

ALBERTO DI FABIO

gardens of the mind

Exhibition space: Galleria Umberto Di Marino, Via Alabardieri 1, 80121, Naples, Italy

Opening: Tuesday 13th December 2011 – 7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Duration: 13th December 2011 – 10th February 2012

Text in catalogue: Nicoletta Daldanise

Orario: Monday – Saturday 3 p.m. / 8 p.m. – by appointment in the morning

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Galleria Umberto Di Marino is pleased to present the last solo show in its space by Alberto Di Fabio entitled *gardens of the mind*, on Tuesday 13th December 2011.

Alberto di Fabio has always sought to explore the relationship between art and nature by patiently dismembering organic forms taken from reality and reducing them to their minimum terms of representation. By gradually delving into the mystery of the origins of life, the artist's work ranges from reproducing molecules, which are magnified as if under the lens of the microscope, to considering the infinite spaces of the cosmos, as if one were looking through the filter of a telescope.

The analogies in his work with the scientific world are not random: this is the case both in calculating the effects of light and composition that contribute to giving depth to the nebulae in the background of his paintings, or in the theoretical study he conducts to attain a wholly personal aesthetic. His painting forges strong links with physics and biology in order to rediscover a more authentic relationship with nature, not just in the environmentalist sense but, at a more profound level, as a form of contact with the essence of the cosmos, in an attempt to link the parts into a single Totality.

The spiritual aspect of existence is therefore the theme of the works on display in the exhibition at the Galleria Umberto Di Marino, where the choice of the large format marks the definitive shift towards a broader dimension of knowledge. Alberto Di Fabio concentrates on the unforeseen aspects of matter in an attempt to give shape to formlessness. This has been defined by quantum mechanics as the main characteristic of our substance, although it had already been envisaged by thinkers from all epochs until the scientific foundations were laid for formulating the theory of relativity. Given the impossibility of determining and clearly representing physical processes, the artist carves out a poetic and sublime vocation for art, which is more suited than any other discipline to entering the spiritual dimension and embracing a synaesthetic vision.

At a formal level, all of this naturally passes through the great tradition of Abstract Art, encapsulated here in a combination of references to the movement in its various guises. In the large paintings on display in the three rooms of the gallery, there is a clear decision to avoid representation and to move towards a more ethereal yet even more effective aesthetic. It is a journey through the history of art and scientific discoveries that provides the eternal classicism of painting with new possibilities for experimentation.

Alberto Di Fabio (Avezzano, IT, 1966). Lives and works between Rome and New York.

Selected solo and group shows:

- 2011 *Dublin Contemporary - Terrible Beauty—Art, Crisis, Change & The Office of Non-Compliance*, curated by Jota Castro and Christian Viveros-Fauné, National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin, IE
Alberto Di Fabio, Gagosian Gallery, Athens, Greece
- 2010 *Over the rainbow*, a cura di Emanuela Nobile Mino, Galleria Pack, Milan, IT
Alberto Di Fabio, Gagosian Gallery, New York, USA
Under Italian Eyes, Mahmoud Khalil Museum, Cairo, Egypt
- 2007 *Sinestesia*, Galleria Umberto Di Marino, Napoli, Italy
From the Vault, Galleria Pack, Milan, IT, curated by Martina Cavallarin
- 2005 *Napoli presente*, PAN (Palazzo delle Arti di Napoli), Naples, IT, curated by Lòrànd Hegyi
- 2004 Gagosian Gallery, Los Angeles, USA
ri-impianto, Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea, Giugliano, Naples, IT, text by Luigi Giovinazzo
- 2003 Galerie Vedovi, Brussels, Belgium
- 2002 *Fuoriuso 2002 – Ferrotel*, Pescara, IT, text by Mario Codognato
Gagosian Gallery, London, UK
Briggs Robinson Gallery, New York, USA
- 2001 Jan Wagner Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 1993 *Trismegisto*, Galleria Lucio Amelio, Naples, IT