

LUCA FRANCESCONI

A naked tree and some other works...

Exhibition space: Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea
Via Alabardieri 1, 80121, Napoli

Opening: Tuesday 10th January 2006 – from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Exhibition dates: 10th January – 10th April 2006

Opening hours: from Monday to Friday 3:00 – 8:00 p.m., by appointment in the morning
Saturday 11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. / 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

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The [Galleria Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea](#) is delighted to present [Luca Francesconi](#)'s first solo exhibition in Naples titled *A naked tree and some other works...*, on Tuesday 10th January 2006.

Through his research [Luca Francesconi](#) (Mantova 1979) recovers romantic-existential themes from a contemporary viewpoint, both experimenting with different media and speaking often metaphorically. Prompted by his experiences as performer and video-artist, his work comes over the last few years to a new way of understanding the interaction with natural world. In an age when man's interaction seems to get more and more intrusive, the artist realizes that he can leave his stamp constructively. The artificial element follows the natural processes where time passes by and plays a leading role till it becomes a part of them.

For the exhibition at [Galleria Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea](#) the artist presents new works that focus on this theme but are independent each other.

In the first room there is a tree lying on the floor: it has been decorticated and shows therefore its most intimate part. The tree is covered with a new foliage: here a trash material such as masticated chewing gum wins a new poetic meaning and describes the original foliage's weft. **The second room** is occupied by two natural objects that, thanks to the artist's selective gesture and a few transformations, achieve a sculptural role. A carob's branch 120 cm high displays its ripe fruits, but careful viewers will discover that those fruits turn into long and sharpened thorns. A huge pink quartz crystal becomes instead a homage to Naples; it consists of too hastily cooled lava aggregated during the years. This special "natural glass" has been treated and covered with shoe polish in accumulation, and so the artist has reserved its main feature of filtering the light in order to be evocative of new landscapes and past artistic experiences, such as Francesco Lo Savio's one. Finally, **in the third room**, there is a serie of drawings and one photo showing a very peculiar phenomenon of natural world, such as the spontaneous grafting of two trees: they both give up their independence to become something unique and unrepeatable.

Born in 1979 in Mantova, [Luca Francesconi](#) lives and works in Milan.

Personal shows:

2005, Analix Forever, Genève

2004, Marella Arte Contemporanea, Milan

2003, *Gin a body meet a body*, curated by Patricia Ellis, Play Gallery, Berlin

2002, *La ripartizione degli averi nella società è perfettamente inutile*, The Flat, Milan

Group shows:

2005, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, curated by Luca Beatrice, Turin

Praha Biennale, Praha

Fiftyone fine arts, Antwerpen

2004, *Fuori uso*, Pescara, curated by Luca Beatrice

Work Art TV, Galleria Civica di Trento, Trento, curated by F. Cavallucci

On air-video report dall'Italia 04-05, Galleria Comunale di Monfalcone, curated by A. Bruciati and A. Crippa

2003, De l'autre côte des Alpes, Biagiotti Arte Contemporanea, Florence, curated by Charlotte Mailler

2002, *Italian boys*, Analix Forever, Genève

2001, I Biennale di Tirana, Tirana, curated by Giancarlo Politi

2000, Fondazione Ratti, Tracce di un seminario, Viafarini, Milan, curated by A. Vettese and G. Di Pietrantonio