

INTRO

Paul Branca / Ettore Favini / Thomas Kratz / Fabio Marco Pirovino / Vanessa Safavi

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Opening: Friday 9 October at 6.30pm

The Chinese stock market is crashing, dragging down the related Western bubbles, pushing Italy to reintroduce *San Marzano* tomatoes on its market. *Google* disclosed his new sans serif logo. The last generation's TV's remote control no longer register *Mediaset* on channels 4, 5 or 6. The renowned *Bellissimi* broadcasted once on *Rete4*, have now been replaced by *Hell's Kitchen* replicas. Everything is changing with no hesitation. It now seems that everything is going backwards - when we were just starting to make progress –and then, all of a sudden, we realize that we are actually reading an exhibition's press release written by the gallerist himself and addressed to the visitor who has just entered the gallery. While the world is moving forward, art recoils with the purpose to distinguish itself from all the rest, operating a conscious involvement aiming to protect itself. *Intro* is a declaration of intent originating from similar adjectives in common among these artworks on view: analytic assumptions and icy atmospheres conceal an anthropologic research that forms the basis for these works, as it used to be in the past before technology took place and the new practices burst into this field. Here, now, you will meet the artists I recommend you making the acquaintance of, and to familiarize yourself with their research or bumping into character choices. This is the *Intro* of the album I will be compiling from now onwards. Welcome.

Paul Branca (1974, USA) lives and works in New York. His artistic research is often based on the social connections between food and painting. For this show he presents a selection of his *tondi*, slices of 'Mortadella & Salami' series (2014) as an 'antipasto' for Turin. These divided slices allude to a sharing of a whole: a common thing in his *oeuvre*. By employing different painterly strategies and processes, Branca connects and builds parallels between food production and distribution as process driven abstraction and representation.

The pathway of Ettore Favini (1974, IT) is highlighted and influenced by an obsession with time, by people's story and stories. In this exhibition he proposes a new work picked from the collection produced for the next institutional solo shows, forthcoming in 2016. Through the cohesion of industrial textiles and fabrics originating from the african culture, his goal is to start a consideration on the different ethnic groups, on the economy and the paradox of the contemporary society. Thomas Kratz (1972, DE) is a German painter and performance artist, he uses different materials to elaborate and create his pieces of art. Within this exhibition he presents two abstract paintings which gives us a complete reading of his approach to this practice. Pastel shades and soft brush strokes summarize most of his work made by layering and erasures. In order to offer an entire vision of his research, he performs as a sculptor as well. Fabio Marco Pirovino (1980, CH) swiss artist. His *Scribble* paintings begun as a series of intense monochromatic drawings, gestures initially made physically on perspex as an analogue transparency before being produced digitally on a vastly increased scale - printed with UV ink on canvas. These embrace apparently casual, talking about the practice of painting and its correspondence with various meanings of reproduction. It belongs to an ongoing series presented at last edition of *Liste* in Basel.

The swiss-iranian artist Vanessa Safavi (1980, CH) develop a research that is an heap of personal experiences turned into physical elements floating between nature and cultures' relationships. The work here presented, surrounded by a 'pictorial aura' using lines and shadows of a painting approach, proposes silicone layers compressed between glass and wood. Presented in Paris for the first time on the occasion of his solo show at *Fiac*, the final effect of this work is a composition which stands half way between painting and sculpture.

ALLEY

The project room devoted to italian artists, suggested by international platforms, will open Saturday November 7th.