EDUARDO SECCI

Press Release

Daniel Crews-Chubb and Kevin Francis Gray

Curated by Pier Paolo Pancotto

Milan, from April 1 to May 20, 2022 Opening | Friday, April 1, 4:00 - 9:00 pm Special opening hours | Saturday, April 2, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm / 2:30 - 7:00 pm Hours | Monday - Friday, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm / 2:30 - 7:00 pm

Eduardo Secci is pleased to present the two-person show "Daniel Crews-Chubb and Kevin Francis Gray", curated by Pier Paolo Pancotto, in the gallery spaces in Milan (via Bernardino Zenale 3), from April 1 to May 20, 2022. The exhibition opens at the same time as the art fair miart (from April 1 to 3, 2022), in which Eduardo Secci participates, dedicating the booth to the two artists.

Daniel Crews-Chubb's poetics originates from the repetition of figurative motifs that become an investigation instrument of the same painting act. His subjects - widely inspired by representations of different cultures belonging to various eras - are characterized by the enveloping poses and can allude to several references, ranging from ancient sculptures of deities to the action figures with which he played as a child up to expressions of the contemporary. The artist intervenes for numerous layers on rough canvases, scratching and using oil, acrylic, spray paint, sand, charcoal, and pastel. The surface, defined by a long stratification process, is important to him as the depicted image.

In exploring the human figure, **Kevin Francis Gray** instead focuses on the tactile dimension of marble, trigging a sense of delicacy into the ability to shape it, which reveals the will to elicit intimate reflections. Sculpting veiled limbs and faces with emphasized features, he acts in a liminal space between abstraction and figuration, movement and stasis. His vast imagination draws on a personal cultural heritage, combined with literary and philosophical references.

The occasion creates a dialogue between paintings by **Daniel Crews-Chubb** and sculptures by **Kevin Francis Gray** with a common visual vocabulary that combines the figurative and the abstract. The works by the English painter and Irish sculptor dissect through different techniques the matter, stimulating intense psychological introspections. The observer is thus encouraged to contemplate them intensely and immerse themselves in their volumes, hollows, and details, abandoning themselves to a whirlwind path of myths, appearances reveling themselves and then disappearing, colors, and elaborate textures.

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Pier Paolo Pancotto is curator of the Art Club exhibition program of Villa Medici - French Academy in Rome.

Daniel Crews-Chubb (1984, Northampton, England) lives and works in London. He studied at the Chelsea College of Art and Design (2009) and the Turps Art School (Painters Studio Program, 2013). The artist's works have been presented in museums and galleries, such as Timothy Taylor Gallery (London, New York), Roberts Projects (Los Angeles), Choi & Lager Gallery (Seoul), Powerlong Museum (Shanghai), Hastings Contemporary (Hastings). In 2021, the English Heritage commissioned him the solo show The Consequences of Play at the Wellington Arch in London. In 2022, he will exhibit at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. His works are included in prestigious collections: Denver Art Museum, The Long Museum (Shanghai), and the Hall Art Foundation (New York), among others.

Kevin Francis Gray (1972, Armagh, Northern Ireland) lives and works between London and Pietrasanta. The artist deals with the complex relationships between abstraction, figuration, and portrait through sculpture. His research investigates the line between contemporary society and ancient times, reverberating aesthetics of neoclassicism. He studied at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin (1995) and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (1996) before the MA Fine Art at Goldsmiths College in London (1999). His works have been exhibited in the United Kingdom at the Royal Academy (London) and Sudeley Castle (Winchcombe, Gloucestershire), in Ireland at the Crawford Art Center (Cork), Dublin Castle (Dublin), and Castletown House (Celbridge), in Italy at the Stefano Bardini Museum (Florence) and Palazzo delle Arti Napoli (Naples), in France at the MAC VAL - Musée d'Art contemporain du Val-de-Marne (Paris), Musée d'art moderne de Saint-Étienne métropole (Saint-Priest-en-Jarez), and Villa Santo Sospir (Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat), in the Netherlands at the Nieuw Dakota (Amsterdam), in Spain at the Artium, Centro-Museo Vasco de Arte Contemporáneo (Vitoria-Gasteiz), in Israel at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art (Tel Aviv), and Canada at the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (Québec).

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