



Archivio
Atelier
Pharaïldis
Van den
Broeck

Archivio Atelier Pharaïldis Van den Broeck

**PROJECT ROOM #5
Sara Enrico and Fabio Quaranta**

from June 28th to October 3rd 2021

**free admission with green pass from Thursday to Saturday from 2pm to 7pm*

Archivio Atelier Pharaïldis Van den Broeck

Via Marco Antonio Bragadino, 2 - Milan

www.aapvdb.org

Archivio Atelier Pharaïldis Van den Broeck presents **PROJECT ROOM #5**, a collaboration between the artist **Sara Enrico** and the fashion designer **Fabio Quaranta**, inspired, as usual, **by the work of the Italo-Belgian fashion designer and artist Pharaïldis Van den Broeck** (1952-2014). For this exhibition, Enrico and Quaranta carried out careful research on Van den Broeck's work from the '90s.

Starting from the **idea of drapery** - as depicted by Pharaïldis in a series of oil on Masonite paintings - the two artists have reconfigured the rooms of the Archivio Atelier, conflating the different languages of sculpture, painting, and fashion, altering the visitors' interaction with the space.

The aesthetic and formal differences among the work of Pharaïldis Van den Broeck and that of Sara Enrico and Fabio Quaranta generate the *fertile ground* for a series of **new practices to blossom**.

The **emotional minimalism** that characterises Sara Enrico's sculptures together with the **essential rigour** of Fabio Quaranta's editions contrast the **exceeding textures of the paintings** by Van den Broeck generating a poetical polyphony of language.

Sara Enrico and Fabio Quaranta conceived a **set for a series of subtle fragments**, after being influenced by the **artistic and fashion background of Pharaïldis Van den Broeck**.

The two guests of **PROJECT ROOM #5** deliver a **new rarefied emotional dimension** to the viewers, in which the distinguishing ebullience of colours and bold textures, characteristic of Pharaïldis's art, are diluted to bring new attention to a series of imperceptible details and concealed aspects part of the artist's work.

Gravity defines the shapes and volumes of sculpture and garments, as much as light confers a pictorial quality to those same objects. These two elements are in dialogue with the different artworks on display, contributing to enhance an **intimate and sensual atmosphere** full of tactile suggestions, **enveloping the space**.

Art and Fashion freely play around in a reconfigured Archivio Atelier, whose space has been changed by Enrico and Quaranta, solely relying on the elements that were already present because they belonged to Van den Broeck.



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This process of **reconfiguration** reveals the **versatility** of the Archivio Atelier, a unique location that, despite its strong identity and memories, can adapt to different needs, without losing its characteristics, **just like garments**.

Once again, this fifth edition of PROJECT ROOMS aims to highlight the stimulating comparison which stems from **the encounter of different practices and disciplines** within the unexpected spaces of the Archivio Atelier Pharaildis Van den Broeck.

In particular, **PROJECT ROOM #5** underlines the results reached by Quaranta and Enrico after being presented with the **vast heterogeneity of the material (fashion patterns, sketches, fashion and art books, sculptures, paintings, and so on) made by Pharaildis Van den Broeck**. The memories and the body of work left by the Italo-Belgian artist has so far offered **endless possibilities for reinterpretations and analysis**; every time a new artist enters the Archivio Atelier, they can discover new connections with the artist and imagine new scenarios.

On the occasion of PROJECT ROOM # 5, the fifth issue of the **booklet** edited by **Emiliano Biondelli** will be available, **an independent and complementary publication** published during every *Project Room*.

Project Room is the opening project of the Archivio Atelier Pharaildis Van den Broeck, conceived and coordinated by the archive's curator **Barbara Garatti**. This project aims on the one hand to enhance and support the work of Pharaildis Van Den Broeck and, on the other, to promote new practices within the field of the **contemporary visual arts**. This is in keeping with the mission of the Archivio Atelier Pharaildis Van den Broeck and its Committee, which includes **Michele Sagrarnoso, Paola Richetti, Barbara Garatti, Anna Daneri and Cesarina Meda**.

For info and reservations

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Pharaildis Van den Broeck (Opwijk, 1952 - Milan, 2014)

The radical research of Pharaildis Van den Broeck (1952 - 2014) blends together art, fashion, applied arts, and mass culture.

The over two thousand works created between 1994 and 2014 are a unique corpus in continuous transformation that takes shape on the margins of the art system. In the last 20 years of her career, the artist painted relentlessly, experimenting with different techniques and materials, using collages and newspapers, even though she never presented her artworks in any public exhibitions.

Pharaildis Van den Broeck's whole production is characterised by a recurring element: the onion. A humble and common object, the onion took on an overwhelming symbolic value in the imagination of the artist. Searching for a universal language that can reach everyone immediately, the artist explored themes, symbols, and signs of mass culture, as well as archaic popular cultures.

Pharaildis Van den Broeck was the first Belgian fashion designer to collaborate with a famous Italian fashion maison. In 1978, after graduating from the Fashion Department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp, she started to work for Versace, and then continued with Trussardi and Missoni. In 1994 she gave up fashion and she initiated a new chapter, devoting herself to painting, a passion she had cultivated since childhood. In 1998, due to health problems, Pharaildis Van den Broeck temporarily moved to Belgium and closed her studio in Milan. She initially lived and worked in a loft in Brussels, but in 2002 she moved to Opwijk in a terraced house, in which she used a large part of the ground floor as her studio. In 2008, the artist decided to return to Milan and find a new studio. It is at that time that the space in Via Bragadino 2 was turned into her Atelier, and served as such until her untimely and unexpected death on 11 May 2014.

Archivio Atelier

Since 2015, the Archivio Atelier Pharaildis Van den Broeck takes care of the work of the Flemish naturalized Italian artist and fashion designer, enhancing her memory through study activities, promoting knowledge of the artist, research and cultural initiatives about her. In January 2020 the Archivio Atelier Pharaildis Van den Broeck was officialized as a Committee with the aim of organising and managing cultural and artistic activities, providing for the care and publication of editorial materials, protecting the artist's heritage, providing indications on restoration and conservation, and maintaining and managing the archive.

President

Michele Sagramoso, Artist's Spouse and Heir

Vice President

Paola Richetti, Art Historian

Treasurer

Cesarina Meda, Accountant

Scientific Committee

Anna Daneri, Art Critic and Curator

Barbara Garatti, Archive's Curator



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Sara Enrico (Biella, 1979), lives and works in Turin.

Sara Enrico's research focusses on the biunivocal translation of bidimensional, tridimensional and the potential of surface. The artist nurtures a postural and choreographic interest for sculpture which leads to reveal the theatrical part of the objects questioning its corporeality potential contaminations.

Inspired by the elements of textile and tailoring, Sara Enrico examines the concept of weaving as a way to engage connections. Her research stems from deconstruction of the pictorial paradigms and from different materials' experimentation and processing, gazing at the relationship between body, dress and space.

Her work has been presented in various major Italian and foreign institutions, among them: American Academy, Rome; Národní Galerie Praha, Prague; Mart, Rovereto; Brooklyn Army Terminal, New York; Centrale Fies Art Work Space, Dro; Marsèlleria, New York; PAV Parco Arte Vivente, Turin; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; Les Instants Chavirés, Montreuil; Galleria d'arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Turin. She took part in the second edition of OFF Cairo Biennial and in the IX Biennale Internazionale di Arte in Memoria, hosted in Ostia Antica's archeological parc. Throughout her career, Sara Enrico has received numerous prizes and grants, among all: Fondazione Sviluppo e Crescita CRT Italian Fellow in Visual Arts from the Roman American, Cantica21- Italian Contemporary Art Everywhere, Italian Council and New York Prize. Sara Enrico teaches Painting and Visual Arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bergamo.

Fabio Quaranta (Roma, 1977) lives and works between Milan, Venice, and Rome.

Fabio Quaranta's research is oriented towards essentiality, manipulation of the past and dialogue between fashion, music and art. Starting from the reworking version of men's clothing and dress codes and from the obsession for sartorial details, he unhinges the concept of gender understood in a binary sense. His editions aim to break the traditional patterns and rhythms of fashion by introducing into the wardrobe a sci-fi temporality contaminated by ideas and concepts of other disciplines.

In 2010 he received the "Who's On Next?" from Vogue Italia, AltaRoma and Pitti Immagine, and he is a lecturer in the master's degree course in visual arts and fashion at the IUAV in Venice.

In 2016 he moved Montesalieri to Milan, a space founded in Rome in 2006 that hosts fashion designers, artists and musicians.

His work has been presented in various institutions such as the American Academy in Rome, Art Basel, the Triennale Museum of Milan, Villa Medici, and at the Kunsthalle in Merano. In 2019 he participated at *Time is Thirsty* exhibition curated by Luca Lo Pinto at the Kunsthalle in Vienna and at the exhibition *Romanzo Breve Di Moda Maschile* at Palazzo Pitti Romanzo curated by Olivier Saillard. Since 2019 he has been collaborating with the NERO publishing on various projects.