

# MUSEION of Modern and Contemporary Art Bolzano



## *Hämatli & Patriæ*

September 16, 2017–January 14, 2018

## MUSEION of Modern and Contemporary Art Bolzano

Piazza Piero Siena, 1

39100 Bolzano

Italy

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The exhibition presented by **Nicolò Degiorgis** (Bolzano, 1985),  
**Museion's guest curator for 2017**, gravitates around the concepts of

fatherland and **Heimat**—a German term which loosely translates as a sense of belonging—interpreted in the light of current events in Europe.

The physical and conceptual structure of the exhibition is based on the Flemish painting *Noah's Ark on Mount Ararat*, 1570, by **Simon de Myle**, which depicts **the landing rather than the departure of the ark**, as is usually represented. Taking its cue from this **curious**, even grotesque, **scene**, the exhibition has been conceived as a **large-scale mise-en-scene of the painting itself**. Issues such as **migration, nationalism, populism and identity** are tackled in the form of dialogues inspired by **the people, animals, objects and situations in the painting**. The exhibition, which presents **more than 30 works**, including videos, sculptures, installations, photographs, drawings, artists' books and documents, takes the form of an installation to explore, offering food-for-thought on some of the events of recent years.

The main dialogue is that between *Hämatli*, the Germanic term which is the root of the word **Heimat**, and *patriæ*, the Latin word for **nation and fatherland**. A series of further dialogues branch out from these two main concepts. The relationship between habitat and habitus, for example, is explored in dialogue between a photograph of the first migrants arriving in Italy from Albania in 1991 aboard the **ship Vlora**, and a work by **Eugenio Tibaldi**. The **railway-line flora** in Chiasso station, as drawn by the Swiss botanist **Ernesto Schick**, enters into conversation with the concept of **fauna**, represented by a new work by **Luca Trevisani**, commissioned for the occasion. Other dialogues in the show are between **East and West, obverse and reverse, prey and predator, land and sea, border and horizon, porci and economia et al.**

The exhibition is preceded by **five presentations of artists' books**, hosted by Museion itself and in parallel, in five places in the local area which relate to the themes of the books, such as a **school and a prison in Bolzano**. The idea is to **take art of the museum, into places**,

**settings and communities not normally associated with contemporary art.** Since January 2017 the settings have included: **the Alexander Langer school, Bolzano; Villaggio Eni in Borca di Cadore (in collaboration with Dolomiti Contemporanee), Seminario Maggiore in Bressanone, the Plessi Museum (in collaboration with Autostrada del Brennero) and Bolzano prison.**

**Featured artists:**

Yuri Ancarani, Apparatus 22, Filippo Berta, Mohamed Bourouissa, Donna Conlon, Simon De Myle, Nicolò Degiorgis, Hannes Egger, Aslan Gaisumov, Henrik Håkansson, Petrit Halilaj, Laëtitia Badaut Hausmann, Paolo Icaro, Armin Linke, Marcello Maloberti, Philipp Messner, Giuseppe Penone, Walid Raad, Ernesto Schick, Giovanna Silva, Superflex, Eugenio Tibaldi, Luca Trevisani, Luca Turi, Danh Vo, et. al.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue in three languages (Italian, German, English) published by Humboldt Books.

Save the date related events:

September 28, 7pm performative guided tour with Hannes Egger

October 26, 7pm talk with Martin Parr

November 23, 8pm talk with Nicolò Degiorgis