

## YOUNG ARTISTS SERIES AT THE THRESHOLD OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM

The first volume is dedicated to

# Susanna Pozzoli

Un'estate con Meret Oppenheim

Texts by

Meret Oppenheim  
Volker W. Feierabend  
Barbara Stehle  
Susanna Pozzoli

NOVEMBER  
NEW  
RELEASES

Photos: © Susanna Pozzoli, 2018

The purpose of VAF Stiftung foundation (or mission, as it is said nowadays) is the promotion and protection of Italian art in all its aspects. It is a multiform safeguard, willing to study and enhance the value of both expressive trends and individual artists alike and both little-known artists and lesser-known aspects of twentieth century famous masters, as well as younger emerging artists. The adjective "younger" does not necessarily correspond here to the registry deed, but indicates artists who are not completely established yet.

For many years now, the Foundation has been promoting a Prize dedicated to painters and sculptors who have not turned forty yet. Alongside the Prize, and more generally the exhibitions, the Foundation has now decided to institute a Series of short, but in-depth monographs still dedicated to emerging artists, but without strict age limits. These volumes aim to analyze their work with a simple and educational language, far from sophisticated writing and certain abstruseness that unfortunately characterize much of the current critique. It also wants to adopt, as far as possible, rigorous philological criteria: without being inappropriate, or even counterproductive, by analyzing the still in progress cursus honorum of an author as if it were the one of a master of the past. Instead, paying attention to the author's aesthetic vision, exhibition experiences and poetic declarations.

In this Series, there is no choice of a field or preference for any artistic trend. All languages are equally welcome, as long as they communicate something, expressed in a professional manner. As precisely as possible, we will also try to capture the spirit of the time, without dogmatic cults of current events but rather keeping in mind the sentence by Renato Birolli, "Art does not want to be done after what should have been done before". The worst flaw for a young artist is to be born old. This series, promoted by the VAF Stiftung, therefore aims and hopes to identify younger artists in the most comprehensive sense of the word.

*Kuratorium VAF Stiftung*



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#### Meret Oppenheim

M.O. was born in Berlin on October 6th, 1913, of Swiss mother, Eva Wenger, and German father of Jewish origin, Eric Alphons Oppenheim. She spent her childhood in Switzerland, first in Delémont and then in Germany, in Steinen, where her father, a doctor, had his practice. She spent her vacations in Carona, in Ticino, where the grandparents owned a vacation home. She attended boarding schools in various locations and received a non-religious education, strong in the arts and psychology. In 1932, determined to become an artist, she

left for Paris where she sporadically attended the Académie de la Grande Chaumière and where she met Alberto Giacometti and Hans Arp who introduced her to the Surrealists (Breton, Tanguy, Ernst, Man Ray). In 1934 Man Ray took a series of photographs that would make her known as a muse and uninhibited beauty, as a modern and a free woman. Since then, until her last day, she developed a multimedia research that includes ready-made works, paintings, drawings, engravings, object and jewelry design and two collections of poems.

#### Susanna Pozzoli

Italian photographer born in Chiavenna (Lombardy) in 1978 and living in Montreuil, near Paris, Susanna Pozzoli develops an extensive personal research in parallel with commissioned reportages dedicated to artisanal savoirfaire. Photography is often associated with writing and inserted into site specific installations that include videos, audio montages,

interview extracts and graphic elements. In 2019 she was one of the finalists of the VAF Foundation Prize and exhibited the series titled *Casa Costanza. Meeting Meret Oppenheim*, at the MART Museum in Rovereto (Italy), first presentation of the research published in this volume.

