

EDUARDO SECCI

Press release

Vibrato

Stanley Casselman

curated by David Anfam

Dates | **December 9, 2021 – February 5, 2022**

Opening | Thursday, December 9, 4.00pm - 8.00pm

Opening hours | Tuesday - Saturday, 10.00 - 13.30 / 14.30 - 19.00

Eduardo Secci is pleased to announce the inauguration of the first Italian solo show of **Stanley Casselman**, curated by **David Anfam**, which will take place on **Thursday December 9, 2021** (from 16.00 to 20.00) in our Milan exhibition spaces (Via Bernardino Zenale, 3). The exhibition will be open until **February 5, 2022**.

For the occasion, Stanley Casselman presents a new body of works whose sumptuous surfaces support a sense of awe and wonder, as if they were themselves spiritual elements of our being. In this sense, the experiential and speculative sources that create the network of physical reality are often a powerful undercurrent of the artist's paintings.

Initially dedicated to sculpture, Casselman soon follows his natural inclination to painting, approaching it with a unique tactile quality. By balancing the contradictions of making art, randomness and control, technique and dexterity, the artist creates a dynamic pictorial space that exists right on the edge of order and disorder. The dialectical image proposed by the artist becomes a synthesis of the multiple, which does not eliminate contradictions but rather cultivates them for their creative potential.

For the Milanese solo show, Casselman conceives large-scale works that unfold both in their material possibilities and both in the mystical contemplation that the viewer is required to have. This series of paintings creates a bright and seductive environment, where the bold colors and a strong plasticity pushes the viewer to situation of proximity interact with the imaginative generosity of the artist's hand.

We can refer to the evocative words of the artist himself: “we as human beings seek to control our physical world, but often fail to realize that we owe our very existence to countless evolutionary events governed by only the known and the not yet understood forces that have played out since the dawn of both space and time. Humanity is inseparable from nature and nature driven by evolution is inherently blind. It’s in this light that I choose to uncover new visual experiences that challenge us to consider our relationship to the universe we inhabit”

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Stanley Casselman, born in Phoenix (Arizona) in 1963, lives and works in New York. After his studies at Pitzer College in California (1985) he conceived abstract works with acrylic paint, applied in layers, on polyester fabric. Compared to Gerhard Richter's abstractions, the artist's works transcend any explanation through language.

Casselman is deeply linked to the idea that color, line and shape have the ability to change our perceptual and cognitive dimension. Baroque but at the same time direct, his artistic process is revealed in a pictorial spectrum that explores a wide range of emotions in search of a higher consciousness. His works have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the world, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; the Jim Kempner Fine Art, New York, NY; the Gazelli Art House, Baku, Azerbaijan and London, United Kingdom; the James White Gallery, Beverly Hills, CA; the Brintz Galleries, Palm Beach, FL. His works are part of the collections of the New Orleans Museum of Art, LA; of the Frederick R. Weisman Art Foundation, Los Angeles, CA; of the Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI; and Borusan Contemporary, Istanbul.

David Anfam (born December 5, 1955) is a British art historian , art critic and exhibition curator. He is a curator at the Clyfford Still Museum in Denver and is a specialist in Abstract Expressionism.

He studied at the Courtauld Institute in London , where he graduated with a bachelor's degree; In 1989 he began working on the catalog raisonnéthe painting by Mark Rothko. He was supported by Kate Rothko, whom he had already met in 1977 during his stay in the USA. Since 1997 he has been Commissioning Editor for Fine Art at Phaidon Press. Since 2006, Anfam has played a key role in the planning of the Clyfford Still Museum as a member of the Museum's Advisory Committee , where he holds the position of senior curator and curated the first exhibition.

Anfam curated Bill Viola's *Ocean Without a Shore* at the 52nd Venice Biennale in 2007; *Energy Made Visible* in the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in the Palazzo Venier in Venice for the 56th Biennale in 2015 . In 2016/17 the exhibition *Abstract Expressionism*, which he curated , was shown at the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

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