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Luca Bertolo, b.1968, IT

Lives and works in Fabbiano (Lucca) Italy

"Il n'y a que deux choses valables en art:

1° La fulgurance de l'autorité.

2° La fulgurance de l'hésitation.

C'est tout. L'un est fait de l'autre, mais a au sommet les deux se distinguent très clairement."

There are only two things that are valid in art:

1° The flash of authority.

2° The flash of hesitation.

That is all. The one is made of the other, but at the top the two are very clearly distinguished.

Nicolas de Staël, letter to Pierre Lecuire, 14 May 1953

Education

- 1994 - 1998 Accademia di Brera, Milan, Italy, Painting Degree
1987 - 1992 Università Statale di Milano, Degree in Computer Science
1987 - 1989 School of Applied Arts, Milan, Course in Illustration

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Giulio Paolini e Luca Bertolo. Dietro l'opera*, curated by Elena Volpato, IIC, Madrid, ES
- 2024 *Ma sedendo e mirando. L'intruso*, curated by Alessandro Zechini, Galleria d'arte Contemporanea "Osvaldo Licini", Ascoli Piceno, IT
HE, HM, HA, curated by Elena Volpato, Fondazione Coppola, Vicenza, IT
La poesia della terra II, with Flavio Favelli, curated by Antonio Grulli, La Colombiera, Castelnuovo Magra, La Spezia, IT
Oggi, curated by Saverio Verini, Chiesa dei Santi Giovanni e Paolo, Spoleto, IT
L'Hésitation, CEAAC – Centre Européen d'Actions Artistiques Contemporaines, Strasbourg, FR
- 2022 *Kaputt*, Italian Cultural Institute, Krakow, PO
E' POSSIBILE CAPIRE L'ESTATE, SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
1897. Dove andiamo?, Chiara Camoni, Luca Bertolo, Studio Spada Partners, Bologna, IT
- 2021 *CHI CI SALVA*, Associazione Barriera, Torino, IT
- 2019 *NOUS*, (duo show with Chiara Camoni), Arcade, Brussels, BE
Why Write? Why Paint?, SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
- 2018 *Focus: Luca Bertolo*, MART Rovereto, Trentino, IT
Blue Led Song, TRIPLA, Bologna, IT
- 2017 *Le Belle Parole/The Beautiful Words*, SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
Luca Bertolo. Se non qui dove (If not Here, Where?), organized by MAN, Gavoi, Ex Caserma, Nuoro, IT
Everybody is always right, Arcade, London, UK
- 2016 *If Anything*, Marc Foxx, Los Angeles, US
- 2015 *Guerre Pace*, SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
- 2014 *Gian Carozzi Revisited* (curated by Luca Bertolo), Cardelli & Fontana, Sarzana, IT
- 2013 *UFO*, SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
- 2012 *Six Tips For Ageing With Grace*, Arcade, London, UK
A Painting Cycle, NOMAS Foundation, Rome, IT
- 2011 *The Return of the Real & Other Unexpected Events*, Galleria SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
- 2009 *Happiness does not make for a story*, Galleria SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
The Domain of Painting, Arcade, London, UK
L'inverno esiste. Prove ed esempi, MARS, Milano, IT
- 2006 Galleria Alessandro De March, Milano, IT
Galleria SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
- 2005 A+M Bookstore, Milano, IT
- 2004 Galleria Alessandro De March, Milano, IT
- 2003 Galleria Alessandro De March, Milano, IT

- 2002 Galleria De March - Solbiati, Legnano (Milano), IT
- 1999 Kunsthaus Tacheles, Berlin, DE
- 1997 Studio d'arte Cannaviello, Milano, IT

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 *Di Traverso*, curated by Enrico Camprini, Galleria de' Foscherari, Bologna, IT
Attorno a Tintoretto. La Deposizione, curated by G. Frangi, G. Manieri Elia and N. Righi, Museo Diocesano, Milan, IT
- 2024 *Leggere il tempo. Libri nell'Arte. XXI secolo*, curated by Laura Garbarino, Palazzo Nicolosio Lomellino, Genova, IT
Infinita infanzia, curated by Saverio Verini, Palazzo Collicola, Galleria d'Arte Moderna G. Carandente e Appartamento Nobile, Spoleto, IT
- 2023 *Pittura italiana oggi*, Fondazione La Triennale di Milano, IT
Domus Contemporanea, curated by Margherita De Pilati and Andrea Viliani, Galleria Civica Trento, Trento, IT
Premio Termoli 63, curated by Cristiana Perrella, MACTE, Termoli, IT
- 2022 *Di semplicità e di brivido*. Filippo De Pisis in dialogue with Richard Aldrich, Michael Berryhill, Luca Bertolo, Paul Housley, Merlin James, Mairead O'hEocha, Maaïke Schocorel, P420, Bologna, IT
a city-wide exhibition curated by Vincenzo de Bellis, Panorama Monopoli, Monopoli, IT
- 2021 *L'INCONTRO*, a selection of works from Silvia Fiorucci Roman's private collection, curated by Cristiano Raimondi, La Quai, Monaco
CITOYENNE REPRISÉ. JEREMIAH DAY & COLLABORATORS, Netwerk Aalst, Aalst, BE
Sul principio di contraddizione, GAM, Torino, IT
- 2020 *Pericolante*, Arcade at VORTIC (Augmented Reality exhibition) curated by Luca Bertolo
- 2018 *Under Erasure*, Pierogi Gallery, curated by Heather and Raphael Rubinstein, New York, USA
Performance:
Luca Bertolo / Flavio Favelli: Come pesciolini rossi in una vasca di lucci - Una conversazione politica, The First Mornings Fest Of Unreasonable Acts, Palazzo Bentivoglio, Bologna, IT
Blackout, curated by Antonio Grulli, 3m1arte, Lisbon, PT
- 2017 *Oltreprima*, curated by Fabiola Naldi e Maura Pozzati, Fondazione del Monte, Bologna, IT
Material Life, The Goma, Madrid, ES
- 2016 *Gegen Weiss: Peripherien der Zeichnung*, Palais für aktuelle Kunst Gluckstadt, DE
Raccontare il presente, Italian Cultural Institute, London, UK
Urban Mining, Rigenerazioni Urbane, Museo MA*GA, Gallarate, IT
Face to Face, Palazzo Fruscione, Salerno, IT
- 2015 *Recto/Verso*, Prada Foundation, Milan, IT
Rethinking the Medium, The Phantom of Drawing, Casa Masaccio, San Giovanni Valdarno (AR), IT
- 2014 *Baffi Del Bambino* (curated by Luca Bertolo), Lucie Fontaine, Milan, IT
- 2013 *Der Blitz*, Museo Alta Garda, Rive del Garda, IT
Souvenir, Galerie Perrotin, Paris, FR
La Figurazione Inevitabile, Centro per l'arte contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT

- 2010 *Impresa Pittura*, CIAC - Centro Internazionale d'Arte Contemporanea, Rome, IT
The Library of Babel/In and Out of Place, 176 Zabłudowicz Collection, London, UK
- 2009 Prague Biennale 4, Prague, CZ
- 2008 *VIA AMATI 13*, Galleria SpazioA, Pistoia, IT
Falling from an Apple Tree by Mistake, Wilde Gallery, Berlin, DE
A Color Box, Arcade, London, UK
Una Giornata Particolare, Book/Box, with 5 artists' projects + 6 short stories, Pisa, IT
Manual CC – Instructions for Beginners and Advanced Players,
 (A project by Dorothee Bienert, Dortje Drechsel, Marina Sorbello, Antje Weitzel), Uqbar, Berlin, DE
Italian Genius Now, Korean Design Center, Seul / Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Tokyo, JP
Multiples & Editions, vol.2, The Front Room Gallery, New York, US
Fuori Contesto, Bologna / Milano, IT
- 2007 *PI Performance Intermedia Festival*, Szczecin, Poland / Berlin, DE
Nessuna Paura, Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, IT
Pointing Painting, Galleria SpazioA, Pistoia, Italy
Assab One, Milano, Italy
Multiples & Editions, The Front Room Gallery, New York
- 2006 *East of West - West of East*, video featured in Milano Film Festival, Milano, IT
Senza Fine, Palazzo Fogazzaro, Schio, IT
1:1 - Translation of the Real, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK
Uscita Pistoia, SpazioA gallery, Pistoia, IT
- 2005 *By Artificial Resemblance: Portraits from Four Centuries*, curated by E. Crenson,
 The Front Room Gallery, New York, US
Fuori Posto - Berlino*, Villa delle Rose (GAM), Bologna, IT
- 2004 *Art Worksites*, Ex Cartiere Binda, Milano, IT
Hic et Nunc, San Vito al Tagliamento, IT
 Berliner Kunstprojekt, Berlin, DE
- 2003 *Sixteen Painters in Berlin*, former Czechoslovakian Consulate, Berlin, DE
- 2002 *Five (Un) Ambiguous Statements Upon Distance and Beauty*, Galleria De March, Milano, IT
 Silbernagl Undergallery, Milano, IT
Offene Ateliers in der Schulstrasse, Münster, DE
Between Dresden and Prague, (a Project of B. Giorgi), Prague, Dresden, Rome, IT
- 2000 *Die Blaue Begeisterung (Young Italian Artists)*, Kunsthaus Tacheles, Berlin, DE
- 1999 Galleria d'Arte Contemporanea, Udine, IT
 Contemporary Arts Center Palazzo delle Papesse, Siena, IT
Postfuhramt, Berlin, DE

Awards & Residencies

- 2024 4th edition Premio Osvaldo Licini by Fainplest, Italy
- 2016 Premio Nazionale di arti Visive Gallarate, Gallarate, IT
- 2010 Diogene Bivacco Urbano, Turin, IT
- 2008 Kultursalon und Artist in Residence, Villa Streuli, Wintherthur, CH
- 2007 Artist in Residence, Hotel Pupik, Schrattenberg, AU
- 2005 Artist in Residence Program of the Austrian Federal Office, Vienna, AU
- 2001 Grant from The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, New York, US

Other Projects

- 2007 Curates the pataphysical pocket diary Patagenda, Elèuthera editions, Milano, IT
- 2002 Participates in the project Between Dresden & Prague of Bernardo Giorgi and Gregorio Galli
- 2000 Assistant for the scenery of Where is the Wonderful Life, staging of A.T.I.R., Milano, IT
- 1996 Set design for the film I Want to Believe in a God that Knows How to Dance, directed by Paolo Vari for Metamorphosi, Milano, IT

Bibliography

- V. de Bellis, A. Rabottini (a cura di), *Strata: Italian Art since 2000. The Words of the Artists*, Lenz Press, Milano, 2023
- D. Ferri, *Le realtà ordinarie*, exhibition catalogue, 2020
- Luca Bertolo, *I baffi del bambino. Scritti sull'arte e sugli artisti*, Quodlibet, Macerata, 2018
- D. Isaia, S. Velotti, Luca Bertolo, exhibition catalogue, 2018
- Luca Bertolo (2012-2017) – *Le Belle Parole/The Beautiful Words*, Mousse Publishing, September 2017
- Luca Bertolo per il *Corriere della Sera*, la *Lettura*, domenica 17 gennaio 2016, numero 216, copertina
- I. Mariotti, Luca Bertolo – *Revolutions and vases of flowers*, *arte e critica*, autunno 2015, numero 83, pag. 56-57-58
- M. Bazzini, Luca Bertolo – *Contraddizioni*, *Arte*, Settembre 2015, numero 505, pag. 119-122
- A. Sarra, Luca Bertolo allo SpazioA, Pistoia, *ATP Diary*, 2014 (online)
- I. Gianni, *Inevitable Figuration*, *Artforum online*, 2013
- Luca Bertolo. *Paintings and*, with texts by R. Rubisten, D. Ferri, P. L. Tazzi, C. Sharp, CURA.BOOKS, 2012
- E. Minna, *Dalla macchia alla traccia. Nella pittura di Bertolo*, *arte e critica* 71, giugno-agosto 2012
- L. Bertolo, *Curare la critica, "Flash Art"*, 280, February, 2010
- S. Colaiacomo, *London eye #1. Dagli artisti curatori ai giovani pittori*, "Exibart.com", January, 2010
- A. Mugnaini, Luca Bertolo, SpazioA – Pistoia, "Flash Art", 278, October – November, 2009
- A. Bruciati, *Im03, l'immagine sottile*, exhibition catalogue, 2009
- I. Colsell, D. Ferri, P. Goodwin, S. Menegoi, C. Sharp, *The Domain of Painting*, exhibition catalogue, 2009
- M. Bazzini, *Nessuna Paura. Arte dall'Italia dopo il 2000*, exhibition catalogue, 2007
- L. Bertolo, *Composita Solvantur*, artist's book, SpazioA gallery, 2007
- "Flash Art", 263, 2007
- *Loggetto mancante, "Cross"*, April, 2007
- A. Mugnaini, "Flash Art", 261, 2006
- I. Bombelli, "Flash Art online", 2006
- S. Barassi, *1:1 – Translations of the real*, exhibition catalogue, Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, UK, 2006
- E. Fabbris, *Senza fine*, exhibition catalogue, Palazzo Fogazzaro, Schio, 2006
- D. Ferri, *Non finito*, exhibition catalogue, Galleria De March, Milano, 2004
- A. Madesani, *Cantieri dell'arte*, exhibition catalogue, Milano, 2004
- V. Costa, Luca Bertolo, "Flash Art", August / September 2003
- M. Dantini, *Teste-corolle*, exhibition catalogue, Galleria De March, Legnano, 2002
- D. Nani, *Intervista, "That's Art"*, 32, 2002
- M. Dantini, *UTZ, Alcune considerazioni sulla stranezza*, "N.1 periodico del Palazzo delle Papesse", Siena, 1999
- M. Cingolani, *Scorribanda d'artisti con destrezza*, "Tema Celeste", Milano, 1999
- E. Krum, *Incubi di Hieronimous Bosch*, "Corriere della Sera", Milano, 1997
- F. Tondi, *Autoproduzione d'energia*, exhibition catalogue, Studio Cannaviello, 1997