

## PIETRO MORETTI

### Il rossore dell'asino

06 August -  
10 September 2022

#### Opening hours

Tuesday – Saturday  
from 15 to 18 o'clock  
and by appointment

On the occasion of GARASC at Galleria Doris Ghetta, Pietro Moretti (Rome, 1996) presents *Il rossore dell'asino* (The blush of the donkey), a solo exhibition in which the artist, through a collection of watercolours and oil paintings, weaves narratives between the everyday and the fantastic, questioning the ambivalence of emotions in intimate relations, the complexity of the desire of belonging, the identity within male dynamics, and how the unexpressed emerges through the body, revealing lies, pain, fragility and the contradictory nature of desires.

Drawing inspiration from the atmospheres of fairy tales and fables, from the comics together with grotesque elements, the works here presented share a fascination with the body. The characters inhabiting the imagery of Moretti's paintings are often caught in knotted gestures: bodies that hold, entangle, suffocate, embrace, transform and touch. As an expression of the self and the psychological identity, the body is also the vehicle with which we relate, dialogue and clash with the values and expectations of a social context.

Interested in the materiality of different surfaces and the non-naturalistic use of colours, Moretti moves nimbly from the figurative to the non-figurative to suggest the porosity between the physical and psychological states of the painted figures. The depicted scenes create a familiar universe, alienating and oniric at the same time: a room is taken up by pigeons, while the legs of an enormous bird are standing out between them; a couple, holding hands, simultaneously vomit creating a joint flow; two hands try to contain the braying of a donkey; a woman collapses in on herself cutting an onion, her body a diagram of intertwined gestures; teenagers, close but isolated in their actions, float on an inflatable doll that is slowly deflating. In *La visita, un'altra visita* (The Visit, Another Visit), a boy is bedridden in a hospital room, his feet held by those of his mother, while a nurse leaves the room, letting in a faint pink light for an instant. In the stretched out time of the hospital, the young patient engages in a conversation of glances with an unexpected visitor: an oversized cicada has entered the room. The work focuses on illness to reflect on what is beyond the possibility of control, something that disrupts the stability of everyday life and yet might reveal something important about us, our lives and the society we live in. Here, as in his other works, Moretti entrusts the confrontation and reflection on themselves and on human relationships to animals: while they remind us of what is intimate to the human, they also underline an unsurpassable threshold to what is alien to us and what we could never know.

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GARASC is a project of Galleria Doris Ghetta that supports emerging I3 artist3 who want to experiment and test their artistic practice within the ecosystem of contemporary art galleries.