PROMETEO GALLERY

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GIUSEPPE STAMPONE

Saracinesche

with an essay by Ilaria Bernardi

Opening:
09.04.2026
10.04 - 29.05.2026

Via Massimiano 27
20134, Milan

Monday - Friday
11:00AM - 6:00PM

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From **Thursday, April 9, 2026**, the artist **Giuseppe Stampone** (Cluses, France, 1974) will present for the first time, at **Prometeo Gallery**, a new series of works, each entitled ***Saracinesca***.
The artist uses a Bic pen to draw a shutter in the act of closing over great masterpieces of art history, which are themselves meticulously redrawn with the same medium: from Piero della Francesca's *The Flagellation of Christ* (c. 1455–1460) to Beato Angelico's *The Annunciation* (1437–1446), from Jan van Eyck's *The Arnolfini Portrait* (1434) to Antonello da Messina's *The Veiled Woman* (c. 1475).
«It is in the dialectic between the visible and the invisible», states Ilaria Bernardi, «that the political core of this new series of works is played out. While the history of Western art has, over the centuries, built a repertoire of images founded on ideals of harmony, ideal beauty, proportion, and transcendence, our contemporary era is instead marked by closure, fear, and repression. The shutter is thus a metaphor for our time», evoking cities emptied and suspended by wars, as well as the new walls that cross the world.
These works fit seamlessly into Stampone's body of work, which has always been focused on a critical reflection on the mechanisms of power, educational dynamics, and the systems of knowledge production and transmission. The use of the Bic pen and the practice of tracing existing images are, in fact, political gestures: through these ancient and slow techniques – from writing to glazing to tracing – Stampone opposes the speed and dematerialization of memory in the contemporary era.
The exhibition at Prometeo Gallery is an invitation to take the time needed to look beyond the "blind wall" of the contemporary world.

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Giuseppe Stampone (b. 1974, Cluses, France) is an artist who lives and works between Teramo, Brussels and Rome.
His production ranges from multimedia installations and videos to drawings made with a Bic pen, where the medium of drawing becomes a relational device at the center of community building. From his idea was born Solstice Project (www.solstizio.org), realized in collaboration with the European Union and developed in several countries. Since 2002 he has collaborated with artist and life partner Maria Crispal, with whom he shares the Global Education and Solstice Project. In 2021 the Bic company produced the color "Blue Stampone", dedicated to the artist for his drawings made with a Bic pen through which he investigates icons of the past and contemporary.
Stampone teaches Painting Techniques at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna and collaborates with universities and academies such as IULM University in Milan, Federico II University in Naples, and the McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology in Toronto. He is an associate member

of the American Academy in Rome and the Civitella Ranieri Foundation in New York. In 2020, he is the first Italian winner of the residency at Villa Romana in Florence, funded by Deutsche Bank. In 2013, with L'ABC del Bel Paese, he won the first edition of the "Pacco d'Artista" Award, promoted by Poste Italiane, and his work was reproduced on one hundred thousand of the company's parcels.

His works have been exhibited in numerous international art festivals, museums, foundations and galleries including: Chengdu Biennale (2026); "Fotocopiatrici Intelligenti", The Drawing Hall (Bergamo, 2025); "Emigration Made", Villa Pacchiani (Santa Croce sull'Arno, 2025); "PASOLINI IN CHIAROSCURO", Nouveau Musée National de Monaco - Villa Sauber (Monaco, 2024); "La bellezza non esiste", Prometeo Gallery Ida Pisani (Milan, 2024); "Diario Notturno. Di sogni, incubi e bestiari immaginari", MAXXI L'Aquila (L'Aquila, 2023); "Saludos desde Bogotá / Greetings from Bogotá", MAMBO (Bogotá, 2023); "Il cielo blu sopra il Gran Sasso / Campo Imperatore", Prometeo Gallery Ida Pisani (Milan, 2023); 59th Venice Biennale, Cuba Pavilion (2022); "Personale connettivo", MAC (Lissone, 2022), curated by Francesca Guerisoli; "Nel blu dipinto", Marca Corona (Sassuolo, 2022), with a text by Leonardo Caffo; "Past to the Future", Prometeo Gallery Ida Pisani (Milan, 2022); London Design Biennale (2021); 17th Venice Architecture Biennale, South Korea Pavilion (2021); Villa Romana, Florence (2021); "Two Generations Compared: Giuseppe Stampone and Ugo La Pietra", CIAC Museum (Foligno, 2018), curated by Giacinto Di Pietrantonio and Italo Tomassoni.

His works are in major international collections including: MFAH - The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; MAXXI - Museo Nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome; GAMeC - Galleria D'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Bergamo; Calcografia Nazionale - Istituto Centrale per la Grafica, Rome; Biennale of Sydney; Kochi Biennale Foundation, Kerala; Wilfredo Lam Center, Havana; Artnexus Foundation, Bogota.