

uccellacci e ucellini, solo exhibition Giovanni Dalessi, Flatland Gallery

from 31 October 2009 till 28 November 2009

Flatland Gallery is proud to announce the solo show **uccellacci e ucellini** of Giovanni Dalessi at Flatland Gallery.

Dalessi's oil on linen paintings, constructing virtual realities consistent with the perceived real-world give us access to a contemplative life, calm and different than today's mundane world. From Italian descent and inspired by Italian culture, Dalessi – who lives today in the Netherlands - distinguishes himself by reviving the beauty ideal, one that seems original, autochthonous and pure.

When looking at his new painting, the Magdalena, we are taken in, immediately, by its charm. The loved ones find themselves in a calm environment. In the biblical sense, Giovanni's is depicting the moment when Maria finds Jesus after his resurrection. Obviously she is confused, she doesn't understand and she doesn't want to let go, but he will leave her. In his hand he holds an hedge shears, a tool given to him by Dalessi. For the viewers it is clear that it is the artist's freedom to adapt classic iconography to today's world. This freedom is extended towards the rose-bushes with thorns, whereas in the biblical images we find fruitless vine branches.

Details that are seemingly unimportant, become in Giovanni's hands important observations from life. Giovanni: 'Christian Iconography, Giotto, Botticelli, Memling or Dumas, Knap represent strong sources of inspiration, but when you isolate daily life objects, you magnify them, as if you could see the bigger value they possess, their intimate spirituality'.

Due to the fact that he works from his memory not from direct observation, his work shows a somewhat strange perspective and the practice of unreal colours. These minor 'imperfections', deliberate, enhance the meaning in his work; Giovanni is looking for the essence of his subject, not the perfect reproduction of it.

Giovanni (1964) exhibited in several selective solo and group shows in Holland, Italy (Rome, Milan, Turin), Germany and U.S.A. His recent groupshow 'Met eigen Ogen' (with your eyes only) was held at the Noordbrabants Museum.