

# Arte in Salotto

DI CAMILLA PRINI

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Neva Bergemann - The Mediterranean discreet beauty**

on display at Arte in Salotto

From May 17 to June 16 2023, the figurative art gallery Arte in Salotto hosts in its space in Brera Neva Bergemann's solo exhibition, an American artist who has decided to make the Mediterranean her home.

Fascinated by the landscapes of Greece, her adopted land, the artist is inspired by an element deeply rooted in Mediterranean culture: the olive tree. This tree embodies the visual impression and the symbolic meaning in its shapes. Dictated by strong winds or torn by severe cuts, these are the product of the civilization of our past, whose echoes still resonate in our consciences. Appearing in myths, representations and traditions of the Mediterranean, the olive tree has always been a perpetual symbol of prosperity, fertility and peace.

The exhibition consists of about twenty drawings made with blackened graphite set against a generous white background absent of elements that allow it to be geographically contextualized. Emphasizing a vigorous and resilient nature, olive trees stand stoic and strong on paper like archaic kouroi and korai, yet they are infused with grace and vitality, nourished as they are by air, earth and sun.

Although solitary in appearance, an underlying sense of community among them emerges when displayed together.

Neva Bergemann (1968, Milwaukee) resides in Paros, Greece where she has been the principal instructor for the visual arts department at Hellenic International Studies in the Arts (HISA) since 2010. The artist also founded Artists on the Move, a program that combines the visual arts - working with a variety of media, both en plein air and in the studio - with an exploration of the rich traditions expressed in the architecture, landscape and cultural life of the island of Paros. Her work has been exhibited both internationally and locally.

Last April with the exhibition "Alberi in città" Arte in Salotto focused its attention on the importance of the natural element inside the home; Bergemann's sensitivity fits into this dialectic by exploring the intimate connection between man, nature and civilization. The artist's hand loses itself in the representation of the natural element, thoughtfully bringing back the signs of time that have forged it.

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