

CONTINI

GALLERIA D'ARTE

ANDREA VALLERI

“NEOPALEO”

Encounter between Art and Archeology

THE 4 EXHIBITIONS OF PAINTING AND SCULPTURE WILL START IN VENICE PROMOTED BY THE CONTINI ART GALLERY

14 July marks the start of the first of four permanent exhibitions of the Venetian artist's work scheduled for 2022, promoted by the Contini Art Gallery and Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa in Venice.

Andrea Valleri's exhibitions are promoted by the Gallery in collaboration with some of the most important cultural institutions of Venice and Greece: the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation of Venice, the National Archaeological Museum of Samos, the National Byzantine and Christian Museum of Athens, the National Epigraphic Museum of Athens, the Region of Western Greece (Messolonghi).

The Contini Art Gallery will soon publish a catalogue (English-Greek-Italian) containing the entire exhibition with the title ΝΕΟΠΑΛΑΙΟ ('neopaleo').

The first exhibition will take place from 14 to 28 July in Venice, at the Bevilacqua La Masa headquarters in Piazza San Marco, and will host not only the artist's works, but also a series of archaeological finds from the Byzantine and Epigraphic Museums. It is entitled 'Venetia Classica Byzantium' in memory of the continuity between classical art, Byzantine art and the Venetian tradition. It is presented by Bruno Bernardi in his double role as President of the BLM Foundation and Honorary Consul of Greece in Venice.

The second exhibition will take place from 4 to 13 August in Samos, at the Archeological Museum of Vathi it is entitled ΠΑΡΑΛΛΗΛΕΣ ΠΟΡΕΙΕΣ (Parallel Paths) and is precisely an exhibition of the artist's works as part of the museum's exhibition itinerary.

The third exhibition will take place from 17 to 27 August at Palazzo Chrisogelou, the Region's cultural institution in Messolonghi, a city sacred to Greece, as its citizens gave their lives for independence from the Ottomans during the 1821 Revolution. It is entitled ΣΥΜΒΙΟΣΗ ('symbiosis') as a testament both to the similar lagoon environment of Venice and Messolonghi, and to the common history that has always linked Venice and Greece in the defence of Christian- and especially national-identity (for example, the first President of the Republic of the Heptanesus, 1800, and of freed Greece, 1821, was a Greek-Venetian, Giovanni Antonio Capidistria).

The fourth exhibition will take place in Athens in December at the Epigraphic Museum and is entitled ΔΙΑΛΟΓΟΣ ('dialogue') as an indication and conclusion of the idea that history and the growth of culture come from a constant confrontation of positions both in the present and with the inescapable models of the past that live on in our memory.

Biography

Andrea Valleri was born in Venice on December 14, 1959. After his classical studies, he graduated in Philosophy in 1985 and started his teaching career as a lecturer in Italian language in Athens. Since 1989 he has been teaching at the Cavanis Institute in Venice. In Valleri's works, the symbolic strength of the ancient myths and the landscape of the classical world are combined with the contemporary language derived by Pop Art, which amplifies the artist's message further to the contemporary audience. This intellectual and philosophical research leads to the creation of a work of art made from a combination of fragments that come together to synthesize our historical and cultural collective memory. The art of Valleri aims to reconnect the viewer to the historical tradition we belong to and for which we constitute a solid foundation. Indeed, the Heritage of the Ancient Greece emerges both in the represented subjects and on a subliminal level, as the artist considers this culture to be the semantic, epistemological and ideal matrix of the entire Western tradition. His paintings are a combination of images and words that symbolize a present that is constantly being redefined by classical archetypes. Eroded by time, yet unwavering, the classical culture continues to be an indelible semantic reference frame for the exercising of human hermeneutical capabilities. Beside his pictorial works, Valleri creates sculptures by assembling together wood and stone, inspired by the well-known Platonic doctrine of anamnesis. The joining of these two materials - which makes reference to a metaphor in Plato's Phaedrus - expresses the simple and profound value of memory in relation to the development of knowledge as well as the sense of being. Intentionally vague and undefined at first glance, these figures are unveiled by the attentive visitor, who discovers the references to the founding myths of the Occidental culture

Link to download a selection of artworks on exhibition:
<https://we.tl/t-IIB5SNKDCM>

[Website Andrea Valleri](https://www.andreavalleri.it/about/)

<https://www.andreavalleri.it/about/>

[Website Contini Art Gallery](https://www.continiarte.com/artist/andrea-valleri/)

<https://www.continiarte.com/artist/andrea-valleri/>

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Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation – Venice

www.comune.venezia.it/content/fondazionebevilacqua-la-masa

Archeological Museum of Vathi – Samos

http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/1/gh151.jsp?obj_id=3311

Epigraphic Museum – Athens

www.epigraphicmuseum.gr

Byzantine and Christian Museum – Athens

www.byzantinemuseum.gr