

PAULA SEEGY

GALLERY

PIETRO COLETTA. REVEALING THE INVISIBLE

Curated by Luigi Sansone

February 13 – March 27, 2025

Opening: Thursday, February 13, at 6 PM

The artist will be present.

From February 13 to March 27, Paula Seegy Gallery presents the significant solo exhibition “Pietro Coletta. Revealing the Invisible”, curated by art historian Luigi Sansone. The exhibition, which explores the artist's poetics, features unique mixed-media sculptures created from the 1990s to the present. Characterized by minimalist compositions, these works reflect Coletta's constant exploration of transcendental spaces, particularly the nature and the destiny of humankind. A strong connection to the spiritual world is evident, influenced by his travels in Africa and India as well as his closeness to Western artistic modernity, from Boccioni to Malevich.

As the curator emphasizes, Pietro Coletta creates works rich in hidden meanings, drawing inspiration from Kandinsky's belief that art expresses spirituality through abstract forms. His sculptures, either in the round or wall-mounted, are made from materials such as copper, brass, iron, wood, and stone, with color emerging through patinas, burns, and metallic threads. The artist describes sculpture as a medium to express his innermost self, seeking the soul of the matter.

A distinctive element of the wall-mounted works is the interaction between irregular geometric shapes and light, which plays a central role in his poetics. In works such as *Vibrazioni occulte* and *Compenetrazione* (2024), the use of materials and innovative techniques creates dynamic compositions evoking transformation and spirituality. Other pieces, such as *Apparizione ancestrale* (2020), explore intimate and important themes linked to memory and ritual, transporting the viewer into sacred dimensions.

The exhibition at Paula Seegy Gallery offers an in-depth analysis of Coletta's production, where light, as a symbolic element, prevails over matter, giving the works a mystical and transcendent aura.

Biographical Notes

International artist Pietro Coletta was born in Bari on December 2, 1948. He moved to Milan in 1967, where he studied sculpture at the Brera Academy under the guidance of Marino Marini, Alik Cavaliere, and Lorenzo Pepe. In 1969, he opened his studio on Corso Garibaldi, where he still lives and works.

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Throughout his career, Coletta has participated in numerous important national and international exhibitions, including the Rome Quadriennale, the Venice Biennale, as well as major exhibitions in Munich, London, Sydney, Brisbane, and Tokyo. He has exhibited in museums such as the Hayward Gallery in London, the Sofia Imber Museum in Caracas, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tortolì. In 2004 and 2005, he took part in significant exhibitions such as "Italian Sculpture 1960–2004" in Matera and "Italian Sculpture of the 20th Century" at the Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro in Milan.

In 2009, he created a permanent installation at UCLA in Los Angeles, and in 2013, he exhibited at the Hangaram Museum in Seoul. He has also held solo exhibitions at the Fondazione Mudima in Milan, including a major installation in 2013.

From 2010 to 2015, he was a professor of sculpture at the Brera Academy of Fine Arts, and since 2016, he has been a member of the National Academy of San Luca. He has participated in numerous exhibitions at Italian galleries and art fairs from 2017 to 2025.

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 12 PM – 7 PM

Info: paula@paulaseegygallery.com

Mobile: +39 340 4215312

www.paulaseegygallery.com

Press Office

IBC Irma Bianchi Communication

Via Arena 16/1 – Milan

info@irmabianchi.it