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HAL BROMM GALLERY

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Lucio Pozzi Cornucopia: The Bielefeld Watercolors

March 28 - May 10, 2025



Lucio Pozzi, The Big City, 1982, Watercolor on paper, 11 $3/4 \times 11$ inches (820177)

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In celebration of the successful career of the Milan-born artist Lucio Pozzi, Hal Bromm Gallery is honored to present *Cornucopia*, *The Bielefeld Watercolors*, opening Friday, March 28. This exhibition revisits a dynamic series of watercolors first shown in Pozzi's 1982 retrospective at Kunsthalle Bielefeld, then in West Germany.

Coinciding with Magazzino Italian Art Museum's LUCIO POZZI: *qui dentro/in here* exhibition in Cold Spring, New York, *Cornucopia: The Bielefeld Watercolors* honors the noted artist's 90th birthday and his unique approach to art and the act of creation.

Cornucopia, The Bielefeld Watercolors is an intimate presentation of Pozzi's watercolors. This collection breaks down the elements of art-making, subverting the expectations of traditional aesthetic structures. While Pozzi engages with a range of media, including installations, oil paintings, performances, and photographs, the immediacy and unimposing nature of watercolor offers an unfiltered relationship between the artist, his work, and the viewer.

Pozzi's work is often described using celestial imagery. This characterization is fitting for an artist who once remarked, "By looking at matter through a telescope or microscope, I could see the same bustle of particles, stars, and molecules". Pozzi recognizes through a painterly lens the cosmic texture throughout all things, incorporating this scientific wonder into his watercolors. Featuring dotted spirals against luminous tripartite washes, the artist depicts ethereal faces resembling constellations. Pozzi's keen and experienced eye for novel relationships between texture, shape, and color is a through line in his watercolors.

David Ebony, noted critic and curator of *qui dentro/in here*, at Magazzino Museum, described Pozzi's oeuvre as daringly unclassifiable, leading the viewer to "severe abstract pictorial experiments...an unexpected territory of dramatic tension...The paradise, void". *Cornucopia, The Bielefeld Watercolors* highlights this liminal tension, showcasing Pozzi's practice of "art-as-agame" where the elements of a painting such as repetition, thickness, color, or opacity interact like puzzle pieces to be rearranged and recombined.

In his own words, Pozzi desires "to trigger in the viewer some unfathomable sensations that transcend the literal conditions of a painting." He expects the viewers "not to ask what I meant but to recreate the work as they view it."

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Cornucopia: The Bielefeld Watercolors also celebrates the longtime association between Pozzi and Bromm. Pozzi's works have been featured at nearly a dozen solo exhibitions at Hal Bromm Gallery since the 1970s. It is an honor to now introduce rarely seen works to the New York audience.

Lucio Pozzi's work has been exhibited at galleries, museums and institutions internationally, including at the American Pavilion at the 1980 Venice Biennale. His works are held in major collections such as The Museum of Modern Art, The Whitney Museum of American Art, and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. A dedicated educator, he has taught at institutions including Cooper Union, Yale, School of Visual Arts and Princeton. Pozzi currently divides his time working between New York's Hudson Valley and the Province of Verona, Italy.

For inquiries, please contact Gary Whitt: <u>Garywhitt1101@gmail.com</u>

Click here for more information on Lucio Pozzi: qui dentro/in here, at Magazzino Italian Art.

About Hal Bromm:

A downtown pioneer, Hal Bromm established Tribeca's first contemporary gallery in 1975, followed by an East Village branch in 1984. Since its establishment, Hal Bromm Gallery has organized historically significant exhibitions in New York City and beyond, presenting and championing the early work of many important contemporary artists, among them Alice Adams, Carlos Alfonzo, Mike Bidlo, Andre Cadere, Rosemarie Castoro, Peter Downsbrough, Joel Fisher, Linda Francis, Luis Frangella, Judy Glantzman, Michael Goldberg, Keith Haring, Suzanne Harris, Paolo Icaro, Derek Jarman, Alain Kirili, Greer Lankton, Nicholas Moufarrege, Richard Nonas, Jody Pinto, Lucio Pozzi, Rick Prol, Walter Robinson, Russell Sharon, Kiki Smith, Ted Stamm, Lynn Umlauf, Jeff Wall, Krzysztof Wodiczko, David Wojnarowicz, Martin Wong, and Joe Zucker, highlighting the creative energy and depth of talent surfacing in Downtown Manhattan throughout the 1970s, 80s and beyond. For nearly five decades, Hal Bromm's rich history of collaborating with artists, galleries, museums and institutions on the development and curation of avant-garde exhibitions, has provided meaningful context around storied moments in contemporary art.