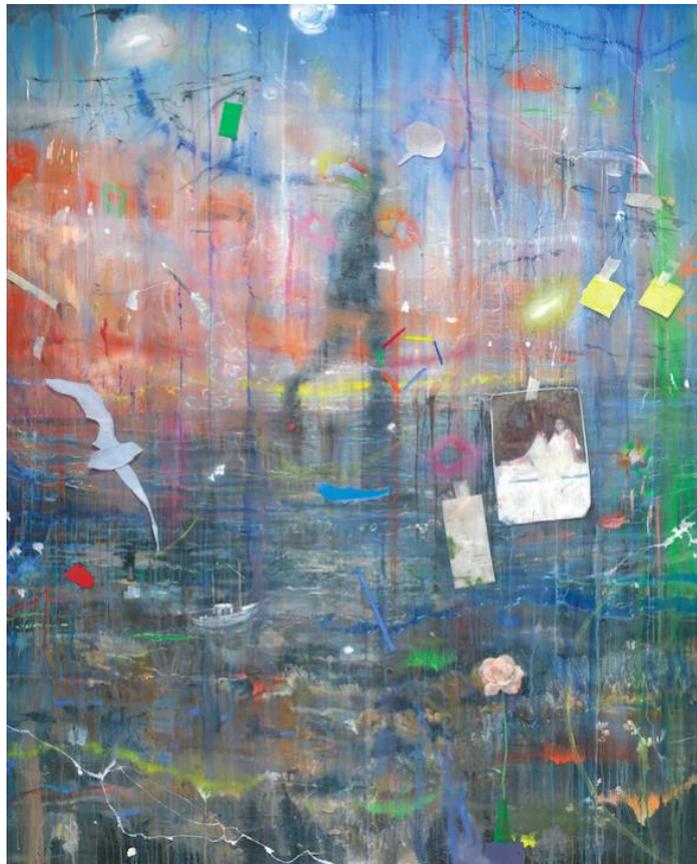


**GALLERIA POGGIALI
MILAN**

MANFREDI BENINATI
Se questo è un sabato
(If This is a Saturday)

13 September - 14 December 2018
With an essay by Lorcan O'Neill

Opening: Thursday 13 September 2018, at 7.00 p.m.



The **Galleria Poggiali** is delighted to announce ***Se questo è un sabato*** (If This is a Saturday), the first solo show of **Manfredi Beninati** (Palermo, 1970) in the **Milan premises** of the gallery, opening on **Thursday 13 September 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

Beninati's work has been displayed in Biennials all over the world, including the Venice Biennale in 2005 and 2009 (First Prize of the Public in 2005), the Liverpool Biennale, that of Madrid and that of Istanbul, to name but a few.

Beninati is renowned for his pictorial works and for the extreme quality of his draughtsmanship. For the Milan premises he has developed a specially-conceived project in which, once again, the two-dimensional works on paper and canvas are preceded by an environmental installation.

This new project takes its cue from the second of the two films that the artist shot in an Art Nouveau style apartment in Palermo during *Manifesta*. The film evokes a sense of refined decadence and overflows with the cultural references that have always been associated with the artist's poetics.

And so the project room in Foro Buonaparte 52 will host a new work intrinsically linked to all Beninati's previous production. It consists of a non-accessible installation visible from the street and from a narrow corridor inside the gallery. The interface with the shop window allows the artist to combine two-dimensionality and three-dimensionality so as to construct variable points of view that become increasingly surprising, both for himself and for the observer.

The narrative tension is underscored by the very composition of the installation: it is arranged like the window of a furniture shop of the kind that the area of Brera where the gallery is located is packed with. This denotes a condition at odds with the first sight reaction and immediately underscores a decadent atmosphere.

The Milan installation is like a second episode of the one staged in Palermo in which an alleged crime was investigated, representing a sort of puzzle with indications of various events that the public can relate to.

The decor, consisting of a desk and a bed, alludes to an artist's studio, with the works shown on the walls and on the desk. Who is the artist? Beninati? This accentuates the sense of mystery and the spur to investigate that are hallmarks of the sophisticated poetics of the Sicilian artist.

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Tuesday-Saturday: 10:30 a.m./1:30 p.m. –3:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.

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