



CELLAR CONTEMPORARY

presents

New Mythologies: Contemporary

Languages from Folk to Pop

Via San Martino, 52 – Trento

Cellar Contemporary presents *New Mythologies: Contemporary Languages from Folk to Pop*, a group exhibition bringing together eleven artists around a shared theme: how popular history and tradition on one hand, and the media repertoire on the other, can inhabit the present through new artistic forms.

The exhibition emerges from the encounter between two seemingly distant worlds. On one side, Slovak duo Jarmila Mitříková & Dávid Demjanovič, who have spent years building new mythologies drawing from ethnographic sources, legends, traditional ceramics, and supernatural imagery. Alongside them, David Aaron Angeli, whose work reflects a Mediterranean unease through contemporary artifacts, objects and images that feel found rather than made, Lance De Los Reyes and Anne de Los Reyes, each inhabiting their own compositions of creatures that evoke the mystical, and Andrew Gilbert, who reinterprets late nineteenth-century colonial painting by foregrounding figures from indigenous history, subverting its meaning with sharp irony.

On the other side, five artists who draw from urban and popular culture and reimagine it: Erik Foss, a self-taught New York painter who, through sinuous cobras, animated figures, and airbrushed graffiti, reinterprets street culture without the critical distance of postmodern Pop Art; Solomostro, a Milanese artist shaped by techno clubs and artisanal screen-printing, who brings the nocturnal creatures of his personal iconography onto walls; Brian Belott, the "master of discards," who through assemblages of objects found at flea markets and American dollar stores reactivates a Dada and punk ethic as everyday practice; and Margherita Paoletti, who has devoted a series of paintings to the tattooed body as a site inhabited by common symbols drawn from media culture. Finally, Laurina Paperina populates her works with references from cinema, video games, politics, and art history, offering them an entirely new meaning.

What these eleven artists share is a relationship with the cultural repertoire of the near or distant past that is anything but nostalgic. Tradition is not preserved but reinvented; discarded material is not celebrated but transformed; the mass-circulated image is not merely quoted but inhabited. The exhibition explores the way time sediments itself into form, and the possibility of building new mythologies from the debris of the present.