



Tristano di Robilant, *Filippo di Robilant*, Venice (1978)

TRISTANO DI ROBILANT

Youth

PREVIEW

Thursday 14th March 6 - 8.30pm

CURATORS' WALK-THROUGH

16th March 3pm

EXHIBITION

15th March - 13th April 2019
Tuesday-Saturday, 11am - 6pm

Tristan Hoare is delighted to present *Youth*, the gallery's first solo exhibition by Italian-American artist Tristano di Robilant.

Di Robilant (b.1964) lives and works between London and Rome, and is well known for his sculptures in ceramic and glass, as well as work in a variety of media, including drawing, photography, and writing.

This exhibition, curated by Nicola Brandt and Elisa Schaar, presents a rare selection of photographs taken in his youth and recently exhibited at the Museo d'arte Moderna dell'Informazione e della Fotografia (Musinf) in Senigallia (2018), a legendary place for photography in Italy. The black-and-white images of figures, objects, and scenes from everyday life give an intimate sense of both the artistic and familial context in which the artist's work emerged. Like his enigmatic glass pieces, which often bear literary titles and evoke symbolic meanings, the atmospheric photographs bring to the fore their subjects' emotive aspects.

Taken mostly in Italy, where di Robilant was coming of age amidst the artistic circles of his parents, Betty Stokes and Alvisè di Robilant, which included artists Cy Twombly and Rory McEwen, and collectors, such as Giorgio Franchetti, the photographs transport the viewer back to a fascinating historical moment in the Italian art scene. They also evoke a particular phase of life, that of adolescence. Running through the photographs are themes of sexuality, manhood, privacy, the pastoral, inner life, and initial experiences of loss captured with di Robilant's characteristically playful and poetic sensitivity.

The photographs not only offer an insight into a distinctive period of di Robilant's life and formation as an artist, but also remind us that since the romantic period and through the cultures of the 1960s and 1970s youth has been a state of subjectivity of value in its own right. In the exhibition, the photographs will be presented alongside selected glass pieces that exemplify the artist's work with the material's translucency, light, and reflection and that resonate with ideas of youth as a dynamic state of emotional transition, innocence, conflict, and creativity.

Tristano di Robilant has recently had institutional solo exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, California (2016), at the Museum of Palazzo Mocenigo, Venice (2017), and at Musinf in Senigallia, Italy (2018). His work is in private and public collections in Europe and the United States, including the Sol LeWitt Collection in Hartford, Connecticut, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York, the MAXXI Museum in Rome, and the Museo del Vetro in Murano. A large-scale public sculpture was installed at Parco dell'Infanzia (with Louise Bourgeois and Giovanni Rizzoli) in Origgio, Milan, in 2016.

ABOUT THE CURATORS

Nicola Brandt is an artist, writer, and filmmaker. Her work explores innovative documentary practices in relationship to the role of memory, narrative, and positionality. Brandt is currently publishing a book *Landscapes Between Then and Now: Recent Histories in Southern African Photography, Video and Performance Art* with Bloomsbury Press. She has presented her work internationally, including at the MAXXI Museum in Rome, Iwalewahaus in Bayreuth, Yale University, and the Würth Museum in Germany.

Elisa Schaar is an art historian specialising in art since the 1960s. Her articles have appeared in publications by the Pinakothek der Moderne, Tel Aviv Art Museum, Ropac Gallery, and Castelli Gallery, and in journals, such as *Art History* and *American Art*. She contributes exhibition reviews from London to *Artforum*. Among her recent curatorial projects is an exhibition of American and British art at the Heong Gallery at Cambridge University, titled *Do I Have To Draw You a Picture?*

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Tristan Hoare represents both emerging and established international contemporary artists working in a variety of mediums. The gallery hosts a series of events and talks to run alongside each exhibition. Founded in 2009, the gallery was originally based in Notting Hill at Lichfield Studios until 2014. In September 2016, Tristan Hoare opened its new premises at Six Fitzroy Square, a Grade I listed building, designed by the architect Robert Adam.

PRESS ENQUIRIES

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