

# CARDI GALLERY PROJECTS

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Alice Ronchi, Purple rain, 2019  
Brass, 255 x 120 cm (100 3/8 x 47 1/4 in)  
Edition of 1 + AP

## ALICE RONCHI

Curated by Maria Abramenko

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Alice Ronchi was born in 1989 in Milan, Italy, where she lives and works. She graduated in 2012 from Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti (NABA) in Milan, Italy (where she now teaches Sculpture). In 2015, Ronchi attended the Master's degree programme at the Sandberg Instituut of the Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Ronchi's sculptural works look very minimal at the first sight, however, they are very complex. Colourful and toy-shaped, they might even look entertaining. In fact, Alice often relates her work to her childhood.

Everyday objects meet the world of invention and fantasy. The artist works across different media, from sculpture and photography to performance and video. Her search for wonder is a constant presence in the work, populated by familiar yet enigmatic figures, the product of an abstract rethinking or even reshaping of the ordinary. Somewhere in between playful and minimal, her work is a synthesis of simplicity of expression and complexity of forms and concepts. **Alice** is fascinated by landscapes of all kinds, in one of her artist's statements she claims;

*Nature, as background of my personal growth on the outskirts of Milan, has been a recurring element within my research. Once I was in the city, I could find nature again, hidden in artificial things everywhere, even along the city streets and roads or in objects of ordinary usage. The word "landscape" is the basic theme of my work. At first, I studied the landscape with its different elements such as rain, puddles, rainbows, and so on - only then did I start to think about the word "environment," reflecting on how a work could transform the space where it is placed. In such a way, I got to a reasonable consideration of the word "display," thinking of landscape as a practice of setting. I'm basically interested in this practice together with the research of wonder and beauty of daily objects, materials and actions - often transforming them into other things just to show a possible new way of looking at them. An exploratory approach always leads you to great encounters and surprises because when the imagination speaks to reality it generates new answers. So everyday life (the life we often try to grasp through reason and logic) meets the world of invention and fantasy, which is just as much a part of that reality if we look at it with the eyes of a fascinated child.*

So through this sculptural media **Alice** creates a contemplative landscape achieved through the arrangement of pure forms and ascetic elements, in which textures and colours intensify the geometric aspects in a measured chiaroscuro play. Her first form of art could be traced back to high school when, for an educational project, she invited all her classmates to activate and release the nozzles of the spray cans, creating an incessant roar similar to rain. Giving life to something different with elements of everyday life inspires her to create and transform things and also drives her interest in creativity. She attended the artistic high school in Monza where, in addition to teaching art, she deepened her interest in the humanistic field and subsequently moved to Milan to attend NABA courses held by the artists Marcello Maloberti and Luca Vitone.

**Alice** has exhibited at Gasconade space and Peep-Hole, Milan (both 2013); Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin; La Triennale Museum, Milan, (both 2014); Galleria civica di Trento, Trento; Galerie Fons Welters, Amsterdam (both 2015); Museum of Contemporary Art, Rome and Stadtgalerie

Kiel, Kiel (both 2016), among others. In 2014, she began her collaboration with Francesca Minini gallery, Milan, for which she has prepared two solo shows: Breakfast on the grass (2014) and Majestic solitude (2018). In addition to exhibiting, Alice also works with institutions, schools and museums to design workshops for children.

Her work has been exhibited in galleries and museums internationally including: Palazzo Reale (Milan IT), MamBo (Bologna IT), Fons Welters Gallery (Amsterdam NL), Macro Testaccio (Rome IT), Stadgalerie (Kiel DE), Galleria civica di Trento (Trento IT)

**Maria Abramenko**

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## PRESS

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