

Selected Works from the Albertina Solo Show

Michela Ghisetti's work ranges between the poles of abstract and figurative art. In her works, biographical and emotional elements merge with issues of philosophy and art theory. This gives rise to conceptually rigid, humorous and intuitive groups of works in which the artist constantly tries out new content and a wide variety of materials, challenging their fundamental principles. Right from the outset she has preferred using paper, working with its different qualities – from transparent Japan paper to the cards used for her most recent works. Whether white or coloured, the painting or drawing surface also takes on aspects relating to the content and makes a significant contribution to the overall impression of the works. Moreover, observation and reflection of the sequence of movement find their expression in the creative process in the course of which the material and size of the image surface exert a major influence.

Woman and her socially defined roles have long been present as a theme in Ghisetti's work in a wide variety of facets. In 2012, in her triptych "Afua – Afua/The Path – Maximum," Ghisetti does not only address gender-specific dimensions of the presentation and representation of woman in today's society, but also questions of integration and diversity that are increasingly shaping global events. The work is positioned between the greatest possible degree of photorealism and complete abstraction.

Dots and circles have appeared in Ghisetti's work right from the start, as a small drawing from 1994 with the title "Per-sonare" shows. In the series "Tutto", begun in 2016, they take over the entire surface of the image: small and large spots unfurl a universe of infinitude in which the vision of a conciliatory juxtaposition of a wide variety of colours, shapes and sizes becomes a political statement calling for a life of respect in the midst of diversity. In the case of "In Whose Watery Vastness Life Began" it is not only the format that explodes, but in relation to the content the title adds water as a metaphor for the source of life, the subconscious that has a determining influence on us, to the dot as a mystic symbol of the source of all things. "Che Bambole!" is a group of dolls engaged in a cheerful exchange. Each has its own name and own character and structure. And yet they form a community, a unit. Two of them are exposed at Galerie Albrecht, ten are to be seen in her exhibition at Albertina Vienna. Ghisetti spent an extended period of time in Africa where she was inspired by tribal art sculptures. The series revolves around the theme of appreciation of female diversity represented here by the dolls made of the widest variety of materials. In our time shaped by the pandemic, Michela Ghisetti's most recent works in particular constitute an appeal to understand ourselves as part of a whole and to accept responsibility for the world and for society.

– Antonia Hoerschelmann, chief curator Albertina Museum Vienna, excerpt from „Tutto“, exhibition catalogue Michela Ghisetti, Albertina Vienna 2020, p.3-5.

*Michela Ghisetti (*1966 in Bergamo) studied painting and graphic arts at the Accademia Carrara di Belle Arti in Bergamo and the Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Vienna. Since 1992, she has been living and working in Vienna. Her work has been presented in numerous exhibitions, both nationally and internationally, including Eisler Preis Ba-Ca Kunstforum Wien, Albertina Contemporary - Gerhard Richter bis Kiki Smith, Galerie Viktor Bucher Vienna, Museum der Moderne Sotschi, Studio Cannaviello Milan, Art Award Kunstforum Strabag, Sotheby's Vienna, Look! Albertina Museum Bildraum 07 Vienna, Galerie Geresdorfer Vienna. Currently she has a solo show at the Albertina Museum Vienna. Her works are in public and private collections such as the collection of the Albertina Museum, the Angerlehner Museum and Strabag.*

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Poster
Reverse
Moana 9/20, 2020, acrylic on watercolour paper, 55,5 x 57 cm
At the End Clear in the Yellow, 2020, acrylic and textiles on linen, 160 x 120 cm

MICHEL A GHISETTI

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January 28 – March 19, 2022

Opening January 28, 7pm

drawing, painting and sculpture



