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Tancredi Parmeggiani, Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick

Conceptual Fine Arts, Milan

24 October – 22 November 2024

Joshua Petherick born 1979, Adelaide. Lewis Fidock born 1988, Melbourne.

Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick's collaborative practice engages in strategies of artifice to consider relationships between objects and time, the organic and synthetic, past and future. Sitting alongside their individual artistic practices, they have developed a body of predominantly sculptural work, at once recognisable but also strange: artworks that disrupt our perception, yet feel familiar. For when in the company of their work, disorientating emotions and sensations are evoked, chiefly played out via this interplay of horror and humour, with abstraction, absurdity, the macabre and surreal also close by. Fidock & Petherick achieve this richness through the traditional artistic foundations of materials and techniques, they are true craftsmen, carefully considering what should be used and how it should be applied to achieve their conceptual goal. Accompanied by a detailed attention to atmosphere, the result is a practice speaking to the real world and its contained ontology, but seemingly coming from a parallel space/place. - Jack Willet

Fidock & Petherick both live and work in Melbourne; their work has been exhibited at leading local institutions, including The National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne (2023); Monash University Museum of Art, Melbourne (2017); and TarraWarra Museum of Art, Victoria (2016). Additional exhibitions featuring their work has taken place at: 1301SW, Melbourne (2024); Sarah Cottier Gallery, Sydney (2023); Asbestos Gallery, Melbourne (2023); Misako/Rosen & Sydney Sydney collaboration, June Art Fair, Basel, Switzerland (2022); Robert Heald Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand (2021); Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne (2020); Sydney Sydney (2019); and Minerva Sydney (2017)

Tancredi Parmeggiani born 1927, Feltre, Italy, died 1964, Rome, Italy.

He became a friend of Emilio Vedova while studying at the Accademia di belle arti, Venice, in 1946. The following year he visited Paris. From 1948 to 1949 he divided his time between Venice and Feltre. His first solo show took place at the Galleria Sandri, Venice, in 1949. Tancredi moved in 1950 to Rome, where he associated with the group Age d'Or (Golden age), which sponsored exhibitions and publications of the international avant-garde. He participated in an exhibition of abstract Italian art at the Galleria nazionale d'arte moderna, Rome, in 1951. That year the artist settled in Venice, where he met Peggy Guggenheim, who gave him studio space and exhibited his work in her palazzo in 1954. He was awarded the Grand Prize for painting at the Venice Biennale in 1952. This same year, Tancredi and others signed the manifesto of the Movimento spaziale (Spatial movement, 1947–60), initiated by Lucio Fontana in Milan and advocating a new "spatial" art appropriate to the postwar era.

Tancredi had solo exhibitions at the Galleria del Cavallino, Venice (1952, 1953, 1956, 1959), and at the Galleria del Naviglio, Milan (1953). He participated in *Tendances actuelles* (Contemporary trends, 1954) with Georges Mathieu, Jackson Pollock, Wols (Alfred Otto Wolfgang Schulze), and others at the Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland. His work was included in a 1955 group show at the Galerie Stadler, Paris, a city he visited that year. In 1958 further solo presentations of his work were exhibited at the Saitenberg Gallery, New York, and the Hanover Gallery, London, and he took part in the Pittsburgh International (now Carnegie International). In 1959 he settled in Milan, where he showed several times at the Galleria dell'Ariete. That same year Tancredi traveled again to Paris, and in 1960 he visited Norway. Also in 1960 the painter participated in *Anti-Procès* (Anti-process) at the Galleria del Canale, Venice; the gallery gave him solo shows that year and in 1962. He received the Marzotto Prize in Valdagno, Italy, in 1962 and exhibited at the Venice Biennale in 1964. Tancredi committed suicide on September 27, 1964, in Rome.

- The Guggenheim Museum Venice collection n.d., '*Tancredi Parmeggiani biography*', The Guggenheim Museum, accessed 17 September 2024, <<https://www.guggenheim.org/artwork/artist/tancredi-tancredi-parmeeggiani>>.

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Works:

1.
Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick
Purse #1
2024
wood, brass,
47 x 50cm
2.
Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick
Purse #2
2024
wood, brass
40 x 66cm
3.
Tancredi Parmeggiani
1954
oil on canvas
67 x 100cm
4.
Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick
Purse #3
2024
wood, brass
60 x 64cm
5.
Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick
Purse #4
2024
wood, brass
57 x 96cm
6.
Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick
They
2017
Animatronic doll, cosmetics, cables
89 x 38 x 36cm
7.
Lewis Fidock & Joshua Petherick
Author
2024
Animatronic doll, cosmetics, cables
74 x 27cm