

## MANFREDI BENINATI

Born in Palermo (Italy) in 1970. Lives and works in Palermo.

After his High Levels in Classic studies, he entered at the Palermo University at the Faculty of Law, following his parents footprints. In 1990 he started film courses in Rome. He worked as an assistant director for important Italian movie directors. In those years he divided his time between Great Britain, Spain and Italy. Starting from 1992 he moved to London working as an artist in several studios - squats of the East End. In 2002 he moved to Rome. In 2006, returning from a long stay in Buenos Aires he moved back to his native town, Palermo. His work has been shown in a number of countries in Europe, Americas and Asia and is included in many prestigious public as well as private collections. In 2005 he was selected to represent his country at the Venice Biennale where he was awarded the audience prize for the Italian pavilion. In 2006 he received a prize from the American Academy in Rome.

Manfredi Beninati's work explores the theme of life's journey. He does this using the pictures of children and of adolescents at the edge of a forest, on a pathway, on a road, on a bicycle, by the sea. These images unlock in the mind of the viewer memories of the anxieties as well as the securities of childhood and the struggle of moving towards in life. Often Beninati's works have strong literary and artistic references. Sometimes the artist uses images of boats, horses, cycles and other means of transport as metaphors, again, of the journey of life. In a number of his works a mother and a child image seems to refer to both the "time honoured" tradition of "Madonna and Bambino" as well as provoking a more modern and psychological interpretation of the genesis of life. Beninati's skills as a painter and draftsman are highly developed and, in combination with his cinematic eye, produce paintings of surprising emotional content.

*Lorcan O'Neill*



*Flavio e Palermo, 2004, 250x300 cm  
pencil+gesso on paper on board*

## SOLO SHOWS

### 2012

- "Manfredi Beninati", Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Rome, Italy (upcoming)

### 2011

- "Manfredi Beninati", Cura Project Space, Rome, Italy  
- "Le voci di dentro" FPAC, Palermo, Italy

### 2010

- "Dicembre 2039", Max Wigram Gallery, London, UK

### 2009

- "Rearranging the Landscapes around", Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

### 2008

- "La natura morta", Max Wigram Gallery, London, U.K.

### 2007

- "La lettera "f"", American Academy in Rome, Rome, Italy  
- "Flavio and Palermo (in the summer) ", James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA  
- "A Flavio", Museo Laboratorio, Città Sant'Angelo (PE), Italy

### 2006

- "Manfredi Beninati", Galeria Braga Menendez, Buenos Aires, Argentina

### 2005

- "Rescued works", Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Rome, Italy  
- "Drawing cabinet", FPAC, Palermo, Italy  
- "Manfredi Beninati. New Paintings", James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA

### 2003

- "Manfredi Beninati", Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Rome, Italy

## GROUP SHOWS

### 2012

- "9th Shanghai Biennale", Shanghai, China  
- "Double Take", 2nd Mardin Bienali, Mardin, Turkey

### 2011

- "3rd Thessaloniki Biennale", Thessaloniki, Greece  
- "When in Rome", ICI Los Angeles and Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, U.S.A.  
- "Outrageous Fortune", Touring Exhibition, Focal Point Gallery/ Hayward Gallery, U.K.  
- "Vanitas!", UCLA, Los Angeles, U.S.A.  
- "Archive Fever", Open Care, Milano, Italy  
- "Premio Maretti", Museo Pecci, Prato, Italy  
- "Accademia. Stanze. Persone.", American Academy in Rome, Italy

### 2010

- "PPS", Riso - Museo Arte Contemporanea di Sicilia, Palermo, Italy  
- "Argianas, Beninati, Bradley, Buchler, Hugonnier, Hulusi, White", Max Wigram Gallery, London, U.K.  
- "Memento", La Giarina Arte Contemporanea, Verona, Italy  
- "I can't feel my face", Royal T art space, Los Angeles, U.S.A.

### 2009

- "Heaven", 2nd Athens Biennale 2009, Athens, Greece  
- "Collaudi", Italian Pavilion, 53 Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy  
- "The Tree", James Cohan Gallery, Shanghai, China  
- "No more than a point of view", Prague Biennial, Prague, Czech Republic  
- "Escaping the dead ends", Istanbul Biennale, Istanbul, Turkey  
- "Obsession: Contemporary art from the Lodeveans collection", University of Leeds, Leeds, U.K.  
- "Atsushi Fukui, Gert&Uwe Tobias, Manfredi Beninati, Masaya Yoshimura", TKG Editions Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan

### 2008

- "Made Up", Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool, U.K.  
- "Sand", Parrish Museum, Southampton (NY), U.S.A.  
- "15th Rome Quadriennale", Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy  
- "Imaginary Realities ...", Max Wigram Gallery, London, U.K.  
- "Dream Therapy", Kathleen Cullen Fine Arts, New York, U.S.A.  
- "Passed as present", York Art Gallery, York, U.K.

### 2007

- "Summer Show", James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA  
- "Arte italiana 1968-2007. Pittura", Palazzo Reale, Milano, Italy  
- "The end begins", The Hospital, London, UK  
- "Detour", The Art Directors Club, New York, USA

- "Open Studios", American Academy in Rome, Rome, Italy

**2006**

- "Negotiating reality", Victoria H. Myhren Gallery, University of Denver, Denver, USA  
- "C'era una volta un re...", Arcos Museo, Benevento, Italy  
- "Figuring the landscape", Contemporary Art Galleries, Storrs (Ct), USA

**2005**

- "Altmejd, Beninati, Everberg et Margolis", Galerie Ghislaine Hussenot, Paris, France  
- "12 painters", Galleria In Arco, AB+, Turin, Italy  
- Padiglione Venezia at Giardini, 51 Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy

**2004**

- "Between the lines", James Cohan Gallery, New York, USA  
- "Expander", Royal Academy of Arts, London, UK  
- "Summer show", Galleria Lorcan O'Neill, Rome, Italy  
- "Wall Paper", GAMeC, Bergamo, Italy

**2003**

- "Dirty pictures", The Approach Gallery, London, UK  
- "Quadriennale di Roma-Anteprima", Palazzo Reale, Naples, Italy  
- "Roma 2003", Galleria Pack, Milan, Italy  
- "Le collezioni – Recenti acquisizioni", MAXXI – Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo, Rome, Italy

**AWARDS**

**2010**

- Civitella Ranieri Foundation Fellowship

**2006**

- Rome Prize , American Academy in Rome

**2005**

- Audience award – Italian pavilion, 51 Venice biennale

**2004**

- Darc Prize for young Italian art