

Chiara Camoni, Untitled (the Lionesses), 2019, terracotta, sheep's wool, 297 x 146 x 61 cm. Collection Silvia Fiorucci Roman, Monaco / Photo: Camilla Maria Santini

PRESS RELEASE LA MERAVIGLIA, CHIARA CAMONI 15.10.2021–20.02.2022



LA MERAVIGLIA CHIARA CAMONI

15.10.2021-20.02.2022 Opening: 15.10.2021 > 18:30

Solo exhibition Curator: Alice Motard

The work of Chiara Camoni, which comprises drawings, sculptures, videos and installations, materialises in the domestic sphere and characteristically results from collective experiences.

Since her studies at the Brera Academy of Fine Arts in Milan, Camoni has allowed art to penetrate every aspect of her life - or rather has turned her life into a simultaneously communal and introspective form of art. Drawing on a tradition that ranges from Arte Povera to regional crafts, she makes art from natural materials (clay, wood, plants, wool) that she collects around Fabbiano, the mountain village in Tuscany where she lives and works surrounded by her family and friends. For many years, her studio assistant was her own grandmother, whom she asked to make one drawing a day until her death to overcome her 'melancholy'. Her kitchen and garden are routinely used for ceramic workshops, where friends and children from the neighbourhood gather to work with their hands and engage in conversations. Letting go and intuition are two key operating principles in the artist's work. Ancestral knowledge and vernacular know-how, and the way in which they are transmitted from one generation to the next, are at the heart of her daily practice, which takes inspiration from the eco- and cyberfeminist theories of philosophers such as Donna Haraway or Rosi Braidotti, two tutelary figures whose writings Camoni likes to share during public readings.

The exhibition looks back on the artist's career over the past fifteen years, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in her cooperative and 'situated'^(Haraway) practice. It is staged as a reconstruction of a private interior, playing with the uses generally assigned to the different rooms of a house (bedroom, living room, kitchen, terrace, etc.). Each of these functions is embodied by works – including plant prints on silk forming a tent, a floor of terracotta slabs with kaleidoscopic patterns or a sculpture made of ceramic and burning candles – that reflect on time passing and the way it transforms the perception of the space according to the time of day.

Camoni's exhibition takes visitors on a journey through a body of work that sublimates everyday life and repetition, an organic art whose forms are renewed every morning, inhabit every moment of the day and revert to a state of stillness as night falls.

Chiara Camoni, Untitled, 2019, wood, terracotta, porcelain, paraffin, fire, 143 x 80 x 130 cm. Collection Silvia Fiorucci Roman, Monaco / Photo: Camilla Maria Santini





Above: Chiara Camoni, Butterfly Vases, 2020, stoneware, glaze with flower, bones or garden ashes, various dimensions. Collection Silvia Fiorucci Roman, Monaco & Courtesy SpazioA, Pistoia / Photo: Arthur Péquin

Right: Chiara Camoni installing Floor (for Clarice), 2021, stoneware, earthenware glaze, sand and ashes from Bordeaux, various dimensions, at Capc Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux. Produced by Residenza LeNove & BottegaNove. Courtesy Arcade, London & Brussels and SpazioA, Pistoia / Photo: Arthur Péquin Chiara Camoni was born in 1974 in Piacenza, Italy. She lives and works in Fabbiano, a mountain village on the Versilian coast in northern Tuscany.

Her work has most recently been presented in solo exhibitions at MOSTYN, Llandudno, Wales, and the Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, UK (both in 2019). In 2020–21, she participated in *Fuori*, the 17th Rome Quadriennale at Palazzo delle Esposizioni, and in the exhibition *Artifices instables*. *Histoires de céramiques* at Nouveau Musée National de Monaco – Villa Sauber.

Chiara Camoni is represented by Arcade, London & Brussels, and SpazioA, Pistoia.







Above: Chiara Camoni, Untitled (a tent), 2019, brass, vegetable print on silk, 183 x Ø 211 cm. Collection Silvia Fiorucci Roman, Monaco. Courtesy Arcade, London & Brussels and SpazioA, Pistoia / Photo: Camilla Maria Santini

Right (above): Chiara Camoni, Untitled (mosaic 2), 2012-2021. Courtesy SpazioA, Pistoia. Chiara Camoni, Untitled (a tent), 2019. Courtesy Arcade, London & Brussels. Exhibition view of Chiara Camoni, Deux soeurs at Capc Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux from 24.06.2021 to 03.10.2021 / Photo: Camilla Maria Santini

Right (below): Chiara Camoni, Untitled (mosaic 2) (detail), 2012-2021, marble, variable dimensions. Courtesy SpazioA, Pistoia / Photo: Arthur Péquin Next page (left): Chiara Camoni, Untitled (the bench) (detail), 2019, wood varnished with copper, cotton and wool pillows, vegetable dye, porcelain glazed with vegetable and mineral ashes, 164 x 47 x 71.2 cm. Courtesy SpazioA, Pistoia / Photo: Arthur Péquin

Next page (right): Chiara Camoni, Untitled (cupboard wardrobe) (detail), 2021, wood, mirror, paper, ceramic, plastic, 125 x 70 x 210 cm. Courtesy SpazioA, Pistoia. Copy from Real Life - Fig. 245, 2010, pencil on paper, 45 x 2 x 35 cm. Private collection. Lucia Leuci, Cape, 2020, fabric, acrylic paint, silk, watercolor, variable dimensions. Courtesy Lucia Leuci / Photo: Arthur Péquin











From left to right: Chiara Camoni, *Big Sister 11*, 2021. Collection Alan & Charlotte Artus. *Big Sister 5*, 6 and 2, 2018, porcelain, wild herbs, chestnut pods, shells, pumice, seeds, shale, variable dimensions. Courtesy SpazioA, Pistoia. Exhibition view of *Chiara Camoni, Deux soeurs* at Capc Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux from 24.06.2021 to 03.10.2021 / Photo: Arthur Péquin



Chiara Camoni & Il Centro di Sperimentazione, *Carrozzone*, 2021, various materials, 300 x 150 x 220 cm (the whole). Courtesy Arcade, London & Brussels. Exhibition view of *Chiara Camoni, Deux soeurs* at Capc Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux from 24.06.2021 to 03.10.2021 / Photo: Camilla Maria Santini

Informations & contacts

CEAAC

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- Guided tours and school groups welcome by appointment: Gérald Wagner, public@ceaac.org

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The CEAAC

The CEAAC (Centre Européen d'Actions Artistiques Contemporaines) was founded in 1987 with the aim of democratizing contemporary art to a wider public and supporting the work of artists from the region.

Since its beginning, the CEAAC has supported art installations in public spaces, presenting many artists' projects and contributing to a better visibility of contemporary art. The CEAAC's expertise has been especially recognized by local authorities.

Opening in Strasbourg in 1993, the Art Center became an essential tool for its promotion at a local and international scale. Conceived as a place for experiments, it maintains special relations with the artistic world. Encouraging interactions between the regional artistic scene and the emerging visual arts field, it is a regular partner of other cultural actors located in the Rhine region.

As part of the aim of democratizing access to culture and art, educational and mediation actions are now an essential part of the CEAAC's activity.

Created in 2001, the international exchanges program annually enables artists from the region and international artists to participate in residencies abroad and in Strasbourg. These residencies are proposed in the framework of international networks and partnerships.

Inside the Art Center, the International Space presents the works of young international artists-in-residency or artists of the region who were supported for a project abroad.

Finally, the CEAAC publishes exhibition catalogues and monographic books to extend its outreach and the sharing of artist's research.