

LUCIA LEUCI
LA RAGAZZA DI CITTÀ (City Girl)

Rotten European, you believe that you love the desert, nature, the countryside, but then, as soon as the signs of the detested civilisation resurface, you say "At last".

Luciano Bianciardi, *Viaggio in Barberia*, 1968

City dwellers don't just live on smog.
Artemio, *Il ragazzo di campagna*, 1984

*I want to go and live in the country,
Feel the dew upon me,
But I live here, in the city, and I don't like it anymore,
in this beastly traffic
solitude assails you and gets you down.*
Toto Cutugno, *Voglio andare a vivere in campagna*, 1995

*I keep to a tight rhythm
In twenty square metres
I have death in my eyes
My days are numbered*
Fabri Fibra, *Bugiardo*, 2007

*Every day
In the city
You live and die
In the city
There's a framework
That gets you down
There is no religion
Left to save us*
Marracash/Gué Pequeno, *Nulla accade*, 2016

On Thursday, 24th September 2020, TEMPESTA gallery will be opening Lucia Leuci's solo show, *La ragazza di città (City Girl)*.

The newly inaugurated space in foro Buonaparte 68, Milan, will be hosting the artist's recent sculptural works that reconstruct a domestic environment with anthropomorphic figures that relate with the space. A visual story about the history of the city, the totality of the emotions of its people and the human vicissitudes that take place there.

TEMPESTA

The works on show represent the continuation of Lucia Leuci's research into contrasting elements, synthetic and natural materials, which are applied as a tool for urban investigation. Through the exploration of constants from everyday experiences, Lucia intimate photography features a collectivity that feels alienated from nature, in an avid search for the more rural world of the past. Today, city dwellers seek a more individual reality within the rural setting, with its agriculture and values of sustainability and respect for the environment.

In fact, in recent years, there is growing attention on the use of genuine raw materials and fresh produce, which has led to the creation of eco-sustainable food production chains that have low environmental impact. The desire to live in more open spaces in contact with nature has driven city inhabitants to re-evaluate the benefits of agricultural life, moving to more agreeable localities, like tiny hamlets and pastoral towns, where personal wellbeing is the cornerstone of a tranquil, more human-scale existence.

In recent times, this rejection of the city, where living spaces have become increasingly smaller and expensive, has led people to question the quality of life of those who live and work there - and those who long to live in them.

The title of the exhibition is a play on the name of the famous Eighties cult film, *Il ragazzo di campagna* (Country Boy), in which Renato Pozzetto plays a genuine and humble young man from a (still) rural Italy, who aspires to a life in the modern and consumerist world of the city.

Today, many humans live in a continuous city, that no longer has a beginning or end, dreaming of a more natural dimension; the lost verdant undergrowth of our psyches.

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In an attempt to creating an ideal linguistic dialogue and a connection extending over different time horizons, a selection of historical works by **Carol Rama** (Turin, 1918-2015) will be presented in the **viewing room** of the gallery.

Main section Lucia Leuci, *La ragazza di città*

Viewing room Carol Rama

TEMPESTA gallery, Milan

foro Buonaparte, 68 Italy 20121 Milan

Opening Thursday 24 September 2020, 7pm

Press preview Thursday 24 September 2020, 10am (by accreditation)

The exhibition will be visible from September 25th until December 19th

Open Tuesday to Saturday, 11am - 1pm and 3pm - 7pm, and upon appointment

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Due to the COVID-19 emergency TEMPESTA gallery is open by appointment only