

Marzena Nowak *Correnti II - Blue*

Curated by Giulia Bortoluzzi

PRESS RELEASE

RITA URSO artopiagallery
Via Lazzaro Papi 2, Milan

December 2, 2022 - February 16, 2023
Opening Thursday December 1st, 2022, 6-9 PM



Marzena Nowak, *Untitled*, 2022, carbon traces, oil and acrylic on canvas, 24x19 cm

Rita Urso artopiagallery is pleased to present the first solo exhibition in the gallery of Marzena Nowak (1977, Piaseczno, Poland), as part of the project *Correnti*.

The exhibition cycle, inaugurated on 29 September with *Correnti I - Animalia*, involving the artists Ella Littwitz and Elena Mazzi, was born from the need to reflect on the diversity of movements, whether physical or metaphorical, to which the term refers. This second chapter is devoted to the trends of the mind. How the memories of our experience are constructed and disposed of, the trajectories that follow to surface or be buried, and the emotions that are associated in memory, more or less consciously, with personal and collective events.

The investigation involving Marzena Nowak is entitled *Correnti II - Blue*. Especially in the English language and culture the term *blue* is used to denote a state of melancholy or sadness, such as in blues music or the expression *blue Monday*; more generally, therefore, the word evokes the universe of feelings and sensations capable of activating oscillations, variations, and humoral swings. *Currents* are the waves of feeling that alternate in the days, are the movements that make the thought in the space of experience, in crossing the time of memories, from the past to future desires passing through the present moment. Marzena Nowak gives an image in her work of this ephemeral and volatile matter. It makes it visible by creating patterns of emotions

and trajectories of the mind, such as in the group of works on display, which matured at a key moment in the history of many, namely confinement due to the coronavirus pandemic. The lines drawn on charcoal paper express unknown emotions, sensations that exist and that are also perceived on bodies, but that is not yet decipherable, are “distant lands, maps of universes, and stars”, as Nowak writes. The spaces that define these divisions are filled with fragments of color that symbolically cover a structure, just like the clothes worn on the skin. They are dreamy worlds, floating fantasies, and safety desires, which many experienced during the health emergency between 2020 and 2021, and which in Nowak’s painting find an almost playful form as if they were pieces of a puzzle to be composed. The lines woven on the bridges of the unconscious, between dream and reality, also symbolize the psychological structures of the creation processes. This sense of tireless activity also emerges through the physicality, the gestures of the body, which puts man in contact with his own mind and emotions.

Acknowledgment to the Gregor Podnar Gallery, Vienna.

MARZENA NOWAK

Born in 1977 in Piaseczno, Poland, she lives and works between Warsaw and Casablanca.

Her artistic research focuses mainly on the relationship between memory and imagination, between autobiography and the dream world. Nowak’s work, to be contextualized in the historical-social context of the political changes of the 1980s, play with the forms of sensory perception and the intertwining between the tasks of everyday life and the desire to take refuge in fantasy. She has exhibited in numerous international galleries and museums including mumok - Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig Wien (2021); Neuer Kunstverein Wien (2018); Pori Art Museum, Pori (2016); CAC - Contemporary Art Center, Vilnius (2015); Warsaw Museum of Modern Art (2014); Salzburger Kunstverein, Kunsterhaus Salzburg (2011); coca Center of Contemporary Art Toru (2011).

RITAURSO artopiagallery
Via Lazzaro Papi 2,
20135 Milan
Mon-Fri 3-7 PM

t +39 02 5460582
artopiagallery.net
info@artopiagallery.it