

PRESS RELEASE

L'altra sorgente

Marion Baruch
Suzanne Lacy
Sabrina Mezzaqui
Maria Nepomuceno
Sabrina Casadei

curated by Maura Pozzati

3 February 2024 – 4 May 2024

Opening: Saturday 3 February 2024, 7 pm – midnight

Galleria Enrico Astuni is delighted to present the group exhibition *L'altra sorgente* ('The Other Source'), curated by Maura Pozzati, on view from 3 February 2024, on the occasion of the *Notte Bianca* ('white night') of Art City Bologna and Arte Fiera.

Maura Pozzati's curatorial project foresees both old and new works on display in the gallery, including a number of previously unseen pieces created especially for the occasion: from video to photography, from sculpture to painting, from installation to drawing.

In its literal but above all metaphorical meaning, the title *L'altra sorgente* ('The Other Source') is linked to the feminine sphere, to the capacity to flow into the depths of the earth, to pass through dark matter and to return to the surface, bringing new energy with it. From the idea of water springing forth from the subsoil, we move on to its symbolic meaning: that of a vital principle that ideally represents the feminine, insofar as it is adaptable and receptive, and capable of overcoming the obstacles it encounters along its path, in that continuous process of transformation in which lies its great strength.

L'altra sorgente is thus the title of an exhibition that brings into dialogue five very different female artists, reflecting on the feminine aspect of collective works, participatory practices, socially engaged performance art, the relationship with nature, everyday life, the sacred, ancestral bonds and vital energy, each with her own voice, culture, experience and working method.

The artists invited to take part in the project are: **Marion Baruch**, born in Timisoara in Romania in 1929. An interdisciplinary painter and sculptor, she approaches the work of art in a unique and original manner, restoring life to something that would otherwise be lost and wasted, such as discarded fabrics. The key themes of her poetics are the issue of fullness and emptiness, and the relationship with one's own body and that of others, creating links between different people and cultures. **Suzanne Lacy**, born in Wasco, California in 1945, a first-wave feminist performance artist known for her large-scale public and political works, produces performance, film, writing and public art creations that touch on sensitive topics such as violence, rape, feminism, ageing and urban issues. During her career, she has carried out numerous initiatives to combat violence against women: an

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issue that has unfortunately been of great topical importance over recent years. **Sabrina Mezzaqui**, born in Bologna in 1964, is a versatile artist who adopts a variety of languages. She creates installations in which writing often appears, bringing manual skill into play and experimenting with forms of collective work. Focusing on habitual, repetitive, simple existential situations, her work is a reflection on the everyday and the measurement of time: time to be cut out, drawn or experienced through meditative silence and introspection. **Maria Nepomuceno**, born in Rio de Janeiro in 1976, sculptor and installation artist, builds visceral, colourful, pulsating, extravagant assemblages imbued in abundant cultural references to Brazil and ancestral bonds. Using traditional methods of rope and straw weaving, her chromatically rich sculptures incorporate beads, playful ceramic forms and found objects of various shapes and sizes. **Sabrina Casadei**, born in Rome in 1985, a pure painter, tackles chromatic matter as her sole protagonist: in her canvases, on this occasion ones of large size, she returns to the iconographic and semantic universe bound up with nature and the landscape, viewed as atmosphere, energy and vibration, thanks to major technical experimentation, both in terms of colour and the reactivity triggered by the coupling of the various materials used.

Curator Maura Pozzati has long dealt with women artists in contemporary art both from a critical and essayistic point of view, as well as staging exhibitions in both public and private spaces.

The exhibition will open on Saturday 3 February 2024, and will be accompanied by a catalogue in Italian and English with texts by Maura Pozzati, Fabio Cavallucci, Patricia Wagner and Noah Stolz.