

## LILI DUJOURIE | JAN VERCRUYSSSE

18. 04 | 27. 07. 2019

The exhibition presented in Turin at Tucci Russo Chambres d'Art brings together two artists of Belgian origin, Lili Dujourie and Jan Vercruysse, both bound by elective affinities that are highlighted in many points of their procedure, such as seeking the beauty precisely of art history, transitoriness, presence, absence, literature, poetry, music and painting.

These themes remaining constant, their work differs in aesthetic and development. In the Seventies and Eighties however we find a point of contact in the use of the photographic medium, evidenced in Lili Dujourie's videos and photographic works and in Jan Vercruysse's *Self Portraits*. Subsequently, in the 2000s, the latter created a new series of works titled *Camera Oscura* which are on show.

Jan Vercruysse died recently, in 2018. The exhibition opens with his work *Petite Suite* of 1986 (2003). The work appears as a series of frames, not enclosed in their geometry, with the upper part open as if to receive the possibility of any message or image that may arrive from outside, while on the floor there is an armchair that is also apparently ready to be occupied but, in reality, aims to underscore absence.

Lili Dujourie responds to this absence with the three series of works *Untitled (Storm)* of 1976, in which an implicit glance offers us a silent observation of the motions of the sea, a theme which recurs in the video shown in the adjacent room.

In the last room, wholly dedicated to Jan Vercruysse, are the works *Camera Oscura*, whose subjects cite the overturning visible in the camera obscura almost as a play of images.

A further theme is the one touched on in the works *In My Mind*, where a female figure leaning on a table and surrounded by chairs whose rigorous lines bring to mind the artist's sculptures *Tombeaux*, is flanked by a series of small white horses as if to generate a mental projection.

Simultaneously, at the gallery's space in Torre Pellice, the solo shows by Lili Dujourie and Christiane Löhr will be open until 28th July 2019.

Lili Dujourie (Roeselare, Belgium, 1941) exhibited at the Galleria Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea in 2001. Her solo shows include: *Folds in Time*, S.M.A.K Ghent and MuZEE, Ostend 2015 - Leopold-Hoesch-Museum, Düren 2014 - *Lili Dujourie - La naturaleza es sabia*, Abadía Benedictina de Santo Domingo de Silos, Burgos 2011 - La Conservera, Ceuti 2010 - *Le Creux de L'enfer*, Thiers 2008 - *Jeux de Dames*, Bozar, Brussels 2005 - *Videos 1972-1981*, Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporaneo, Seville; Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe; Argos Brussels, 2002-2004. Among her many collective shows, she participated at *Sanguine. Luc Tuymans on Baroque*, Fondazione Prada, Milano 2018, *21st Biennale of Sydney - Superposition: Equilibrium and Engagement*, Sydney 2018 - *Documenta XII*, Kassel 2007 - *Biennale of Sydney*, Sydney 1988 - *Aperto 86, Biennale di Venezia*, Venezia 1986. In 2016 the exhibition *Folds in Time* was nominated Best show of the year 2015 by the Belgian Association of Art Critics. In the same year Lili Dujourie was awarded the prestigious *Flemish Culture Prize for Visual Arts*.

Jan Vercruysse (Ostend, Belgium, 1948 – Bruges, Belgium, 2018) is considered among the most authoritative artists of his generation. His works figure in important international collections such as the Castello di Rivoli – Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin, Italy; Tate, London, Great Britain; MoMA, New York, USA; MOCA, Los Angeles, USA; MhKA, Antwerp, Belgium; Herbert Foundation, Ghent, Belgium; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Holland. In 1993 he represented Belgium at the Biennale di Venezia. In 2001 he was awarded the prestigious *Flemish Culture Prize for Visual Arts*.