

**Andrea Conte (Andreco), Claire Chalet, Dina Danish,
Angelo Filomeno, Carlo Guaita, Alexander Gutke,
Jean-Baptiste Maitre, Elena Mazzi, Marzena Nowak,
Giulia Parlato, Jasmine Pignatelli, Giuditta Vendrame**

From 20.02.2025 to 14.03.2025

Artopia is delighted to present, on Thursday 20 February, the exhibition **Ricomposizioni**, a special project that, for the first time in Milan, traces the three editions of Nucre', the contemporary art exhibition in Puglia, through a detailed selection of works

Nucre' was born in 2022, from an idea of the two gallerists, Rita Urso and Arechi Invernizzi, who are emotionally linked to the region, with the aim of creating reflections on the places, landscapes and cultural and anthropological heritage of the Puglia region through the gaze of contemporary artists and a dialogue with history and collective memory. The event, consisting of two separate exhibitions and a residency, takes place in two characteristic locations in the municipality of Ceglie Messapica, the Castello Ducale and the Trullo Rubina, and is supported by the Regione Puglia, the Museo Pino Pascali a Polignano a Mare and the Municipality of Ceglie Messapica.

Artopia Gallery opened in February 2001 with Marzia Migliora's exhibition *In punta di piedi*, curated by Emanuela De Cecco. The gallery promotes emerging and mid-career Italian and international artists with an extensive program of exhibitions, mostly site-specific and curatorial projects. The intent is to offer a critical and innovative reading of the contemporary through the experimentation of multiple languages and practices that include film, digital media, performance and design. In the fall of 2023, the gallery changed locations, moving to the courtyard of the same building that has housed it for more than two decades. The new space, a former late 19th-century workshop in the heart of Milan, was designed by Studio Martinelli Venezia. Since summer 2022, Artopia has been organizing the festival NUCRÉ, sponsored by the Region of Puglia: a set of contemporary art events aimed at enhancing the cultural and anthropological heritage of the Apulian territory.

NUCRÉ, born in 2022 from an idea of Rita Urso and Arechi Invernizzi (Artopia Gallery, Milan), is a project aimed at creating a dialogue between contemporary art and the Apulian territory, developing a series of reflections on the places, landscapes, cultural and anthropological heritage of this region. The project, consisting of two exhibitions and a residency, is developed in two characteristic locations in the municipality of Ceglie Messapica, the Castello Ducale and the Trullo Rubina. The event is supported by Regione Puglia, Fondazione Museo Pino Pascali and Comune di Ceglie Messapica. Nucre', is a word composed of the dialectal terms "nu" + "cre'" and represents a recurring vernacular formula of the territory with which it generally indicates "a tomorrow", an allusion and suggestion used in the form of hope, promise, destiny.

Ricomposizioni brings together in the gallery's open volume some of the works that were exhibited in the six Nucre' shows, thus illustrating the main thematic nuclei addressed by the exhibition, its premises and objectives. A large table at the entrance of the gallery collects the catalogues of the three editions, the materials that inspired the themes addressed by the exhibition and the graphic elements that shape the visual identity created by Marco Spinelli Studio (Lecce).

The idea of recomposition (ricomposizione) that gives the exhibition its title implies a mechanism of deconstruction and reconstruction. Combine, deconstruct and recompose, a dynamic inherent in every exhibition that configures and redefines a different narrative structure according to the specificity of the space and the exhibition layout. Even the works on display, in their fluid distribution and variety of languages, ranging from sculpture (Andrea Conte (Andreco), Alexander Gutke, Marzena Nowak, Jasmine Pignatelli) to photography (Carlo Guaita, Giulia Parlato), from drawing (Elena Mazzi, Giuditta Vendrame) to Angelo Filomeno's embroidery mounted on a loom, and finally from painting (Claire Chalet, Jean-Baptiste Maitre) to video (Dina Danish), reassemble a new narrative of the six exhibitions that made up the festival in the compact environment of the gallery, which acts as an architectural link.

With this exhibition, Artopia reconfirms its link and commitment to the Puglia region, exporting the works exhibited in the Nucre' editions, transplanting them into the gallery context as if to create an imaginary bridge between the two realities.