

*DON'T TAKE IT SO SERIOUSLY*

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Davide Sgambaro

**ARTODAY**

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"A kind concession to disorder (ass), (forearm), (feet)" 2019  
wood, velvet, cotton  
variable dimensions

Installation view Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte



"A kind concession to disorder (feet)" 2019  
wood, velvet, cotton  
55x35x20cm

Installation view Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte



"A kind concession to disorder (forearm)" 2019  
wood, cotton  
55x105x20cm

Installation view Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte



"A kind concession to disorder (forearm)", detail 2019  
wood, cotton  
55x105x20cm

Installation view Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte



"A kind concession to disorder (ass)", detail 2019  
wood, red velvet  
100x105x25cm

Installation view Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte



"A kind concession to disorder (ass)" 2019  
wood, red velvet  
100x105x25cm

Installation view Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte



"A kind concession to disorder (edition)" 2020  
digital print on fine art Hahnemühle paper 30x24cm

edition of 10

*In the common imagination, the figure of the 'loser' is often juxtaposed with other personalities, situations and professions that have always fascinated me greatly.*

*Think of the banal clown and the whole practical philosophy of laughter: repetition; the failure of an implicit order; the fall. The clown in itself contains, even in its physicality, all the elements rejected by a progressive standard.*

*This is where our character is born, nothing more than a Pandora's box containing all our shames and fears, which, using them, demystifies them into clumsy acts and dyslexia. All this becomes over time a method to achieve laughter.*

*Laughing at a possibility, at a probable self if I were not so inclined to the rules that keep the balance in 'decency'.*

*What I have always found interesting is the paradox that lives in the spectator, that extraneous self-portrait only in the costume, in the red nose, which is being made fun of is actually us.*

*This paradox is strongly present in all my works. When the form is glossy there is always a gesture ready to unhinge it. The loss of time, the hymn to idleness, the invitation to uncomfortableness, all relations between the spectator self and the self that embarrasses us.*

*The sign: the writing, the scarring, the vandalism.*

*All things we could not do, we do and we hide it, but we would like to.*

*The game, the joke, the spitefulness, the child running away from home, the hiding, falling, climbing, doing all the things that end with -acce.*

*Disdainful of oneself.*

*When we feel that all this no longer belongs to us, we tend to kill ourselves and between one bon ton and another I find myself feeling tied down, a slave to my self-criticism, and this undoubtedly spills over into my work.*

*Fortunately for me, the themes I deal with aim to bring these diatribes, these social and personal paradoxes back onto the stage, so that we can smile at ourselves and take ourselves less seriously.*

*Every different object is nothing but our own prop in the world, a little joke that has been played on us and that we cannot accept because we are too serious to see its simplicity.*

*The work is always the result of fears, contradictions, desires, needs.*

*The gesture, omitted, is a non-invitation to the party, at the same time an invitation to think about why we have not been invited.*

*I remove the physicality, I remove the body but I leave traces of it and it is the perfect terrain for setting the trap between meaning and personal experience, perhaps exhuming memories and desires kept hidden behind the bushes of decency.*

*The paradox lies in this conjunction of sensations, where superficial annoyance is undermined by identifying with it, falling for it, seeing it again and, finally, smiling.*



"I Clowns" by Federico Fellini, 1970

**DAVIDE SGAMBARO (Cittadella, 1989)**  
**lives and works in Turin, Italy**

**Solo Show**

2019, *Paesaggi eterni*, Spaziosiena, Siena, curated Lisa Andreani e Stefania Margiacchi  
2019, *White and black stripes and a red nose (The game), (Let's talk), (A Movie)*, Almanac Inn, Turin, curated by Giulia Gelmini  
2018, *Una cosa divertente che non farò mai più*, Rita Urso Artopiagallery, Milan, curated by Barbara Meneghel  
2016, *Le projet de l'étoile*, La Non-Maison Galerie, Aix-en-Provence, curated by Sascha Guedj-Cohen

**Selected Exhibition:**

2019, *Estate, Autunno*, State Of Project Space, Milan, curated by Irene Angenica, Giovanni Paolin, Giacomo Pigliapoco  
2019, *Premio Fondazione Francesco Fabbri per l'Arte*, Villa Brandolini, Pieve di Soligo, curated by Carlo Sala  
2019, *L'abbaglio*, Société Interludio, Turin, curated by Stefania Margiacchi, Vasco Forconi  
2019, *il O Spazi Indipendenti*, ArtVerona, Verona, curated by Stefania Margiacchi  
  
2019, *A jumi*, BoCs Art, Cosenza, curated by Giacinto di Pietrantonio, Giovanni Paolin, Irene Angenica, Giacomo Pigliapoco  
2019, *Diari tra diari*, Spinola Banna per l'Arte - GAM, Turin, curated by Elena Volpato  
2019, *Incanto*, Fondazione Merz, Turin, curated by Collettivo Diogene  
2019, *Be the difference with art!*, Museo Civico Bassano del Grappa, Bassano del Grappa, curated by Moira Mascotto  
2019, *Pendaison de Crémaillère*, Campobase Project Space, Turin, curated by Campobase  
  
2019, *Il disegno politico italiano*, A+A Gallery, Venice, curated by Aurora Fonda  
2018, *ArtVerona-scouting section*, ArtVerona, Verona, curated by Rita Urso Artopia Gallery  
2018, *La solitudine del curatore*, Dimora OZ Project Space, Manifesta 12, Palermo, curated by Katuscia Pompili, Sasvatii Santamaria  
2018, *The useless land*, Castello di Lajone, Alessandria, curated by Irene Sofia Comi  
2018, *Love me tender*, Fabbrica del vapore, Milan, curated by Stefano Coletto  
2018, *Traffic - Festival delle anime gentili*, San Lorenzo in Campo, curated by Bianca Shroder, Pietro Consolandi  
2018, *Teoria e tecnica dell'appuntamento*, Zentrum Kunsthalle, Varese, curated by Lisa Andreani  
2017, *Combat Prize*, G. Fattori Museum, Livorno, curated by Paolo Batoni  
2017, *Quando, quando, quando*, Affordable Art Fair, Milan, curated by Campo FSRR 16/17  
2017, *100ma Collettiva Giovani Artisti*, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice, curated by Stefano Coletto  
2016, *Premio Fondazione Francesco Fabbri per l'Arte*, Villa Brandolini, Pieve di Soligo, curated by Carlo Sala  
2016, *Un coin du monde*, La Non-Maison Foundation, Aix-en-Provence, curated by Sacha Guedj-Cohen  
2016, *Roll-up*, Fondazione Bonotto partnership w/Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice, curated by Fabrizio Peterlini  
2016, *Quotidiana 2016*, Centro Culturale altinate San Gaetano, Padova, curated by Caterina Benvegnù, Letizia Liguori, Elena Squizzato  
2016, *Atelier Bevilacqua La Masa 2015-2016*, Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice, curated by Stefano Coletto  
2015, *99ma Collettiva Giovani Artisti*, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice, curated by Stefano Coletto  
2015, *A Symphony of Hunger Digesting Fluxus in Four Movements*, Galleria A+A, Venice, curated by International Curatorial Course  
2015, *Biennale Urbana*, Teatro Marinoni, Venice, curated by Cesare Pietroiusti  
2015, *Archivio GAI Young Artists*, Centro Culturale Altinate, Padova, curated by Marco Tondello  
2015, *We Art*, No Title Gallery, Vicenza, curated by Francesco Liggeri  
2014, *Pulsart Restart Ritual*, Lanificio Conte, Schio, Vicenza, curated by Anna Zerbaro Pezzin  
2014, *Nuovi Segnali*, Centro GAI, Padova, curated by Guido Bartorelli, Cristina Pandian  
2014, *Dichiarazione di consultabilità*, Galleria A+A, Venice, a cura di Giulia Meloni



**Prizes:**

2019, *Finalist*, Premio Fondazione Francesco Fabbri per l'Arte, Pieve di Soligo 2019, *Finalist*, Rotary Club Asolo e Pedemontana Prize, Bassano del Grappa 2018, *Production Prize*, Premio Stonelfy, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan  
2017, *Sculpture and Installation 1st Prize*, Combat Prize, G. Fattori Museum, Livorno 2017, *Finalist*, An Idea of Painting, FRASE Got Talent Prize, Venice

2016, *Special Mention*, Premio Fondazione Francesco Fabbri per l'Arte, Pieve di Soligo 2015, *Visual Poetry 1st Prize*, Ecole des regards-young talents, Aix-en-Provence - Marseille

**Main Residencies:**

2019, *Exploring new edges*, Spaziosiena w/Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Siena  
2019, *BoCsArt*, Cosenza curated by Giacinto di Pietrantonio, Giovanni Paolin, Irene Angenica, Giacomo Pigliapoco  
2018, *Q-Rated Il resto dell'immagine*, Castello di Rivoli, Turin, w/Carolyn Christov-Bakrgiev, Sofia Hernández Chong Cuy, Hito Steyerl, curated by La Quadriennale di Roma (Sarah Cosulich, Stefano Colicelli Cagol).  
2018, *Diari tra diari*, tutor Maria Morganti, GAM-Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte, Turin, curated by Elena Volpato  
2018, *Progetti insensati*, Fondazione Arthut Cravan, Milan, curated by Cose Cosmiche  
2017, *Residence 33*, La Non-Maison Galerie, Aix-en-Provence, curated by Sascha Guedj-Cohen  
2015, *Lago Pulsart*, Lago Film Festival, Revine Lago, curated by Anna Zerbaro Pezzin  
2015, *Residency*, tutor Lara Favaretto, Spinola Banna per l'Arte, Poirino, curated by Gail Cochrane & Guido Costa  
2015, *Residency 2015-2016*, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice

**Workshop and collaborations:**

2020, *Graphic proposal*, Artissima/Vinitaly, Piedmont Pavillion, Turin  
2019, *Artist talk*, visiting artist invited by Antoni Muntadas and Agnes Kohlmeyer, Università IUAV, Venice  
2017-2019, *Artist's assistant*, Turin  
2018, *Collaboration*, Progetto Diogene Bivacco Urbano, Turin  
2015, *Collaboration*, Fondazione Bonotto, Fluxus Archive visual and sound poetry, Molvena  
2015, *Artist talk*, *Comfort Zone: A New Urban Outlook*, curated by Giulia Colletti, Venice  
2015, *Collaboration*, w/Norwegian Pavillion, 56ma Biennale di Venezia, Venice  
2015, *Collaboration*, w/Stefano Cagol, Bevilacqua La Masa, Venice  
2015, *Visiting artist / Incubatore* Herion MacLab, Venice  
2015, *Workshop*, Dolomiti Contemporanee & Neonlauro, neon technology, Treviso  
2014, *Mapping our Cosmologies*, w/Agnes Kohlmeyer, IUAV, Venice  
2013, *Performance w/Maria Hassabi*, 55ma Biennale di Venezia, Cipro Pavillion  
2011-2015, *IUAV Workshop*, w/Mario Airò, Stefano Arienti, Paolo Icaro, Lawrence Carrol, Rene Gabri, Alberto Garutti, Cesare Pietroiusti, Antoni Muntadas, Adrian Paci, Angela Vettese, Christodoulos Panayiotou, Liliana Moro.

**Education:**

2016, Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris  
2014-2015, MA Visual Art and Fashion, IUAV University, Venice  
2011-2014, Visual Art Degree, IUAV University, Venice

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