

**Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro**

announces

***Strata: Italian Art since 2000***  
***The Words of the Artists***

by **Vincenzo de Bellis** and **Alessandro Rabottini**

Project supported by the **Italian Council** (10th edition, 2021), program to promote Italian contemporary art around the world by the **Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity** of the **Italian Ministry of Culture**

with the contribution of **Fondazione In Between Art Film**

A collection of **conversations** between the authors and **37 artists** whose work has made a significant mark on the **Italian and international art scene** since 2000

The book is co-published in two editions—Italian and English—by **Lenz and Les Presses du réel** and will be launched between **September** and **October 2023** with an international tour involving four **partner institutions**: **Camden Art Centre**, London; **Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro**, Milan; **Museum Fridericianum**, Kassel; **Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein**, Vaduz

First event: **Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, Milan**  
**Friday, September 15 at 6:30pm**

*Milan, September 1, 2023. **Strata: Italian Art since 2000: The Words of the Artists** is a publication compiled by **Vincenzo de Bellis** and **Alessandro Rabottini**, offering a collective, interdisciplinary take on Italian visual culture, through the words of **37 artists** whose work has made a significant contribution to the **Italian and international art scene** since 2000. The book is based on a project that was awarded the tenth edition of the **Italian Council** program (with the **Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro** as the proposing entity) and is the **personal account of a number of collaborations, friendships, and professional relationships that the authors have nurtured over the past twenty years.***

*“In 1995, Arnaldo Pomodoro established the Foundation that bears his name, conferring a dual mandate upon it: to conserve and enhance the standing of his work, giving rise at the same time to cultural output not concerned exclusively with his own practice. It was a sense of responsibility that was always combined, in Pomodoro, with a sincere and generous curiosity towards the work of other artists, above all those who were younger, with whom he crossed paths in various ways,” states **Federico Giani**, curator of the Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro. “This book is very much aligned with the mission that the Foundation has undertaken, grasping the baton handed to it by its founder.”*

*Strata compiles* in-depth **conversations** between the authors and the artists selected as representative of the Italian art scene over the past twenty years: Yuri **Ancarani**, Giorgio **Andreotta Calò**, Francesco **Arena**, Rosa **Barba**, Elisabetta **Benassi**, Luca **Bertolo**, Rossella **Biscotti**, Chiara **Camoni**, Gianni **Caravaggio**, Giulia **Cenci**, Danilo **Correale**, Roberto **Cuoghi**, Enrico **David**, Patrizio **di Massimo**, Lara **Favaretto**, **Formafantasma**, Linda **Fregni Nagler**, Giuseppe **Gabellone**, Martino **Gamper**, Francesco **Gennari**, Massimo **Grimaldi**, Petrit **Halilaj**, Adelita **Husni Bey**, Giovanni **Kronenberg**, Luisa **Lambri**, Marcello **Maloberti**, Diego **Marcon**, **Masbedo**, Luca **Monterastelli**, Adrian **Paci**, Diego **Perrone**, Alessandro **Pessoli**, Paola **Pivi**, Pietro **Roccasalva**, Alessandro **Sciaroni**, Marinella **Senatore**, and Francesco **Vezzoli**.

As **Vincenzo de Bellis** and **Alessandro Rabottini** explain: “*The thirty-seven artists whom we invited to share their visions, memories and perspectives with us have been part, and are still part, of our journey as curators. Over the years, they have been our traveling companions, and they have both inspired and provoked us, providing us with the questions and emotions that have nourished our personal lives and careers. That’s why we wanted to structure our encapsulation of the past twenty years of Italian art around conversations. To us, they serve as a tool for sharing and engagement but also a vital strategy for decentering the individual critical and authorial perspective while contaminating it to the greatest possible extent, and in the process calling it into question, enriching it and expanding it.*”

*Strata* offers a **polyphonic overview** of Italy’s artistic output through the very medium that makes such a collective history possible: **the words of the artists themselves**.

The conversations explore **pivotal moments in each artist’s career** and delve into their conceptual and formal concerns, focusing on the aesthetics, philosophies, and politics underpinning their work. Every conversation is prefaced by an **introduction** written by **Micola Clara Brambilla**, **Federico Florian** or **Bianca Stoppani**.

The publication portrays **several generations** of artists and encompasses an array of diverse approaches to **painting, sculpture, film, performance, installation, social and collective intervention, photography, and activism**. The title of the book, ***Strata*** (the Latin term that denotes the gradual concretion of multiple layers of rock) is thus deployed as a **metaphor for the multiplicity of languages and sensibilities that have brought the cultural debate to life** in Italy over the past two decades. Moreover, the authors hope that the book will also function as a tool for **younger artists**, for whom the experiences of the previous generations may constitute a direct resource, enabling them to dive straight into the body of accumulated knowledge that would otherwise be mediated by the current educational hierarchy.

*Strata* addresses a number of pressing issues that artists today have to face, including their **relationship with Histories, traditions and influences**; how **the personal is interwoven with the professional dimension**; the **social and political value that art still retains**; and how to rethink the **field of education** today.

Conceived in **two editions**—Italian and English—co-published by **Lenz** and **Les Presses du réel**, *Strata* will be launched at the sites of the four **cultural partners** (**Camden Art Centre**—London, **Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro**—Milan, the **Fridericianum**—Kassel, and the **Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein**—Vaduz), starting with the **Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro** on **September 15 at 6:30pm**, with the authors in attendance.

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***Strata: Italian Art since 2000***  
***The Words of the Artists***

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**Proposing entity**

Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro

**With the contribution of**

Fondazione In Between Art Film

**Cultural partners**

Camden Art Centre, London, UK

Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, Milan, Italy

Museum Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany

Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz, Liechtenstein

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