

Isabella Benshimol Toro, Emma Moriconi

Opening 20.11.2025, 6-9pm

From 21.11.2025 to 23.01.2026

Isabella Benshimol Toro (Caracas, 1994)

is a Venezuelan artist based in London. Her practice stems from the need to freeze ephemeral gestures and actions of everyday life. Drawing on photography and in dialogue with her processes, she reuses domestic objects and garments, which, when incorporated into materials such as epoxy resin and silicone, are transformed into sculptures and installations. Her works evoke a body that is absent yet latently present. Through them, the artist invites the viewer to reflect on intimacy, the subtlety of the everyday, and the temporality of the ephemeral. She has held solo exhibitions at Galeria Belmonte, Madrid (2025); Neven Gallery, London (2025); Les Vitrines, Institut Français, Berlin (2025); ZÉRUI, London (2024); 11 Grosvenor Place, London (2024); as well as a site-specific installation in collaboration with Paloma Wool in Milan (2024).

Recent group exhibitions include Piloto Pardo Gallery, London (2025); Artagon Pantin, Paris (2025); Saatchi Gallery, London (2025); Guts Gallery, London (2024); Gnosienne Gallery, London (2024); Triangolo Gallery at Palazzo Guazzoni, Cremona (2024); Des Bains, London (2024); Cecilia Brunson Projects (2022); Rose Easton Gallery, London (2022); Hacienda La Trinidad, Caracas (2022); Timothy Taylor Gallery, New York (2021); CCCC Centro del Carme, Valencia (2021); and Galeria Elba Benítez, Madrid (2021), among many others. She has also participated in residencies at Rupert, Vilnius, and Hangar, Lisbon.

Benshimol Toro earned a Bachelor of Arts in "Visual Arts", with honors (Cum Laude), from the Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti (NABA), Milan (2016), and a Master of Fine Arts from Goldsmiths, University of London (2020).

Emma Moriconi (Milano, 1997)

is an Italian-American artist based in New York. Central to her work is the intersection between the human body and the natural world, finding beauty in their contradictions. Drawn to the vulnerabilities of the body's inner workings, she weaves together scientific and organic imagery, where each fragment echoes within a larger, holistic system. Recent solo exhibitions include Galerie Timonier, New York (2024), and Villa Clea, Milan (2024). Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Barbati Gallery, Venice (2025), and C L E A R I N G, New York (2024), among others. She received an MA in Visual Arts and Curatorial Studies from Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti, Milan, in 2022 and dual BA degrees in World Arts and Cultures and Italian from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2019. She attended Mountain School of Arts, Los Angeles in 2025 and UNIDEE, Fondazione Pistoletto at Cittadellarte, Biella, Italy in 2021.

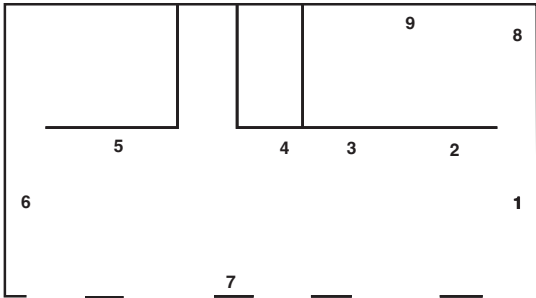
Artopia is pleased to present **resonances**, duo show by artists **Isabella Benshimol Toro (Caracas, 1994)** and **Emma Moriconi (Milan, 1997)**, opening on **Thursday 20 November**.

The artists meet for the first time in the gallery: two practices, two researches and two existences that run parallel on two sides of the world, London and New York. The protagonist of this duet is the body, present in its absence. It can be perceived in Benshimol Toro's sculpture-installations, which play with everyday materials, and in Moriconi's pictorial compositions, where the hidden ecosystems of human and natural anatomy take shape. The exhibition project stems from this exchange, a dialogue that develops into a narrative suspended in time, moving in a fragile balance between personal experiences and universal dynamics.

Isabella Benshimol Toro, with her floating vitrines, freezes in time actions, gestures and impressions reminiscent of an ordinary domestic life. Used clothes, crystallised in resin, emerge from the gallery walls, displayed in what the artist defines as "monuments to the unconscious". The focus here is on what we don't see, on the reality hidden within the body, on the perception of an intimate and elusive feeling sparked by the appearance of the everyday. Resin, a central element in the artist's poetics, becomes the agent that allows moments and actions to be suspended, making them visible through its transparency. Through a rigorous process of material experimentation, Benshimol Toro transforms the disorder of life into original compositions, reflecting on how a shift in perspective can influence the meaning of reality itself. The absence of a body, a place, and a defined time opens up a space for interpretation, allowing everyone to rediscover traces of their own daily lives.

Emma Moriconi's canvases are the result of an interdisciplinary research that intertwines the body, as an emotional entity, with medical-scientific images. They give shape to what lies beneath the surface, to the intricate and invisible structures that regulate human and non-human life. The interior of the body and the tissues that compose it are revealed in rapid strokes that recall calcified caves, sediments, organic landscapes where colour and light map an invisible anatomy. In the series of works that outline the two floors of the gallery, the artist explores the tension between life and decay, between presence and absence, starting from her personal experiences, from the visual suggestions of ultrasound images of her reproductive organs and her mother's heart. Indeed, the ultrasound image is transformed from a clinical and mechanical process into an intimate and emotional experience. The works reveal themselves in their materiality: the ripples of the jute canvas, contrasted with smooth surfaces such as linen or wood, seem to reflect the different textures of the human body. By focusing on what is hidden at the molecular, cellular or geological level, Moriconi reveals the secret mechanisms essential to the organic and inorganic world.

In the gallery space the works of the two artists, despite their individuality, seem at times to overlap. They uncover thematic resonances and compositional affinities: an inquiry into the possibilities of matter, a continual striving toward light, and a practice intent on transcending the confines of painting and sculpture.



GROUND FLOOR

1. Isabella Benshimol Toro
Life Drawing (or X-Ray) in Ocher, Beige, Purple, and Brown, 2025
Perspex box, used clothes, epoxy resin
85x85x15cm

2. Isabella Benshimol
Life Drawing (or X-Ray) in Blue, White and Maroon, 2025
Perspex box, used clothes, epoxy resin
38x46x15cm

3. Emma Moriconi
Mother III, 2025
Oil on linen, 122x91cm

4. Emma Moriconi
Coherence, 2025
Oil on canvas, 25,4x20,3cm

5. Isabella Benshimol Toro
Life Drawing (or X-Ray) in Nude and Black, 2025
Perspex box, used clothes, epoxy resin
76x58x15cm

6. Emma Moriconi
Window of Tolerance, 2025
Oil on burlap, 142x91cm

7. Emma Moriconi
Lev, 2025
Oil on canvas, 81x71cm

8. Isabella Benshimol Toro
Life Drawing (or Zoomed X-Ray) in Red and Pink, 2025
Perspex box, used clothes, epoxy resin
20x30x5 cm

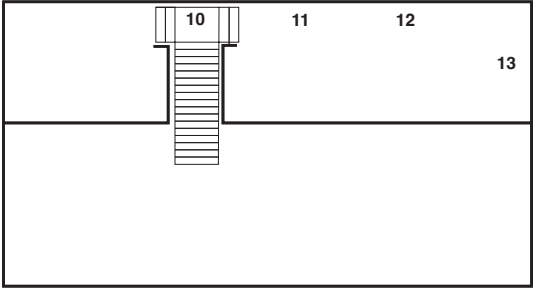
9. Emma Moriconi
LT OV Index, 2025
Oil, found wooden fling box
64,5x45,7x3,8cm

10. Emma Moriconi
Rechem, 2025
Oil and oil stick on canvas,
30,5x30,5cm

11. Emma Moriconi
Vestige, 2025
Oil and oil stick on linen
25,4x20,3cm

12. Isabella Benshimol Toro
Life Drawing (or X-Ray) in Blue, White, Beige, and Bordeaux Red, 2025
Perspex box, used clothes, epoxy resin
105x59x15cm

13. Emma Moriconi
Remanent, 2025
Oil on linen
122x91cm



FIRST FLOOR

Artopia is a contemporary art gallery that presents emerging and mid-career Italian and international artists through a programme of site-specific exhibitions. Embracing multidisciplinary practices, the gallery expresses a sensitivity to the interrelations between geographical, cultural, and emotional ecosystems. In dialogue with the architecture of its Milanese space, Artopia's curatorial programme and artistic collaborations move fluidly between the urban context and decentralized territories, embracing the Apulian landscape through Nucre': a residency and exhibition project that animates the summer season. Here, invited artists are encouraged to engage with the local cultural and anthropological heritage, fostering encounters that extend beyond the gallery walls.