

EDUARDO  
SECCI

**Press Release**

# Radu Oreian

curated by Pier Paolo Pancotto

**Dates** | January 23 – March 6 2021

**Opening hours** | January 23 at 2:00 pm

**Exhibition hours** | Mon – Sat / 10:00 am – 1:30 pm & 2:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Eduardo Secci Gallery is pleased to present the exhibitions "Marco Tirelli" and Radu Oreian" that will be inaugurated on January 23 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the two areas of the Gallery in Piazza Carlo Goldoni 2, Florence. "Radu Oreian" is the first monographic show of the young Romanian artist to be held in Florence and will be curated by Pier Paolo Pancotto.

The body of works exhibited represents a selection of the artist's latest production, a series that ranges from detailed drawings with graphite, to oil paintings on canvas, wood and plexiglass. Such a variety of media, besides reflecting Oreian's ease in moving between different techniques, is also a demonstration of the classical heritage that seems to be at the very base of the artist's practice.

The oil paintings, executed in occasion of the exhibition and dated 2020, are part of the so-called "Molecular Paintings" series. These works, recalling miniatures and their minute details, are capable of drawing the viewer's eye and transporting it through the fabric of the in paint while leading it to the deeper meaning of the painting. As Pier Paolo Pancotto writes in his introductory text, the unifying element of Oreian's works "(...) *despite their heterogeneity, is a dense, highly expressive chromatic vocabulary where the material seems at times to clump and blend with other substances until it becomes rough, sandy even if, in reality, it is only the way in which it is arranged on the surface (layered and kneaded with a brush tip) that causes this effect; as well as, a shared iconographic repertoire, ranging from physical memory (the reference to the bowels of one's own body or skin) to the intellectual one (Renaissance painting, the classical one admired in Pompeii and Rome, the calligraphy of the ancient East) of the artist. (...)*".

Radu Oreian's practice is grounded in classical techniques of drawing and painting, exploring how history, ancient myths and archives shape our society and our understanding of humanity. The red thread that runs through and unites Radu Oreian's works is represented by the creation of a new meditative visual imprint with a particular density that seems to exist in a pulsating state of tension and relaxation.

Radu Oreian was born in 1984 in Tarnaveni, Romania. He currently works and lives in France. He awarded his first degree in 2005 at the University of Art and Design of Cluj-Napoca and he continued his studies at National University of Art of Bucharest where he graduated in 2007. Radu

Oreian has been the protagonist of several solo-shows: SVIT Gallery, *Befriending the memory muscle* (Prague, 2020, with Ciprian Mureşan), Gallery Nosco, *Microscripts and Melted Matters* (London, 2019), Gallery ISA, *Farewell To The Thinker of Thoughts* (Mumbai, 2018). Among his institutional projects: La Fondazione, Project Room (Roma, 2020, solo-show), *The Last Agora*, Plan B Foundation (Cluj-Napoca, 2019) and *Chasseur d'Images*, Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature (Paris, 2019). Among his group shows: *One in a million*, Gallery Nosco (Marseille, 2018) and *On The Sex of Angels*, Nicodim Gallery (Bucarest, 2017).

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