

ALESSANDRO BAZAN

Alessandro Bazan's painting has always moved with great ease and strong technical ability between irony, vision and great happiness, fluidity of sign and colour. The subjects of his paintings range freely across different stylistic references: from the Sicilian folk tradition and the history of the Twentieth Century *Avant-garde* to suggestions taken from advertising, comics and cinema.

The favourite settings of his paintings are the slums of the city in which his characters move on the stage of a grotesque, violent, comical or happy everyday life, depending on the situation. His characters are situated halfway between dream and fiction within a generational narrative. The artist from Palermo could thus be defined as a "genre painter", who deliberately mixes references, but who also draws on images taken from genre cinema, such as noir, western, thriller and TV series, as well as from pulp literature and more generally from all of contemporary popular culture. His works are made with great awareness and pictorial joy, which leads the artist to paint one canvas with fluid and delicate tones, another with an almost expressionist mark and another absolutely free and light-hearted, almost touching abstraction.

Alessandro Bazan was born in Palermo in 1966, where he lives and works. He has a rich and articulated exhibition history. Among his major exhibitions: *La Sapienza* University Laboratory Museum, *Grand Palais* in Paris, Gallery of Modern Art in Bologna, PAC in Milan, the European Parliament in Strasbourg, the cultural sites of Zisa, *Belmonte Riso* Museum in Palermo, *Promotrice* of Fine Arts in Turin, *Palazzo della Penna* in Perugia, and the National Museum of *Villa Guinigi* in Lucca. Among the institutions that have hosted his works are the Rome *Quadriennial* of Art and the Venice Biennial.