

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



The Pantheon

Daniel Graham Loxton

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I first encountered a strong espresso version of a granita at a famous café right outside of The Pantheon in Rome. I remember more about this desert than the oculus which I'd seen so many images of that it almost didn't seem to exist in front of me. There was something about the texture of the granita and the intensity of the aromas linked to memory, plus caffeine, that made me want to take this experience with me. Like a lot of things in Europe, I wondered why we didn't have it here. From then on, my experience of The Pantheon was a granita di caffè con panna.

The Pantheon is a summertime, site-specific performance, centered around a bicycle wheeled, Italian-style granita pushcart. A granita is a frozen, flakey, iced espresso treat that is traditionally served with a generous dollop of fresh whipped cream. I will serve granita di caffè con panna and a fresh lemon version to visitors at the opening of the exhibition from my cart outside of the gallery entrance. Expanding my painting practice into sculpture and performance, I am inspired by Martin Kippenberger's "Peter" exhibition (1987), Sicilian street vendors and their handwritten signage, and Sartre's writing on "Bad Faith."

"Let us consider this waiter in the café. His movement is quick and forward, a little too precise, a little too rapid. He comes toward the patrons with a step a little too quick. He bends forward a little too eagerly; his voice, his eyes express an interest a little too solicitous for the order of the customer. Finally there he returns, trying to imitate in his walk the inflexible stiffness of some kind of automaton while carrying his tray with a recklessness of a tight-rope walker by putting it in a perpetually unstable, perpetually broken equilibrium which he perpetually re-establishes by a light movement of the arm and hand."

– Sartre, Jean-Paul, *Being and Nothingness*, trans. by Barnes, Hazel E. (Methuen and Co. Ltd, UP Paperback, 1969)

The exhibition is on view by appointment only. For more information (including exact location) and images, please contact info@freddygallery.biz