



Via Ponte di Legno 9
20134, Milano (MI)

+39 324 9974878
info@artnoble.co.uk

**BITS & CREAM. METABOLIZZAZIONE D'ARCHIVIO
GIULIA MANGONI**

Solo exhibition
25 November, 2021 – 28 January, 2022

BITS & CREAM. METABOLIZZAZIONE D'ARCHIVIO

Giulia Mangoni - solo exhibition

Archival indexing by Giulia Floris

ArtNoble gallery is pleased to present *Bits & Cream. Metabolizzazione d'Archivio*, the first solo show by artist Giulia Mangoni at the gallery.

Italian – Brazilian artist Giulia Mangoni focuses her artistic practice on the reinterpretation of familiar landscapes through a painterly and performative language capable of involving disciplines from the rural context such as animal breeding and ancient techniques of local craftsmanship. In doing so, the artist enriches her visual imagery through in-depth investigations into the history of the territory: first among these circumstances is the Ciociaro context in which Mangoni was born and where she has returned to live permanently since 2015.

In the space of the Milanese gallery, the imaginative and ancestral archive that the artist has collected of the Ciociaria region in meridional Italy over the last six years, in its representative features, manifests itself as a Warburghian tableaux aimed at exploring the characteristics of representation linked to the first part of the research, transitioning between information gathered at a distance and an embodied experience of place.

In an attempt of “mastication and digestion” of this personal archive, Mangoni goes beyond the concept of mere discovery, representation and celebration of such rural places that have been portrayed throughout time as bucolic and romantic sites for the imagination. A territory that has been subjected to rural and industrial exploitation by larger neighbouring urban centres and that has fed and sustained their growth for centuries, Ciociaria is today neither fuelled by rurality or industry, however it is reacting to an impending tourism that begins to arrive, bringing pressures to search for a new identity.

In this exhibition, Giulia Mangoni sets out to rework the origins of the territory studied so far, proposing its layers in space as a sort of patisserie-decoration for a local ice-cream shop. The visually appetizing and more iconic characters of her paintings emerge as creamy, soft, and camouflaged amid symbols of territorial belonging. The result is a collection of folkloric interweavings that pulsate with psychedelic activation.

Bits & Cream. Metabolizzazione d'Archivio, thus opens a new chapter in the artist's work, presenting an unpublished series of paintings in multiple sizes which, invading the spaces of the gallery, aim at representing the digestion and re-writing of territorial narratives imagined in a local ice-cream parlour where time seems to have stopped, and also *Bits & Cream*, a luminous sign that flickers invitingly at the limits of the amazon forest, letting us glimpse at an identity that is anything but local.

The exhibition also includes an editorial collection whereby the artist brings together a bibliography of rhizomatic expansion evidencing the personal characters of this affective archive-building that is the centre of Mangoni's practice. Within this collection, the artist welcomes a sculptural intervention by the association J'API from the Ciociaria region, whose ceramic sculptures can be seen echoed in Mangoni's paintings, as well as an indexing of the archive which is inserted as intervention by curator and writer Giulia Floris.



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GIULIA MANGONI (ISOLA DEL LIRI, 1991)

Giulia Mangoni is an Italian-Brazilian artist whose practice revolves around the ethics of return; she is interested in creating interventions orchestrated through the lens of painting in order to deconstruct notions of memory and identity attached to specific geographies and communities.

Born in 1991 in Isola del Liri, FR, Mangoni was raised between Italy and Brazil and now lives and works in her hometown. Mangoni has a Foundation Degree in Art & Design from Falmouth University of the Arts (2011), a Painting BA (Hons) from City & Guilds of London Art School (2014), where she was awarded the *Skinner Connard's Travel Prize* and the *Chadwick Healey Prize for Painting*, and an MFA from the SVA Art Practice program in New York City, (2019).

She has participated in both national and international exhibitions, including *From the Island of Liri*, a solo show curated by Juliana Leandra at Dreambox Lab, New York; *Ladder to The Moon* at Monitor Gallery, Rome; *VIVERE DI PAESAGGIO*, curated by Mirta di Argenzio at APALAZZO Gallery, Brescia; *Zeitgeber (donatore di tempo)* at ArtNoble gallery, Milan and *The New Abnormal*, Straperetana curated by Saverio Verini. Further to this, in 2020 Mangoni was selected for the CASTRO Projects fellowship program in Rome, being awarded the *Scovaventi Italian Fellowship*, and was recently invited for a solo exhibition at the 4m2 student gallery at the John Cabot University in Rome. During the same period, Mangoni also organized a group intervention in the town of Castro dei Volsci (Ciociaria), with artists Pietro Librizzi, James Hillman and Anouk Chambaz.

In collaboration with

