

GALLERIA
ANTONIO
BATTAGLIA

ALESSANDRO RUSSO
MILAN

Opening reception: Tuesday November 30, 2021, 5 - 9 pm

1 - 30 December

Gallery hours: Tue. / Sat. 4 - 7,30 pm

Into the new artworks by Alessandro Russo there is a lively relationship between painting and urban landscape. It's a gift to the constantly evolving Milan of the last years, it refers to the exciting industrial development during the period in which Boccioni made right here the famous *La città che sale* (1910-11); the artist from Calabria is suggested by new architectures characterizing the city with its industrial illuminated bourgeois; he has always supported artists, creating important collections which now are in important museums like Museo del '900 and Gallerie d'Italia that opened in the last years.

The exhibition of Alessandro Russo, in this particular historic moment marked by the pandemic, restarts from these cultural foundations; the artist gives his own pictorial interpretation of the new Milan with a choice of artworks exhibited in the gallery and published in his last monograph that documents this fertile period of the artist (2011 – 2020); he's from Calabria too and he moved to Milan to teach Decoration at Brera Academy of Fine Art. A superb series is dedicated to the iconic Dome of Milan; not an easy subject that he realizes with an extreme pictorial synthesis with his decisive brushstroke from the warmest Mediterranean colors to the Milanese typical gray. On the catalogue's cover there's a *Red Dome*, oil on aluminum, a support that the artist started to use after a commission as an interesting reflecting base for his photographic approach. In addition to canvas, he easily uses different supports and techniques like forex, cardboard, retouches, mixed media on board. The iconographic research of Alessandro Russo, from the industrial archaeology, to the ports, till the most historical paintings like the rallies, the politicians' and the magistrates' portraits, are in dialogue with his recent paintings. There is a relationship with the classic art, through painting, gesture and architecture. *Bosco Verticale*, *City Life*, *Grattacielo Unicredit*, *Palazzo della Regione Lombardia*, *Torre Diamante*, the station serie, *Porta Garibaldi* and *Stazione Centrale*, and so on; a world level painting, starting from the great French tradition that opens the way to contemporary.

Antonio Battaglia, November 2021

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