



ERMES ERMES
Via dei Banchi Vecchi 16,
00186 Roma info@ermes-ermes.com

ANDREA SALVINO
NOI SIAMO UNA MINORANZA CHE PENSA E AGISCE COME UNA MAGGIORANZA
22 NOVEMBER 2023 – 13 JANUARY 2024

In Andrea Salvino's work, recent and past history, politics, cinema and visual culture merge into a multifaceted narrative of humanity. With a discerning eye, the artist navigates the intricacies and contradictions of contemporary society. Utilizing a diverse array of mediums, including painting, drawing, and sculpture, Salvino draws from a varied repertoire of iconographic documentation, crafting images where history converges and intertwines with creative invention.

In the exhibition "Noi siamo una minoranza che pensa e agisce come una maggioranza (We are a minority that thinks and acts like a majority)", Salvino ponders over the current meaning of issues such as minority and militancy, tracing back the history of non-conformist political and cultural experiences raised in the 20th century. The exhibition's title is inspired by a statement from one of the opposition movements that animated the social conflicts of that era. Delving into both personal and collective memory, Salvino uncovers the obscured narratives of lateral, unpopular, or inconvenient stories. Notably, he explores the contributions of groups like Monte Verità or Autonomia Operaia, which shared alternative ideals in opposition to the capitalist society of the 20th century.

Employing veiled or explicit references to events and images from the past, the artist re-shapes a visual archive to keep remnants and suggestions of writers, artists, intellectuals, witnesses of freedom of action and thought, and of diverse perspectives on the world. In his works, events and prominent figures of 20th-century culture and society are often represented as symbols, stereotypes, ghosts or fragments of a country's national culture. The artist casts their shadows, allowing their stories to resonate in the present, fostering a dialogue across different periods and ultimately raising new questions. This retrospective gaze is also an invitation to reflect on the power of images in the making of history and collective identity and to imagine new possible scenarios. Rooted in a poetics marked by genuine expressivity and defined by personal iconographical research, Andrea Salvino's work, in this era of unrest and delicate balances, poetically asserts that minorities, no matter how solitary or marginal, can function as a manifesto of cultural resistance.

Andrea Salvino (b. 1969, Rome), lives and works in Berlin and Urbino.

Selected solo and group exhibitions: 2023, Un presente indicativo at Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome, IT; 2022, Stay Hungry at Ermes Ermes, Rome, IT; Fore-edge Painting at Museo Macro, Rome IT; 2017, Munizioniere at Palazzo Ducale of Genova; 2015, Intenzione manifesta. Il disegno in tutte le sue lingue e forme at Castello di Rivoli, Turin, IT; Ricominciare da capo non significa tornare indietro at MACRO, Rome, IT; 2011, When in Rome at Institute of Italian Culture, Hammer Museum and Laxart, Los Angeles, CA; Gewalt herrsch at Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, IT; Italiens. Junge Kunst in der Botschaft at Italian Embassy in Berlin, GE; 2009, Italics. Arte Italiana fra tradizione e rivoluzione, 1968-2008 at Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, US and Palazzo Grassi, Venice, IT; 2008, hopes & doubts at The Dome City Center, Beirut, LB and Fondazione Merz, Turin, IT; 1988:vent'anni prima, vent'anni dopo at Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT; 15th Quadriennale di Roma at Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, IT; Beware the wolf at American Academy in Rome, IT; 2007, Apocalittici e integrati. Utopia nell'arte italiana di oggi at MAXXI, Rome, IT; 2006, Start@hangar/arte a Milano at Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan, IT; 2005, Post Notes at Institute of Contemporary Arts of London, UK and Midway Contemporary Art, Minneapolis, US; 2004, I nuovi mostri at Fondazione Nicola Trussardi Milano/Venice, IT; 2001, Il disprezzo at Fondazione Adriano Olivetti, Rome, IT; Marco Neri e Andrea Salvino at Galleria d'Arte Moderna of Bologna, IT.