

Gabriele Cappelli



# Gabriele Cappelli

14th May - 8th June 2018

Private View

Friday 18th May 6:30 - 8:30pm

For a price list please email us on [info@cadogancontemporary.com](mailto:info@cadogancontemporary.com)

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Gallery Hours  
Monday - Friday 10am - 6pm  
Saturday 11am - 6pm



*'Contemporariness is, then, a singular relationship with one's own time, which adheres to it and, at the same time, keeps a distance from it. More precisely, it is that relationship with time that adheres to it, through a disjunction and an anachronism.'*

Giorgio Agamben

Harmony is the first quality that come to mind when observing the new series of paintings created by Gabriele Cappelli. The harmony of epochs that meet each other, the harmony which art is able to recreate and that time brings together. It is a balance of hidden proportions, spaces and forms, of relationships with beauty and suavity interwoven with an aesthetic whose origins reside in the purity of universality. An idea of 'beauty', reminiscent of Sappho's delicate poems, where the rhythms of harmony and time are constantly at work dissolving certain relationships and configurations in order to constitute others: the 'purple shadows' of twilight and the 'quiet blue' of the night provide a liquefying background for such 'pleasant' manifestations of harmony, as perceived in the work of Cappelli.

The aesthetic explores the nature of order and taste through the traditional use of oil paint and a unique combination of new nuances with existing ones, through geometric designs, and simplified linear forms. A practise is revealed which leads to an evident sincerity in the immediacy and simplicity of the idea, to the impulsive recognition of Classical beauty. This oeuvre encourages one to analyse tone and plane, to walk around the artwork, gazing into the distance and then closer to the canvas again, perceiving the work's sensual quality, and consequently its resounding physical presence. Paintings become like a symbol of painting, thanks to artist's intricate juxtaposition of colour and form, elegiac in tempo and precise in use of colour, in unison with the idea of Abstract.

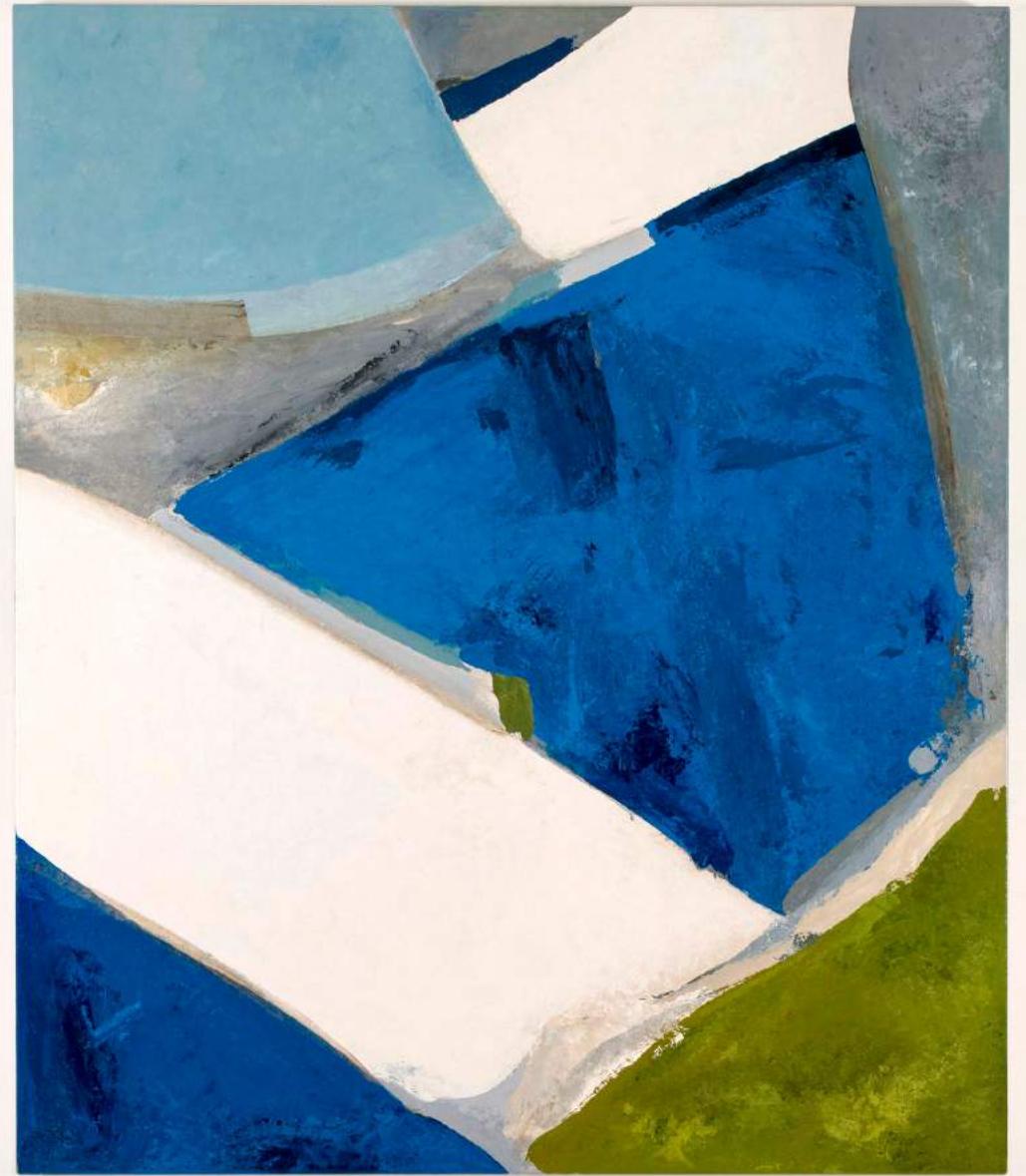
Following these compositional aspects, the work also establishes a special relation to the past: Cappelli ties together what is inexorably divided, recalling history and traditions through abstract modernist shapes and textures. He re-evokes, revitalises those lines, making them living again in the present. 'Archaic' means close to the arkhè, which is the 'origin' and Cappelli's work seems to be permeated by this contiguousness with the past and temporality. It is in between this distance and proximity, that lies Cappelli's 'contemporariness'. Instead of feeling the weight of art history on his shoulders, he experiences the freedom to move around and make gestures that are open and powerful.

In this bold engagement with materiality that isn't common in most of today's historically oriented abstract art, the artist is able to create depth from flatness. For those lucky enough to experience the work in person they can return some nuance to the viewing of art, not easily reproduced by looking at the same thing on a digital screen.

Composition 197

oil on canvas

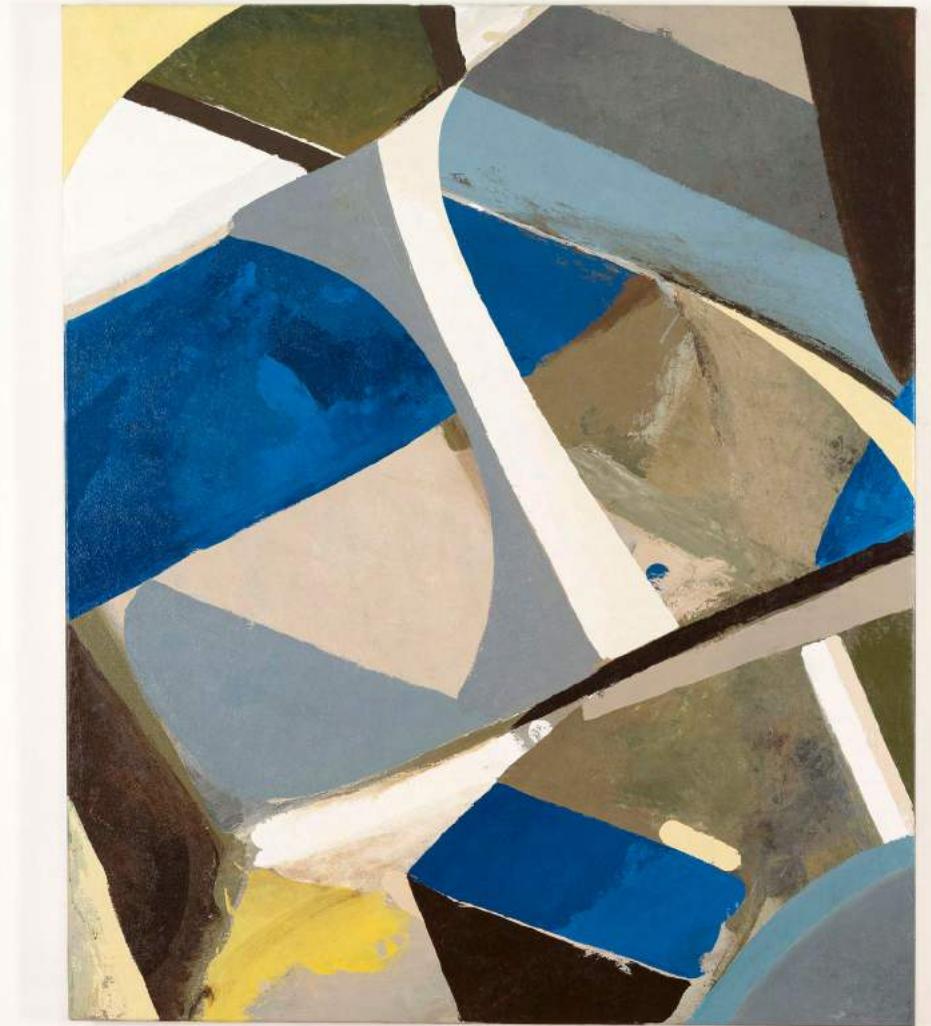
140cm x 120cm



Composition 198

oil on canvas

120cm x 110cm



Composition 194

oil on canvas

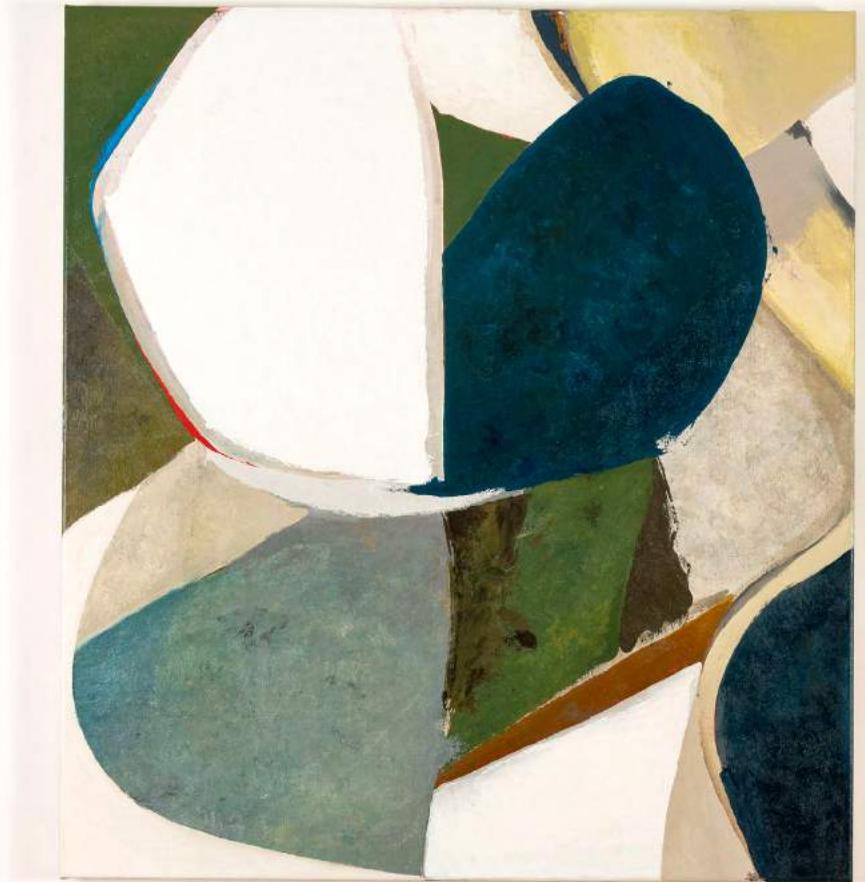
120cm x 110cm



Composition 208

oil on canvas

120cm x 110cm



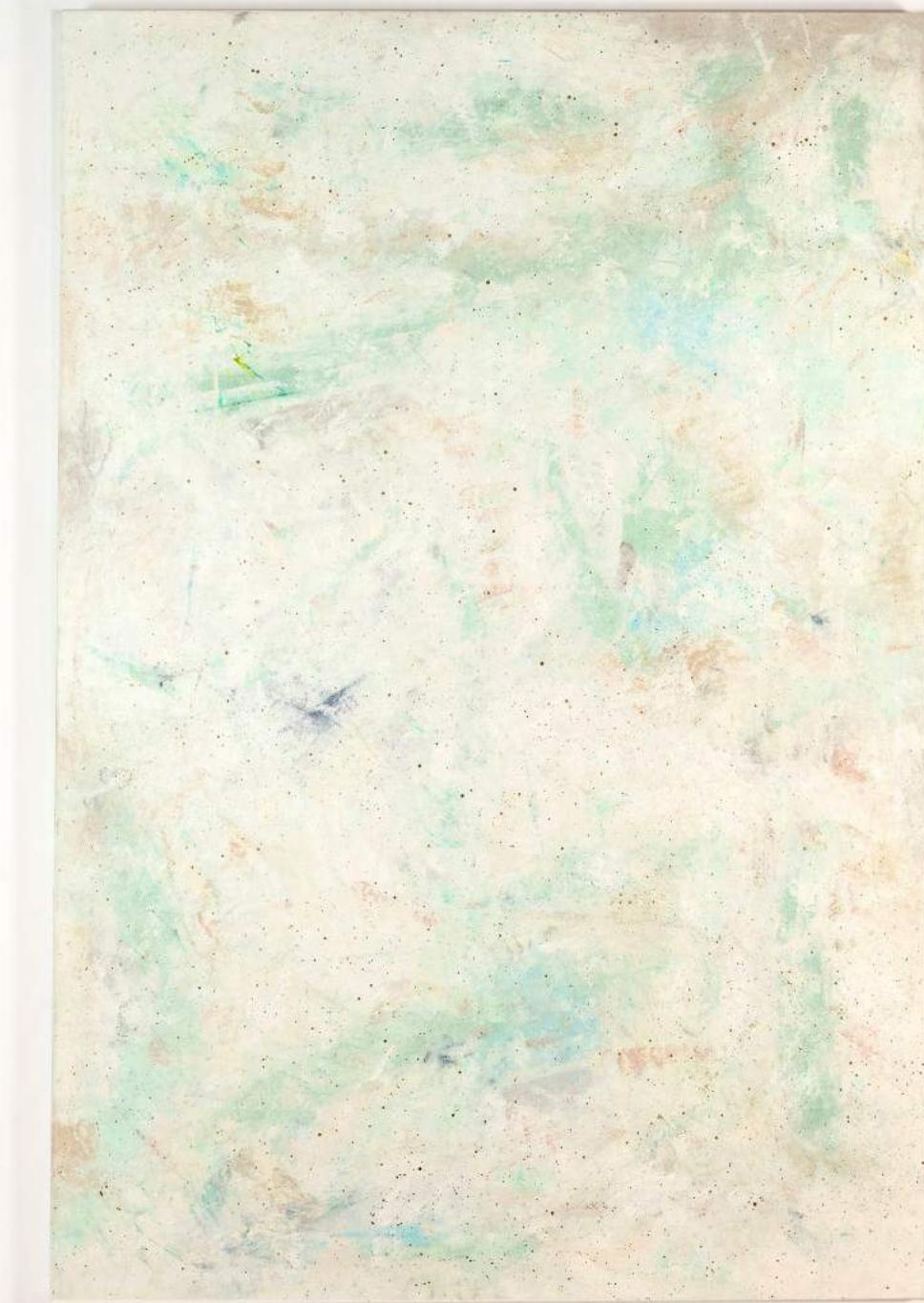
Composition 195

oil on canvas

160cm x 180cm



Composition 177  
oil and gold powder on canvas  
180cm x 120cm



Composition 196

oil on canvas

120cm x 180cm



Composition 193

oil on canvas

120cm x 110cm



Composition 202

oil on canvas

90cm x 75cm



Composition 189

oil on canvas

120cm x 140cm



Composition 206 and 207

oil on canvas

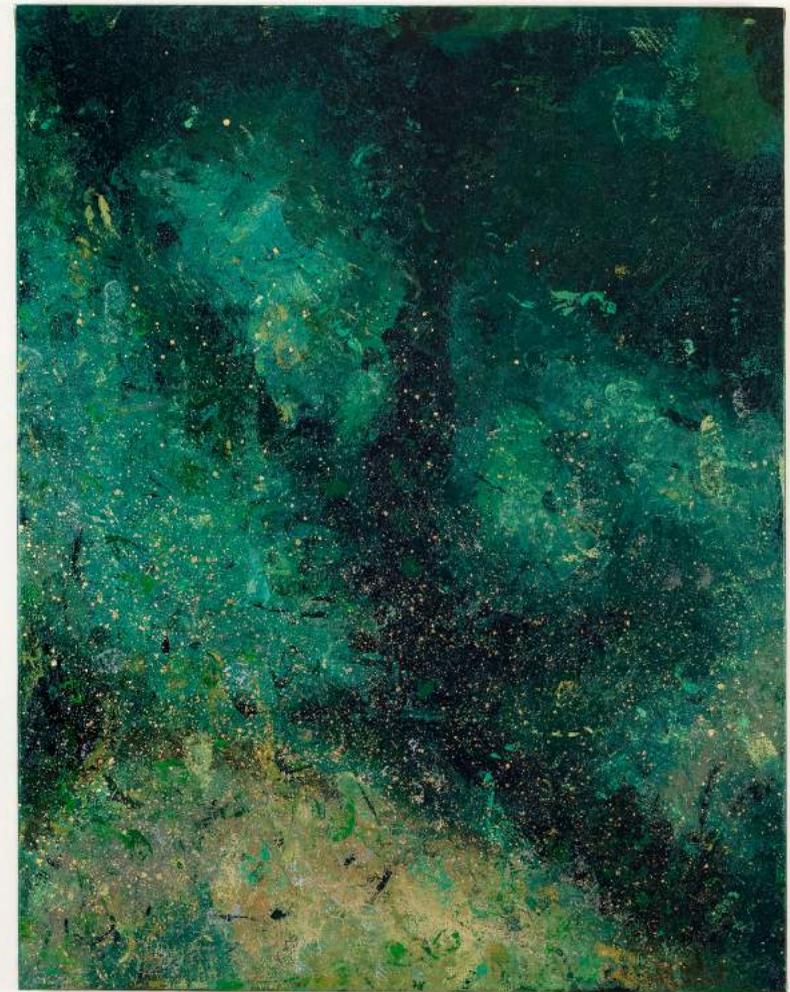
90cm x 75cm each



Composition 175  
oil and gold powder on canvas  
140cm x 120cm



Composition 191  
oil and gold powder on canvas  
117cm x 92cm



Composition 189

oil on canvas

120cm x 110cm



Composition 186

oil on canvas

140cm x 120cm





Composition 203, oil on canvas, 50cm x 40cm



Composition 199, oil on canvas, 50cm x 44cm



Composition 200, oil on canvas, 40cm x 30cm



Composition 205, oil on canvas, 40cm x 30cm



Composition 205, oil on canvas, 40cm x 30cm

## Gabriele Cappelli

Born in Forlì, Italy in 1972 Now living and working in London.

### SOLO SHOWS

- 2018 Cadogan Contemporary, London
- 2015 Cadogan Contemporary, London
- 2013 Cadogan Contemporary, London  
Catalogue with text by Elena Dolcini
- 2007 Overtime gallery, Bologna  
Catalogue by Enzo Dall'Ara
- 2003 "Contemporanea" , Bologna, Italy  
Catalogue with text by Carlo Verdone
- 2002 Artbank Gallery, Clerkenwell, London, UK  
Catalogue with text by Libby Anson
- 2001 Artbank Gallery, Clerkenwell, London, UK  
Catalogue with text by Helen Sumpter
- 2000 Artbank Gallery, Clerkenwell, London, UK  
Catalogue with text by Anthony J. Lester
- 1996 AuraArt, Bologna, Italy

### SELECTED GROUP SHOWS

- 2017 " Midnight sun' Arcade, London  
Cynthia Reeves gallery, US
- 2016 Cadogan Contemporary, London
- 2012 30th Anniversary Exhibition, Cadogan Contemporary
- 2009 Blackheath gallery
- 2008 New York art fair, K Contemporary
- 2005 "La memoria dell'oro, L'oro della memoria" ( Two Italian Painters),with  
Enrico Lombardi. Artbank Gallery, London. Supported by the Italian  
Cultural Institute
- 2003 Blackheath gallery, London
- 2002 Plus one Plus two Galleries, London
- 2001 Albany Gallery, Cardiff  
Artbank Gallery, London  
Bishop Phillpotts Gallery, Truro  
"Living Presence", the gallery@OXO Tower , London





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