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HAMMER PROJECTS: YURI ANCARANI

On view at the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, September 27, 2014 – January 18, 2015



Los Angeles— Italian artist Yuri Ancarani makes seductive, hypnotic, engrossing films that delve deep into obscure subjects. This is his first solo exhibition in the U.S., and it will feature *La malattia del ferro* (The disease of iron; 2010–12), a trilogy of short films, each focusing on a highly specialized occupation. The title refers to a syndrome similar to cabin fever, which sailors experienced after being out

at sea for great lengths of time. The first film in the series, *Il Capo* (2010) is a beautiful portrayal of the Carrara marble quarry and the magnanimous foreman directing his crew like an orchestra conductor. *Piattaforma Luna* (2011) takes us inside the rarely seen daily routine of scuba divers on board a submarine, stationed deep below the surface of the ocean. *Da Vinci* (2012), features a surgical robot whose mechanical arms perform an operation (guided by a surgeon working remotely), and exquisitely captures the procedure from the inside and out. Together, the three films explore the interdependent relationship between man and machine and the beautiful choreography of labor.

Hammer Projects: Yuri Ancarani is organized by Hammer Curator Ali Subotnick with Emily Gonzalez, curatorial associate.

Biography

Yuri Ancarani (b. Ravenna, Italy, in 1972; lives and works in Milan) has shown his films in film festivals and exhibitions throughout Europe. Recent screenings have been presented at CAC, Centre d'Art Contemporaine, Geneva (2012); MAXXI, Rome (2012); Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (2012); N.O. Gallery, Milan (2010); Tirana Institute of Contemporary Art, Tirana, Albania (2008). His film *Da Vinci* (2012) was featured in *The Encyclopedic Palace*, 55th International Venice Biennale (2013), and he has participated in group exhibitions such as *Sotto la Strada, la spiaggia*, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Torino, Italy (2012); and the fifth Prague Biennial (2011). He has received numerous awards and honors, including the Short Film Grand Prize at the tenth International Independent Film Festival, Lisbon; the Audience Award at the Short Film Festival in Trondheim, Norway; and the Grand Prix in Lab Competition, Clermont-Ferrand Film Festival, among others. Ancarani was a finalist for the 2014 Premio MAXXI, and he presented a new work, *San Siro* (2014), in an exhibition at MAXXI (Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo), Rome, that opened in late May 2014.

Hammer Projects is made possible thanks to the generous support of the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, Susan Bay Nimoy and Leonard Nimoy, Hope Warschaw and John Law, and Maurice Marciano.

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ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum—a public arts unit of the University of California, Los Angeles—is dedicated to exploring the diversity of artistic expression through the ages. Its collections, exhibitions, and programs span the classic to the cutting-edge in art, architecture, and design, recognizing that artists play a crucial role in all aspects of culture and society.

The museum houses the Armand Hammer Collection of old master, impressionist, and postimpressionist paintings and the Armand Hammer Daumier and Contemporaries Collection. The museum also houses the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts—comprising more than 45,000 prints, drawings, photographs, and artists' books from the Renaissance to the present—and oversees the management of the Franklin D. Murphy Sculpture Garden on the UCLA campus. The Hammer's newest collection, the Hammer Contemporary Collection, is highlighted by works by artists such as Lari Pittman, Kara Walker, Ed Ruscha, Barbara Kruger, Mark Bradford, Richard Hawkins, and Llyn Foulkes, among many others.

The Hammer presents major single-artist and thematic exhibitions of historical and contemporary art. It also presents approximately ten Hammer Projects exhibitions each year, providing international and local artists with a laboratory-like environment to create new work or to present existing work in a new context.

As a cultural center, the Hammer offers a diverse array of free public programs throughout the year, including lectures, readings, symposia, film screenings, and music performances. These widely acclaimed public programs are presented in the Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater, which is also the home of the UCLA Film & Television Archive's renowned cinemathèque.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

Visit www.hammer.ucla.edu or call **310-443-7000** for current exhibition and program information.

ADMISSION TO ALL EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Hours: Tuesday–Friday 11am–8pm; Saturday & Sunday 11am–5pm. Closed Mondays, July 4, Thanksgiving, December 24, 25, 31, and January 1.

Location/Parking: The Hammer is located at 10899 Wilshire Boulevard in Westwood Village, three blocks east of the 405 Freeway's Wilshire exit. Parking is available under the Museum. Rate is \$3 for three hours with Museum validation. Bicycles park free and the Hammer is easily accessible via [public transportation](#).

Tours: For group tour reservations and information, call 310-443-7041.