

Lorenzo Quinn BABY 3.0



CONTINI ART GALLERY - CALLE LARGA XXII MARZO
SAN MARCO 2414 - VENEZIA
July 15th 2022 - October 31st 2022

Contini Art Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition by internationally renowned figurative artist **Lorenzo Quinn**, which will be held in Calle Larga XXII Marzo 2414, in Venice.

Through his sculpture, Quinn investigates the depths of the human connection with the fate and preservation of the Venetian lagoon, to which he has always felt very close.

The artist's sculptures and drawings will be seen together for the first time in the exhibition Baby 3.0. These artworks are the result of an investigation, which the artist has been carrying out over the past few years by working on the topics of rebirth and the importance of Life.

The exhibition complements the monumental homonymous work located in the beautiful garden of Palazzo Corner della Ca' Granda in San Marco that overlooks the Grand Canal and is the historic home to the Metropolitan City of Venice, as well as to the Prefecture of Venice.

The sculpture is entitled Baby 3.0 and is made of a stainless steel mesh and cast aluminum. With its 7 meters high and almost 9 meters wide, Baby 3.0 represents a baby who is ready to be born from its mother's womb. The artwork auspices for a new Re-birth: as the title already suggests, the artist intends to offer a more evolved and better form of humanity, that is a 3.0 version of ourselves towards which we should aim.

Lorenzo Quinn's art, whether monumental or intimate, is inspired by masters such as Michelangelo, Bernini and Rodin. The artist is best known for his highly expressive reconstructions of human hands, about which he states: "The hand has been the basis for the evolution of mankind and holds the power to communicate, give, receive, love, hate, create and destroy". Like his latest series of newborns, Quinn's hands effortlessly communicate the artist's passion for eternal values and authentic emotions. Quinn's creativity takes shape quickly: "Inspiration comes in a millisecond," he says, as he is motivated to sculpt by observing the everyday energy of Life.

Usually, his works are first conceived in the form of a poetic text, which is then displayed altogether with the sculptures as their integral part and not just as their explanation. Quinn's artworks are marked by the communicative power and immediacy of a message that is socially engaged. This is particularly true for those monumental public-art installations that Quinn has exhibited in many prestigious international venues, frequently for charitable and philanthropic purposes, in such places as: Park Lane, Barkely Square and Cadogan Gardens in London; the courtyard of the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg; the Windsor Castle in Berkshire; Casina Valadier in Rome and in the Boboli Gardens inside the Uffizi Galleries in Florence; in front of St Martin's Church in Birmingham; in front of the Cathedral of Palermo; at the Paramount Group's skyscraper on the Avenue of the Americas in New York; at the Museum of Modern Art in Palma de Mallorca; on the waterfront in Doha, Qatar; on the roof of the Shanghai Museum of Modern Art overlooking the Huangpu River; and, most recently, at the foot of the Pyramids of Giza.

In May 2017, on the occasion of the 57th International Art Exhibition of Venice Biennale, Quinn installed his monumental sculpture Supporto nel Canal Grande di Venezia, which consists of a child's hands reaching out from the depths of the Grand Canal to support the ancient façade of the Palazzo Ca' Sagredo. To this day, the sculpture is considered to be one of the most popular temporary public installations ever made, as it has been highly appreciated as a powerful symbol of 'Art for Climate', since it was able to arise a strong awareness on the issue of climate change.

In May 2019, on the occasion of the 58th Venice Biennale, the artist installed the monumental sculpture Building Bridges in a pool next to the entrance of the Arsenale in the Sestiere di Castello in Venice, which can still be visited today.

Starting from July 15th, Contini Art Gallery will feature the new anthropomorphic works that characterize the latest phase of Lorenzo Quinn's artistic career. The artist faces the dramas of the pandemic, the war and the ever-increasing poverty, as he feels an urgent need to reaffirm the value of life and to work towards change and the construction of a new humankind.

Biography

Lorenzo Quinn is an internationally renowned Italian-American figurative sculptor. Born in Rome on May 7th, 1966 to Mexican-American actor Anthony Quinn and costume designer Iolanda Addolori, Quinn's childhood was split between Italy and the United States of America.

His father had a profound influence on him, not only by introducing Lorenzo into the film world's spotlight, but also via his initial works on painting and architecture.

Quinn studied at the American Academy of Fine Arts in New York, with the ambition of becoming a surrealist painter. However, at the age of 21, he understood that his future belonged to sculpture, which could best express his energy and originality.

Lorenzo Quinn can vividly remember the moment in 1989 when he felt that he had produced his first genuine work of art: "I had made a torso from Michelangelo's drawing of Adam... a craftsman's work... I had an idea and started sculpting, and Eve came out of Adam's body... It started as a purely academic exercise, but it had turned out to be a proper work of art".

Both his monumental works for public art and his smaller pieces transmit his passion for eternal values and authentic emotions.

Quinn married Giovanna Cicutto in 1988 and, after the birth of their first child, they decided to leave New York and move to Spain. Over the last two decades, Lorenzo Quinn's works have been exhibited all over the world. Among his monumental sculptures we find Support (2017), displayed in Venice: a child's hands holding Palazzo Ca' Sagredo from the water of the Grand Canal, protesting against the city's pollution, and Give (2020), also installed in the Boboli Gardens of the Uffizi in Florence. Together (2021) is a land-art work first presented in Cannes and subsequently in the exhibition "Forever is Now" in Egypt, on the occasion of the first contemporary art event held at the UNESCO site of the Pyramids of Giza. The five-meter work installed on top of the Shanghai Museum of Modern Art Force of nature (2017) aims to remind us of the great power of nature and what Quinn describes as our "false sense of security" towards it. Lorenzo Quinn currently works and lives in Catalonia, Spain.

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The exhibition will be open every day until October 31st 2022
Opening time: 10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. / 2.00 - 7.30 p.m.

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