

SHOWCASE: MARIANTONIETTA BAGLIATO, *Mare Morbido (Soft Sea)*

Opening: 25th of February 2017, 7 pm.

Curated by Gaia Valentino

The exhibition is the first of a series of events entitled ShowCase, a series of exhibitions that sees the collaboration of different galleries across the region to present solo shows or curatorial projects – designed by the galleries themselves- in the spaces of the Project Room.

The “**Pino Pascali**” **Museum Foundation** in Polignano a Mare dedicates the project room to the project *ShowCase* which will open on **Saturday 25th of February at 7 pm.**

The first appointment of this project is “*Mare Morbido*” (“*Soft Sea*”) by **Mariantonietta Bagliato**, curated by **Gaia Valentino** and promoted by **Bluorg Gallery in Bari**. The installation, sea made of fabric, draws its inspiration from real life events, almost as if it were looking for a fairy tale ending to the frequent tragedies of today's world. The pieces of fabric are offcuts of daily life, which have that suggestive power of mirroring people's image, just like the sea, which becomes human like the border it represents and that must be crossed.

Mare Morbido (Soft Sea) is the last step of a project that the artist undertook almost ten years ago and that, somehow, takes us towards transition. The focus of this work are still fabrics, so dear to Bagliato for their evocative and synesthetic power. However, *in this installation the artist abandons the seriality and obsessive repetition in favour of a visual ensemble which hides within itself the concept of plurality. Through her work, the artist underlines the need for tenderness in a historical period such as the one we live in by creating a soft alcove, which is fun to walk through and comfortable to rest on, which makes you almost feel hugged* – the curator explained. Bagliato's ironic and sometimes sarcastic look mellows into a child's dream which, however, still keeps the clarity of mind typical of adulthood: the sea is in actual fact rough, moved by colourful surfs that bring to mind different peoples and ethnic groups, just like the small pointy waves remind us of the roughness of the big mass of water that separates us. The exhibition is the first of a series of events entitled ShowCase, a series of exhibitions that sees the collaboration of different galleries across the region to present solo shows or curatorial projects – designed by the galleries themselves- in the spaces of the Project Room in the museum's basement. With this project, which involves artists from different parts of Italy, the Pino Pascali Foundation wants to give galleries and people actively working in the field of art in Apulia, and at national level, the opportunity to use the space offered by an institutional forum such as the Pino Pascali Foundation. At the same time, this is also an opportunity for the public to experience an important taste of what local artists have to offer.

Opening: 25th February 2017, 7 pm

The exhibitions will run until the 7th of May 2017.

Opening hours : From Tuesday to Sunday 10-13 / 16-21. Closed on Mondays.

Telephone number: 080.424.9534 - 333.2091920

(The ticket office closes half an hour before the museum- tickets cost 2 euro plus reductions if applicable)

FONDAZIONE MUSEO PINO PASCALI

VIA PARCO DEL LAURO 119 - 70044 POLIGNANO A MARE (BA) - PH/fax: +39 080 4249534

www.museopinopascali.it

press: Santa Nastro +39 3928928522

snastro@gmail.com