

Lorenzo Brinati and Leonardo Anker Vandal

Exhibition: *Under a Dome*

Curated by Martino di Napoli Rampolla

1st - 18th September 2021

Cadogan Contemporary are excited to announce a new exhibition of artworks curated by Martino di Napoli Rampolla. *'Under the Dome'* will show paintings by artists Leonardo Anker Vandal and Lorenzo Brinati. This will be the second exhibition of works by artists introduced to Cadogan Contemporary by Numeroventi, an artists' residency directed by Martino di Napoli Rampolla in Florence. Following the success of *'Invisible Subjects'* at the beginning of 2020, this exhibition will be the first full collaboration between di Napoli Rampolla as a curator and Cadogan Contemporary, encapsulating the new aesthetic direction of the gallery and a new generation of artists directed by Freddie Burness.

Raised in Florence, Lorenzo Brinati's practice combines Renaissance Florentine craftsmanship with a conceptual interest in the primordially of emotion and the comprehensibility of the soul. Brinati is highly influenced by the rich artistic traditions of the city he grew up in, as a child choosing to explore the world of the carvers, carpenters and fresco painters that had operated out of Oltrarno for hundreds of years, often rather than attending school. He developed the techniques he employs in his sculptures and paintings through his work over two decades as a conservator and restorer in traditional artisanal workshops. Today he searches for completeness and luminosity in his canvases, satiating the senses and referencing the vivid strength of the works of the Old Masters. As a sculptor, his style derives from an attention to nature and the harmony and rhythm in the architecture of his home while also looking east, drawing inspiration from his travels as a sailor in Greece and Turkey.

The process of making art for Leonardo Anker Vandal is a form of catharsis, transforming his experiences of personal trauma into a highly personal and poetic visual language to create a sense of therapeutic serenity. He expresses these complex ideas using every medium in his reach, often choosing unusual materials for their symbolic potency; earth, reeds and tree roots reference time and the patterns of life, death and decay. His *'Adagio'* series is an ode to beauty and the poetry within the soul expressed without restraint in music, finding inspiration in the works of Mahler, Sibelius and Rachmaninov. The *'Breathing'* paintings were started as a way of visualising techniques used to control his anxiety, creating a physical space to represent the ephemerality of breathing.

'Painting is a window into the artist's soul. My paintings are driven from an emotional and very personal state of being. Everything is taken from my past thoughts and feelings, I only paint interpretations'

Leonardo Anker Vandal

While some may find the lingering presence of silence overwhelming and uncomfortable, Vandal finds soothing inspiration in the space it brings, finding the 'magic' of painting in the new sense of place it produces. This

'medley of silence' is a way to escape reality, bringing the internal world of dreams and emotions into physical reality.

This exhibition will be the first for both artists with Cadogan Contemporary and will be open to the public from the 1st to the 18th of September.

Biography

Notes to Editors

Under a Dome will be open to the public and will run from the 1st to the 18th of September.

There will be a private view at Cadogan Contemporary on the 8th of September and will be open by invitation only.

About Cadogan Contemporary

Cadogan Contemporary is an independent, family-run art gallery based in South Kensington, London. Founded by Christopher Burness in 1980, for forty years the gallery has worked closely with generations of collectors and represented artists including: Elise Ansel, Janette Kerr, Terrell James, Sam Lock, Sargy Mann and Deborah Tarr.

Cadogan's director Freddie Burness has built upon the strong foundations that his father laid, with an aesthetic sensibility and artist-focussed approach refined through a life with artists. Just as Christopher before him, Freddie is working with the next generation of collectors and artists such as Laurence Leenaert, Tycjan Knut and Sam Lock. This direction has allowed Cadogan and Martino di Napoli Rampolla to curate a body of work from two young and exciting artists and present Under a Dome to the public in September 2021.

Cadogan Contemporary

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