

Arte in Salotto

DI CAMILLA PRINI

GIROLAMO CIULLA & GIOVANNI VIOLA SCULPTURES AND PAINTINGS FROM SICILY

Opening: Wednesday, May 7 from 6 PM

May 7–30, 2025

Arte in Salotto by Camilla Prini in collaboration with Galleria Forni

From May 7 to 30, Arte in Salotto by Camilla Prini will host the works of Girolamo Ciulla and Giovanni Viola in a dialogue between the two Sicilian artists. Ciulla's archetypal sculpture and Viola's refined hyperrealism in pastels and oils will flood the Brera gallery with Sicilian light and atmosphere.

A truly unique sculptor—both in terms of subject matter and technical mastery—Ciulla (Caltanissetta, 1952 – Pietrasanta, 2023) began exhibiting at a very young age, participating in Italian and international art fairs and collaborating with major galleries. In 1988, he moved to Pietrasanta, “to the source of marble,” his favored material. His constant reflection on the origins of Mediterranean myth is the cornerstone of his artistic exploration, earning him recognition as a major figure in contemporary sculpture, as demonstrated by numerous solo and group exhibitions as well as his public and monumental works.

His subjects are primarily archetypes of deep symbolic power, such as the crocodile and the fish, but also temples—especially those of Agrigento. With references to the ancient roots of civilization and the layered culture of his native Sicily, Ciulla's artistic journey is one through myth, among classical deities and symbols of the Mediterranean world.

Giovanni Viola, also deeply Sicilian at heart, presents in this exhibition a selection of very recent works that once again reveal his passion for his homeland, expressed with grace and reverence. From the chromatic restraint of Mediterranean horizons to the inland Sicilian landscapes, Viola masterfully alternates between oil on canvas and pastel on paper, demonstrating both versatility and exceptional technical skill. The sea, a recurring theme in Viola's poetic vision, is rendered through a pictorial language that borders on hyperrealism and metaphysics. The artist meticulously depicts the wave breaking on the shore, the transparency of the water, and the gentle undulation of the sea's surface.

The selection of works in this exhibition offers an overview of the artists' most beloved themes—from Giovanni Viola's seascapes to Girolamo Ciulla's monumental figures—revealing a deep shared artistic sensibility, marked by a pursuit of compositional balance and a measured attention to detail.

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Monday – Friday, 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Saturday by appointment

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