

BARBARA CAMMARATA

— AN INTERSPECIES JOURNEY —

curated by / a cura di

CESARE BIASINI SELVAGGI
PATRIZIA MONTEROSSO

Fondazione Brodbeck

via Gramignani 93 - Catania
www.fondazionebrodbeck.it
info@fondazionebrodbeck.it
@ fondazionebrodbeck

PAVILION I

Artist's mental cabin

The first pavilion of the exhibition features the reconstruction of Barbara Cammarata's "mental cabin", starting with her circular vision of existence, of Buddhist matrix, up to her studies on Sicilian colour and light developed since 2012, when she returned to Catania after training in England. The latter process also was slow, punctuated by long observations of light. The light in Sicily is warm, almost yellow, whereas everything appears sharper in English light, and verges on blue. The sphere is the geometric figure of absolute interiority. The circle is a universal symbol of perfection and totality which contains points that, like the chaotic elements of the cosmos, compose and complete it. Each person is metaphorically a point, a microcosm that, by relating to the others, forms a larger one that perfectly follows the entropy of the universe. We are all closely connected with everyone and everything, it is like living within a continuous flow in which everyone and everything is constantly mixed, without ever losing its identity. Barbara Cammarata's artistic research represents an urgent wish for mutual respect and providential alliance for living beings who are witnesses of contemporaneity.

Installations to reconfigure the feminine and motherhood

There is considerable reconfiguration of the feminine and motherhood, of her being a mother and her being a daughter, in Barbara Cammarata's installations. She uses part of her trousseau (as in the case of the bed of pins entitled *Feel What I Feel*, 2016) to explore the politics and practices of the body in reference to her collective culture of origin, to which her identity is inextricably linked. From the political dimension of sexuality to the recognition of domestic familiarity, where desires, tensions, conflicts, anguish, pleasures, and alternations converge, the artist continues to practice a real "mending" (after all, birth involves a laceration-dilation, the cutting of a thread represented by the umbilical cord), often using needles, or real fabrics and clothes.

PAVILION II

An Interspecies Journey

Barbara Cammarata (Catania, 1977) has been developing her artistic research for over a decade through different mediums, often pictorial, creating accesses to incredible, intrapsychic and ultra-mundane worlds, critical places and thresholds, inhabited by characteristic living beings with a human body and animal heads. The exhibition aims to accompany the viewer on an extraordinary journey through a world in which the politically recognized and fully operational metaphor of an interspecies social pact binds humans to the animal, plant and technological kingdoms; where the "similar" and the "different" are co-present in a symbiotic dimension of vitality and growth; where sharing implies an ethical, moral, philosophical and even religious transformation capable of generating a new order.

In the first pavilion of the exhibition, a transparent fictitious gallery, a truly isolated, self-sufficient biosphere, obtained from a minimalist structure drawn in the air by thin metal frames, houses the pictorial portraits of half-human and half-animal beings, immersed in lush vegetation. The absence of traditional walls means that works and audiences are always on stage, as on the set of *Dogville*, the ninth feature film by Danish director Lars von Trier.

The result is the stimulation of an extreme and bi-directional voyeurism, both of these hybrid creatures on the viewer and of the latter on them. Because it is seeing that establishes the place of each person in the surrounding world.

The textile sculptures

The exhibition includes six textile sculptures entitled *Microorganism* (2025). «I use my daughter Frida's clothes to generate sculptures, new possible forms of life. I have kept them and I will continue to keep them forever. I believe that this is the only work that will continue to evolve and can never be considered complete. This plastic research represents the result of a circumstance of strong emotional impact. When I heard about my pregnancy, the artistic environment in England – where I was studying – was not very supportive. One comment in particular stuck with me: "She'll be your handicap!". Today I smile thinking back to that sentence; but back then it had a painful impact on me. I transformed everything internally, Frida became my strength», Barbara Cammarata tells. Frida's clothes transformed into sculptures, moulded but whole as one might do with clay, represent what we might call an inner metamorphosis and an invitation to look at the surrounding reality with different eyes.

PAVILION I



1.1 Barbara Cammarata
Gently Down The Stream I, 2025
Oil on paper, cm 40 x 65
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



1.2 Barbara Cammarata
Gently Down The Stream II, 2025
Oil on paper, cm 40 x 65
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



1.3 Barbara Cammarata
Gently Down The Stream III, 2025
Oil on paper, cm 40 x 65
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



2.1 Barbara Cammarata
Life is but the dream I, 2025
Oil on paper, cm 74 x 52
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



2.2 Barbara Cammarata
Life is but the dream II, 2025
Oil on paper, cm 74 x 52
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



5. Barbara Cammarata
Feel What I Feel, 2015
Bedspread, pins, hydro-painting
Environmental measures
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



2.3 Barbara Cammarata
Life is but the dream III, 2025
Oil on paper, cm 74 x 52
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



6. Barbara Cammarata
Cromie, 2021/24
Oil on paper, n. 11 items cm 30 x 20 each
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



3. Barbara Cammarata
Row, Row, Row Your Boat, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 360 x 200
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo

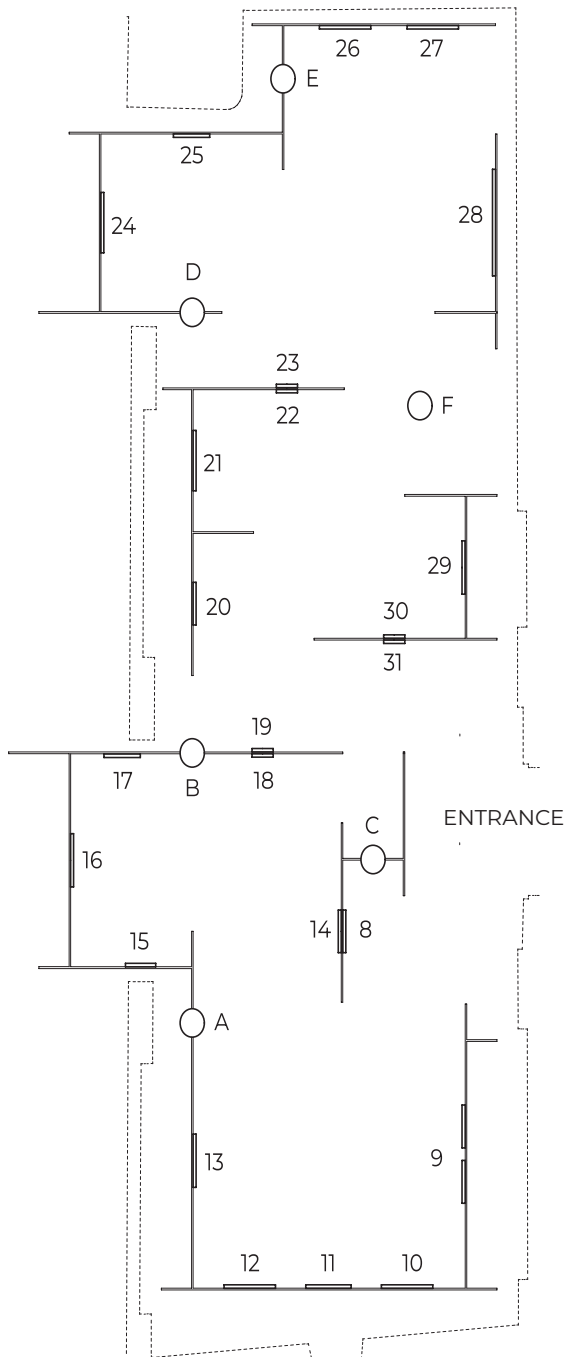


4. Liturgic Dalmatic
19° Century, Sicilian manufacturing
Courtesy Collection Carmelo Sardegna
Ph: Alfio Garozzo

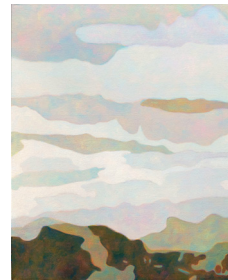


7. Barbara Cammarata
Alles Ist Blatt, 2018
Oil on paper, cm 930 x 130
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo

PAVILION II



8. Barbara Cammarata
Golden Birches, 2024
Oil on linen, cm 150 x 120
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



9. Barbara Cammarata
The Green Hour, 2024
Oil on linen, (diptic) cm 150 x 120 each
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



10. Barbara Cammarata
Rock-a-bye baby, 2022
Oil on linen, cm 220 x 170
Courtesy Collection Paolo Brodbeck, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



11. Barbara Cammarata
We Are Not Human, 2022
Oil on linen, cm 100 x 150
Courtesy Collection Caruso, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



12. Barbara Cammarata
Plumelia, 2021
Oil on linen, cm 200 x 160
Courtesy Frida Cammarata, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



13. Barbara Cammarata
Take Care of Me, 2023
Oil on linen, cm 200 x 160
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



14. Barbara Cammarata
Orange Birches, 2024
Oil on linen, cm 150 x 120
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



A. Barbara Cammarata
Microorganism I, 2025
Textile Sculpture.
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



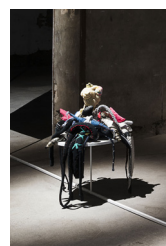
15. Barbara Cammarata
The Barn Owl, 2020
Oil on linen, cm 150 x 100
Courtesy Collection Paolo Brodbeck, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



16. Barbara Cammarata
Ring a Ring O' Roses, 2020
Oil on linen, cm 100 x 150
Courtesy Collection Paolo Brodbeck, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



17. Barbara Cammarata
I'm not a Mushroom, 2023
Oil on linen, cm 120 x 100
CourtesyCollection Isola Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



B. Barbara Cammarata
Microorganism III, 2025
Textile Sculpture.
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



18. Barbara Cammarata
Youth I, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 105 x 70
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



C. Barbara Cammarata
Microorganism II, 2025
Textile Sculpture.
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



19. Barbara Cammarata
Youth III, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 105 x 70
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



20. Barbara Cammarata
Domestic Garden, 2024
Oil on linen, cm 150 x 120
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



21. Barbara Cammarata
Shine Bright like a Diamond, 2024
Oil on linen, cm 220 x 170
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



22. Barbara Cammarata
Youth V, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 105 x 70
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



23. Barbara Cammarata
Youth VI, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 105 x 70
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



D. Barbara Cammarata
Microorganism IV, 2025
Textile Sculpture.
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



24. Barbara Cammarata
Twin Palms, 2024
Oil on linen, cm 220 x 170
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



27. Barbara Cammarata
Gently down the stream, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 220 x 170
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



25. Barbara Cammarata
Overture, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 150 x 120
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28. Barbara Cammarata
Installation
Courtesy Collica & Partners,
Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



E. Barbara Cammarata
Microorganism V, 2025
Textile Sculpture.
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



F. Barbara Cammarata
Microorganism VI, 2025
Textile Sculpture.
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



26. Barbara Cammarata
We are going on a bear hunt, 2025
Oil on linen, cm 200 x 160
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



29. Barbara Cammarata
 Inside, out / Garden-Flamingos, 2023
 Oil on linen, cm 120 x 150
 Courtesy Collection Paolo Brodbeck, Italy
 Ph: Alfio Garozzo



30. Barbara Cammarata
 Youth IV, 2025
 Oil on linen, cm 105 x 70
 Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
 Ph: Alfio Garozzo



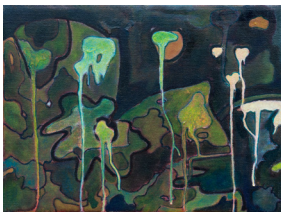
31. Barbara Cammarata
 Youth II, 2025
 Oil on linen, cm 105 x 70
 Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
 Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.1. Barbara Cammarata
Domestic Garden, 2021
Oil on linen, cm 30 x 40
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.5. Barbara Cammarata
Narciso in Blue, 2019
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy Collection Paolo Brodbeck, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.2. Barbara Cammarata
Domestic Garden, 2021
Oil on linen, cm 30 x 40
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.6. Barbara Cammarata
Interspecies Journey, 2024
Oil on linen, cm 80 x 60
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.3. Barbara Cammarata
Narciso in Grey, 2019
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy Collection Paolo Brodbeck, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.7. Barbara Cammarata
The Player, 2022
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy Collection Caruso, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



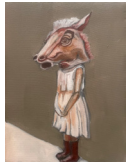
28.4. Barbara Cammarata
Narciso in Yellow, 2019
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy Collection Leopoldo Mazzoleni
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.8. Barbara Cammarata
Lier, 2021
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



20.9. Barbara Cammarata
I'm not a mushroom / Domestic Garden, 2021
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy Collica & Partners, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo



28.10. Barbara Cammarata
Child with Horse Head, 2016
Oil on linen, cm 40 x 30
Courtesy collection La stanza della Seta, Italy
Ph: Alfio Garozzo