

Matèria Marilisa Cosello
 American Dream
 14.09.2023
 performance and installation
 in collaboration with Galleria Studio G7

On Thursday September 14, Matèria is pleased to inaugurate its new exhibition season at the gallery with American Dream, a special one-evening only performance and installation by Marilisa Cosello (Salerno 1978). The event, in partnership with Galleria Studio G7, follows Cosello's award by Matèria at the 2022 Combat Prize.

Set to take place between 6pm and 9pm, Cosello's performance - brought to life by a group of six skilled Roman-based performers - adds to her ongoing investigation into overarching economic, political and cultural structures of contemporary society; spurred by a dialogue initiated in the spring of 2022 with Noam Chomsky, renowned linguist, philosopher, historian and communication theorist, recognized as the founder of generative-transformational grammar. Chomsky grants Cosello the permission to use excerpts from his manifesto book "Requiem for the American Dream: The 10 Principles of Wealth & Power" (2017), a text that the artist unpacks and revisits within her practice, highlighting her multidisciplinary approach through the use of performance art, site specific interventions, video, sound and photography.

In her latest addition to American Dream, Marilisa Cosello structures performance and installation through the careful study and revisitation of Matèria's space. Ranging from the gallery's main exhibition room to its street-facing vitrine, Cosello blends her ongoing two-dimensional text based work referencing the aesthetics of protest, with an elaborate performance set to further develop the central themes that influence the narratives that shape our understanding of wealth, power, and the pursuit of happiness. Moreover, her work prompts a crucial reflection on the underlying mechanisms that govern our contemporary world, while simultaneously challenging us to envision a future that allows for the possibility of new paradigms.

Marilisa Cosello lives and works in Milan (Italy). Born in Salerno (1978) she graduated in Visual Arts in the UK, University Degree in History of Cinema in Milan, IT, Master in Photography at Noorderlicht School NL, later she studied with François Cheval and Luca Panaro. Trained in photography, fine arts and cinema, she worked for 5 years as news photographer, before understanding that reality does not exist and moving to a conceptual approach in her research and artistic practice. Her practice is deeply contemporary, characterized by body participation and performance construction, activating a dialogue between history, culture and social structures. Looking back on Society as a Family, and on Private as Collective, Marilisa Cosello's work merges different forms of investigation concerning power, overlapping public and private, family rituals and collective archetypes. The subject of her research is the political body and the impact of power dynamics on personal and communities' history.

Her photographs, performances, videos stage the body and society's archetypes in order to articulate political ideas, personal struggles, women's conditions, society's expectations. Her works have been exhibited in Italy and abroad at important institutions and events, including M9 Museum (VE), Musei di Palazzo Pio, Carpi (MO), Museo Palazzo Riso, Palermo, IT Fotografie Forum Frankfurt; BAM Biennale del Mediaterraneo, Palermo, Mediterranean Biennial of Contemporary Art, Sarajevo; Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome; Musei di Santa Giulia, Brescia Circulations Festival, Paris; Central Dupon, Paris; Kunsthalle, Lana (BZ); European Photography, Reggio Emilia; Francesco Fabbri Foundation, Pieve di Soligo (TV), Centrale Festival, Fano; MIA, Milan. She won twice the European Photography Award (Fotografia Europea); she received honorable mention at PhotoEspagna, Descubrimientos Braga, and Berlin Photo Festival.

Based in the neighbourhood of San Lorenzo in Rome, Matèria opened its doors to the public in 2015. The gallery proposes an exhibition programme that touches upon all aspects of Contemporary Art. Since its founding, Matèria's purpose has been the furthering and development of the work of its selected group of Artists. The gallery programme features four exhibitions per calendar year, conceived and produced directly with its artists and often in dialogue with the space through a site specific approach. Matèria's gallery shows strive to further the research and experimentation aspects of artistic practice, with the results of this approach often showcased in a growing list of Italian and international art fairs.

Matèria represents the work of Fabio Barile, Karen Knorr, Mario Cresci, Xiaoyi Chen, Giuseppe De Mattia, Sunil Gupta, Marta Mancini, Joachim Lenz, Stefano Canto, Bekhbaatar Enkhtur and Eduardo Fonseca e Silva & Francisca Valador.

Marilisa Cosello
American Dream

Opening
14 September 2023
7pm - 9pm
Matèria | Via dei Latini, 27 - Rome
materialogallery.com

Matèria

Hours
From Tuesday to Saturday
from 11 am to 7 pm

Contact
contact@materialogallery.com

Press enquiries
UC studio, press@ucstudio.it
Roberta Pucci
roberta@ucstudio.it
mob: +39 340 817 4090
Chiara Ciucci Giuliani
chiara@ucstudio.it
mob: +39 392 917 3661