

ENGLISH

GALLERIA CONTINUA

SAN GIMIGNANO BEIJING LES MOULINS HABANA ROMA SAO PAULO PARIS

87 rue du Temple, 75003 Paris, France. Tuesday - Saturday 11am-7pm and by appointment
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PASCAL MARTHINE TAYOU

BONNES NOUVELLES

INAUGURATION OF THE FULLY RENOVATED PARISIAN SPACE

Opening on 8 April, 2022

GALLERIA CONTINUA is delighted to open to the public the whole of its Parisian space, now totally renovated, with eight hundred square metres of exhibition space over three floors, right in the heart of the Marais. During the fourteen months of refurbishment directed by MBL Architectes, the exhibition doors remained open to bring this space, previously occupied by a leather goods wholesaler, back to life.

Now GALLERIA CONTINUA / Paris presents its first solo exhibition, devoted to Pascale Marthine Tayou, offering a selection of his recent new works. His work showcases a taste for a hybrid approach and a mix of techniques, with a joyful and multifaceted accumulation of elements in shimmering colours. The gallery is also inaugurating a new space, *Carte Blanche*, specifically for the younger generation, with *METANOVA*, a first showing by artist Paloma Vauthier.

Created as an international gallery in 1990 at San Gimignano, GALLERIA CONTINUA has a strong attachment to France, a relationship that began in 2007 at Les Moulins, in the parisian countryside. Today, the gallery's French roots are being strengthened with its seventh gallery located in Paris, just a few steps from the Centre Pompidou, between the iconic streets of Rue du Temple and Rue Michel le Comte. This new space enjoys an original architectural setting. The gallery remains faithful to the history of the premises it occupies, the architects paying homage to this group of sixteenth-century buildings by allowing the various traces of their past to be visible. Stripped of storage structures and false ceilings, the architectural project reveals various different stages of its construction, showing its framework, the scars it bears and traces of recent times.

The location has therefore been designed as an unusual and open environment, with atypical

programming and a cosmopolitan spirit. The gallery also houses an Italian-style café, offering a *gelateria* as well as a delicatessen, wine cellar and bookshop.

The café space was designed in collaboration with the renowned Illy coffee house, and will be operated as a space closely linked to art, where you can enjoy a real espresso, discover quality wines or taste the simple pleasure of fine products. The deli has been partially open since January 2021, and will offer a selection of products celebrating the lifestyles of the various countries that are home to the gallery such as Italy, France, of course, and also China, Brazil and Cuba. The deli will feature such treasures as olive oils, Chinese tea and a selection of Brazilian guarana, the delicacies changing with the seasons and with what is on show in the gallery.

After a coffee and a bit of shopping in the deli, the visitors can then continue their GALLERIA CONTINUA visit with a Pistachio and Chocolate or Coconut and Mango ice-cream, or one of many other regularly-changing flavours. True to its playful spirit, the *gelateria* will offer flavours in honour of the artists in the gallery. Those who love the Italian gallery will find, right in the centre of Paris, authentic Gelateria Dondoli ice-cream, from that iconic, award-winning ice-cream maker in San Gimignano. These two spaces are complemented by a new bookshop, where browsers will find a selection of magazines related to contemporary art as well as creativity, fashion, decor and photography, and also books on artists represented in the gallery and some limited editions.

Embracing as it does the powerful issues inherent in creation and in the mixing of cultures, GALLERIA CONTINUA therefore offers a space to meet and exchange views about works of art, creating a narrative around a multifaceted, joyous, cosmopolitan and richly influenced vision of beauty.

"Gallery, gelateria, café, bookshop, delicatessen and wine cellar... After a year and a half of works undertaken alongside our first exhibitions in Paris, we saw the space gradually take shape as the walls were laid bare to reveal their history, and are now delighted to give this new space all the meaning we had dreamed it would have: a lively meeting place, flexible and accessible to all, where art, social life and culture happily co-exist. We wanted to respect the locations imbued with history which provide us with a home, by reusing the materials they have given us, keeping our environmental footprint to a minimum. We can't wait for all the projects we are going to produce here in the future with the people of Paris and of the whole world." Declared Mario Cristiani, Lorenzo Fiaschi and Maurizio Rigillo, founding partners of GALLERIA CONTINUA.

PASCALE MARTHINE TAYOU - BONNES NOUVELLES (GOOD NEWS)

Exhibition from 8 April to 1 June 2022

Good news is rather hard to come by these days, therefore GALLERIA CONTINUA has invited Pascale Marthine Tayou to present its first solo exhibition, occupying the whole of the totally renovated space in Paris.

True to himself, Pascale Marthine Tayou transforms the place with a joyous and multifaceted accumulation of elements in shimmering colours and hybrid materials which he continues to explore, via new physical research focussed on the softness of towels or on reusing scraps of fabric. The artist's brilliant colours lend themselves to a frenzied race of more or less abstract sewn shapes, anthropomorphic or taken from a fantastic bestiary recalling both tapestries and traditional fabrics.

The experience is enhanced by recent or previously unseen works, like snapshots of the life of Pascale Marthine Tayou in Africa. Mixing the visual rhythms, he interacts directly with everyday objects in his photographs, for example with plastic straws. The artist's iconic use of coloured sheet metal, glass and chalk creates a theme running right through his production, endlessly questioning the human beings and the world that surrounds them.

From the early 1990s Pascale Marthine Tayou has been a major artist on the international scene, with his participation in Documenta 11 in Kassel (2002) and in the Venice Biennale (2005 and 2009). His work shows great diversity, as he does not confine himself to either a medium or a particular issue.

The quality shared by all the objects, sculptures, installations, drawings and videos produced by Pascale Marthine Tayou is their interest in the individual, exploring the question of the global village, always beginning with the artist and his own story,

questioning his African origins and the expectations related to them. The gallery features the artist's world across the three floors of the exhibition, a truly immersive experience that will lead the visitor to discover a world full of colour and life!

**NEW CARTE BLANCHE SPACE
PALOMA VAUTHIER, METANOVA**

Exhibition from 8 April to 7 May 2022

GALLERIA CONTINUA is offering part of its refurbished home to a new *Carte Blanche* space for the youngest artists, so that a variety of presentations, installations, and works by artists from all over the world can be hosted on a more regular basis. This space will be inaugurated by a multidisciplinary offering from Paloma Vauthier, of the Kourtrajmé School. She is continuing her notable work from the *Hard-Corps* joint exhibition at the CENTQUATRE-PARIS, in which she questions pole dancers, who find themselves superimposed on dreamlike worlds designed in 3D.

GALLERIA CONTINUA

Now installed in seven spaces and five different countries, the story of GALLERIA CONTINUA begins in San Gimignano in 1990, on the initiative of three friends: Mario Cristiani, Lorenzo Fiaschi and Maurizio Rigillo. The gallery, which took possession of a former cinema, is asserting itself and thriving in an original position: far from the large ultramodern megalopolises, it has chosen to establish itself in the village of San Gimignano, with its timeless charm. The choice of this site makes it possible to open new dialogues, to find unsuspected symbioses between opposite poles: the rural and the industrial, the local and the global, the art of the past and the art of today, established artists and young talents. Faithful to a spirit of permanent evolution, and committed to introducing contemporary art to the widest possible audience, GALLERIA CONTINUA has been able, through its links and experiences, to build a strong identity. This identity is based on two cardinal values: generosity and altruism, at the center of its relations with artists and the public, as well as its development.

The gallery is present in San Gimignano, in an old cinema; in Beijing, in a former industrial area, now a pioneer of contemporary art in China; at Les Moulins, an unusual site for large-scale creations; in Havana, for cultural projects designed to go beyond all borders; in Rome, in a setting at the heart of the St Regis hotel; in São Paulo, in a monumental sports complex. In 2021, the gallery opens a new space in the center of Paris as well as a temporary exhibition space in the iconic Burj Al Arab hotel in Dubai. GALLERIA CONTINUA is present at the biggest international fairs and supports numerous projects and exhibitions with institutions all over the world.