pictorial transformation by stratification becomes a narrative engine, outlining a history of the 'hidden' to be traced, through animal and vegetable labyrinths, where the metamorphoses between beings rise extraordinary bestiaries, accompanied at times by primitive graffiti.

In his works Giuntini makes visible what is normally invisible to others. It is not just a visual question, but a matter of thought. "HIDEBEHIND" shows what lies behind the work, the creative process. An "archeology of the hidden", strongly desired, calibrated and controlled by the artist, for whom the erasure distorting the painting is never a destructive act, but it consecrates its questioning. Its identity remains in the making process: it is never predictable, never definitive, but accepts the extraordinary spontaneity which is emblematic of an artistic creation.

Yet on the canvases, appear combined and overlaying species belonging to several kingdoms and genres, together with animals and plants, blooming human beings and women with beast-like feet. There is "Meringo" the as black as the night crocodile, which body is covered with pink scales as sort of udders and supported by three large legs; the pack of rampant dogs-wolves in "Home's Bourgeois Carpet" and then, the big bat "S. Piero" flying between rows of cypresses with its wings-mantle, carrying an olive branch in its mouth. This absurd universe is fantastic and democratic, primordial and free at times, where the masculine and the feminine, the man and the beast, the stars and the plants are all active protagonists of the same narrative, altered and hybridized one another, mixing their attributes and their specific qualities. What remains certain, is that looking to the concealed and furtive Hidebehinds of Giuntini's pictorial language, we cannot fail to experience the ancient feeling of wonder, nor to be naively lost in its free and impossible worlds. The idea of coming back to a primordial, childish state, where living within a fairy tale, in which even a monster can appear, but grotesque and clumsy, and our fear turns into discovery, our gaze broadens on possibilities and visions hitherto unknown.

SHORT BIO

Matteo Giuntini was born in Livorno in 1977. After having completed his artistic studies, he started searching for his own language through painting, drawing and illustration. His professional career began in 2005 in Florence, after which followed several collective and solo exhibitions in galleries and public spaces, both in Italy and abroad. He has collaborated with fashion firms and companies: in 2014 he illustrated the historic calendar for Mc Cann World Group and Poste Italiane, while in 2017 Valentino appointed him to create illustrations for the brand's collection. In 2019 he showcased in the solo exhibition *Selva domestica* at the gallery Il Vicolo and the following year, after the residency program "Study on Bosch", he exhibited "Zizzania" at the MACRO museum in Rome. Between the end of 2020 and the beginning of 2021 he took part in the collective "Chaos. The balance of painting", at the Zaion Gallery in Biella.

ABOUT VERA CANEVAZZI ART CONSULTING

Vera Canevazzi Art Consulting is a Milan based firm that carries out art consultancy activities for individuals, companies, artists, galleries, cultural institutions, architects and legal firms. The main operative fields are art advisory, art wealth management and the organization of curatorial exhibitions. Starting from 2021 the firm has developed new Augmented Reality services, related both to the showcasing of AR exhibitions and to the advisory for acquisition.

Directed by Vera Canevazzi, it counts a network of various professionals operating in the artistic, managerial, legal and communication fields.

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Critical Essay: Caterina Frulloni

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LINKS

Augmented Reality Gallery: <https://www.vera-artconsulting.com/en/augmented-reality-gallery/>

Hidebehind Exhibition: https://www.vera-artconsulting.com/en/featured_item/matteo-giuntini-hidebehind/

Critical Essay by the curator Caterina Frulloni: <https://www.vera-artconsulting.com/en/hidebehind-caterina-frulloni/>

Video Art Consulting goes digital: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAS1vg7Wkmw>

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