

# ROOTS

A SHOWCASE OF  
CONTEMPORARY  
VENETIAN  
ART

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ROOTS unites diverse artists who choose to stay, create, and shape Venice's future together.



AIZENEV IS A PLATFORM SUPPORTING CREATORS,  
DEDICATED TO REVITALIZING VENICE THROUGH  
ART, CREATIVE DIALOGUE, AND COMMUNITY.

AIZENEV

[www.aizenev.com](http://www.aizenev.com)

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# About AIZENEV

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Venice is in crisis. Not just from rising water, but from rising prices, mass tourism, and the disappearance of the people who give the city its soul.

Since 1980, more than half the population of the historic center has left. Artists, artisans, and creatives are being pushed out, priced out of homes and studios, hidden from view, and left without the tools or space to grow. Without urgent action, Venice risks becoming a ghost city — beautiful but hollow. A museum without makers.

AIZENEV was born to reverse this trend.

We're building a new creative economy in Venice, one rooted in craft, culture, and community. We do this through several core programs. Exposing talent to the global stage, reshaping space for creativity through workshops, training and mentorship for the next generation and growing a patron network that builds lasting relationships between collectors and makers.

At Aizenev, we're not just supporting artists, we're reconnecting people with place. We are the current that brings together creatives, communities, and supporters to make Venice a place to live, grow, and create once again.

# About ROOTS

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ROOTS was our kick-off fundraising event, a collective exhibition of art, music, and culture that celebrates the voices shaping Venice's future.

It's a call to reconnect, to stay, and to grow something meaningful together.

Because the truth is, many people don't know if they can stay in Venice. The city is full of beauty, but uncertain for those trying to live and create here.

We're here to change that.

Over the course of three days, ROOTS brought together artists, musicians, and performers from five different nationalities, each forging their connection to Venice, and each contributing to its cultural revival.

From original artworks to live music, performance, and shared meals, this vibrant gathering was about possibility, and about planting something lasting.

We believe Venice can thrive again, not as a postcard for passing tourists, but as a living, breathing place filled with international art, culture, and human connection.

Let's make roots together.

# Saruul Davaapurev





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Saruul Davaapurev is a contemporary Italian artist of Mongolian heritage. After time spent in Budapest, she moved to Italy, completing her studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Venice. Her practice moves from theory to practice, combining painting with sculpture, metal casting, and printmaking techniques.

Saruul's work blends abstract and symbolic realism to explore themes of resilient identity, memory, and the relationship between humans and the natural world. Her compositions often evoke dreamlike atmospheres, where personal and cultural memory become intertwined.

Saruul Davaapurev

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Welcome to my dream, 2024

Watercolor and pastel on canvas

21 x 15 cm



Work sold

Saruul Davaapurev

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in the mood for love, 2023

Acrylic and pastel on cardboard

17.3 x 39.5 cm



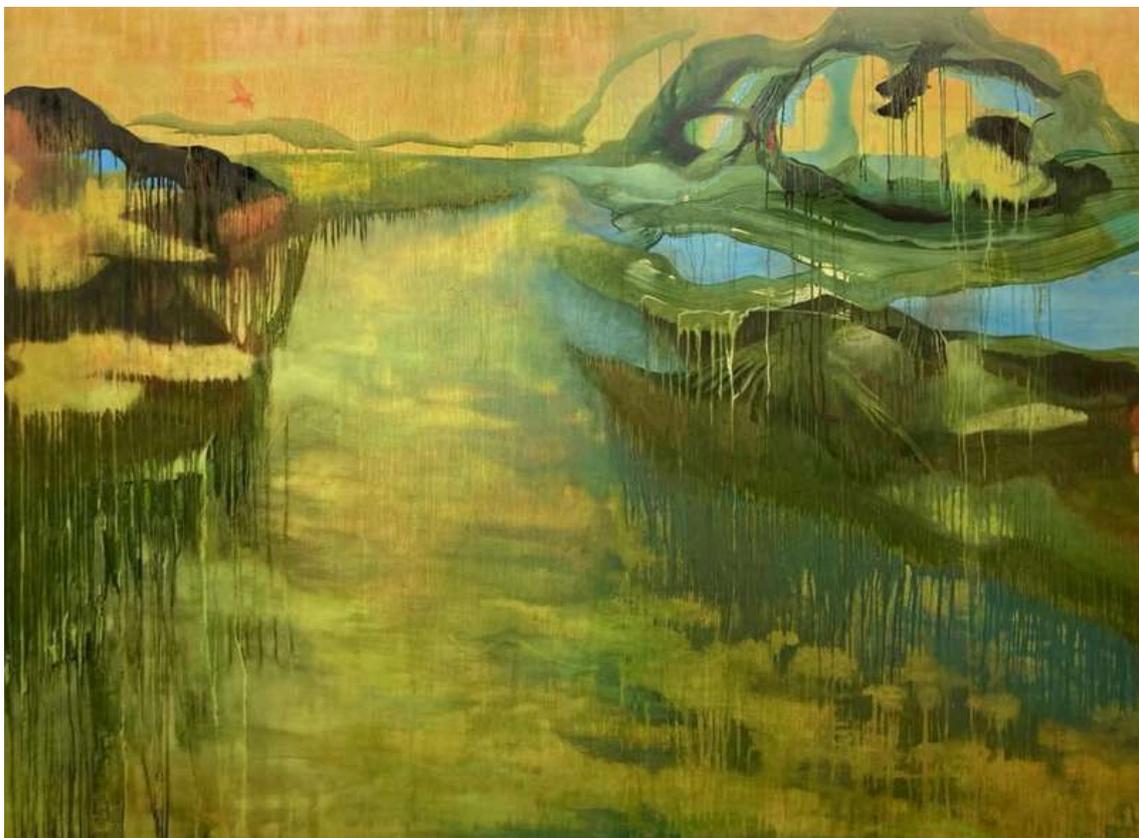
Saruul Davaapurev

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fase Rem, 2022

Oil and acrylic on board

128 x 170.5 cm



Saruul Davaasurev

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under the moon's light, 2025

Acrylic and oil pastel on paper

20.8 x 14.5 cm



Saruul Davaasurev

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everything settles, 2025

Oil and acrylic on canvas

69.5 x 150 cm



# Nicolò Rusca





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Nicolò Rusca is a visual anthropologist whose work lies at the intersection of documentary and contemporary art. He began photographing during his anthropology studies in Bologna, using the camera as a tool for observing identity, memory, and human environments.

His images are intimate, often exploring the quiet presence of people, spaces, and the traces they leave behind. With a poetic and observational lens, Rusca reflects on the layered narratives that emerge from lived experience, blurring the line between witness and author.



Untitled 1, 2025

Silver salt printing

17.8 x 24 cm

Untitled 4, 2025

Silver salt printing

17.8 x 24 cm



Untitled 3, 2025

Silver salt printing

17.8 x 24 cm

Limited prints available

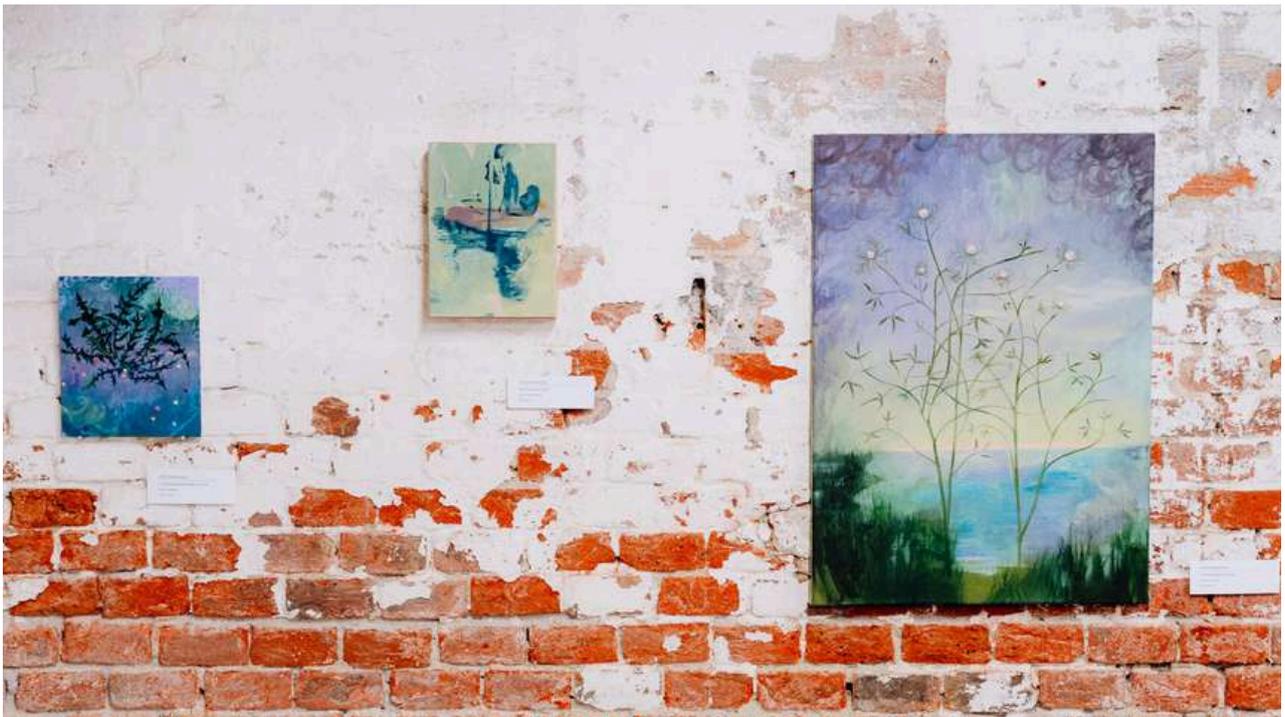
6, 7, 8, 9

Untitled 2, 2025

Silver salt printing

17.8 x 24 cm

# Sofia Massalongo





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Sofia is a painter whose work investigates the surreal and symbolic layers of the everyday. Her compositions, often intimate and enigmatic, evoke a poetic tension between the familiar and the strange. She draws inspiration from quiet moments, subtle gestures, and the overlooked.

Colour plays a central role in her process, used not only to depict, but to reframe reality. Through gentle eccentricity and a deeply personal lens, Sofia's paintings offer dreamlike glimpses into the emotional undercurrents of daily life.

Sofia Massalongo

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Dittico lagunare, 2024

Oil on canvas

24 x 20 cm (2 pieces)



Work sold (right side piece)

Sofia Massalongo

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Il carnevale delle erbacce, 2025

Oil on canvas

24 x 20 cm



Sofia Massalongo

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San Secondo, 2024

Oil on cardboard

26 x 20 cm



Work sold

12

Natalia, 2023

Oil on cardboard on wood panel

20 x 13.5 cm (2 pieces)



Sofia Massalongo

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Fiori immaginari, 2025

Oil on canvas

70 x 50 cm

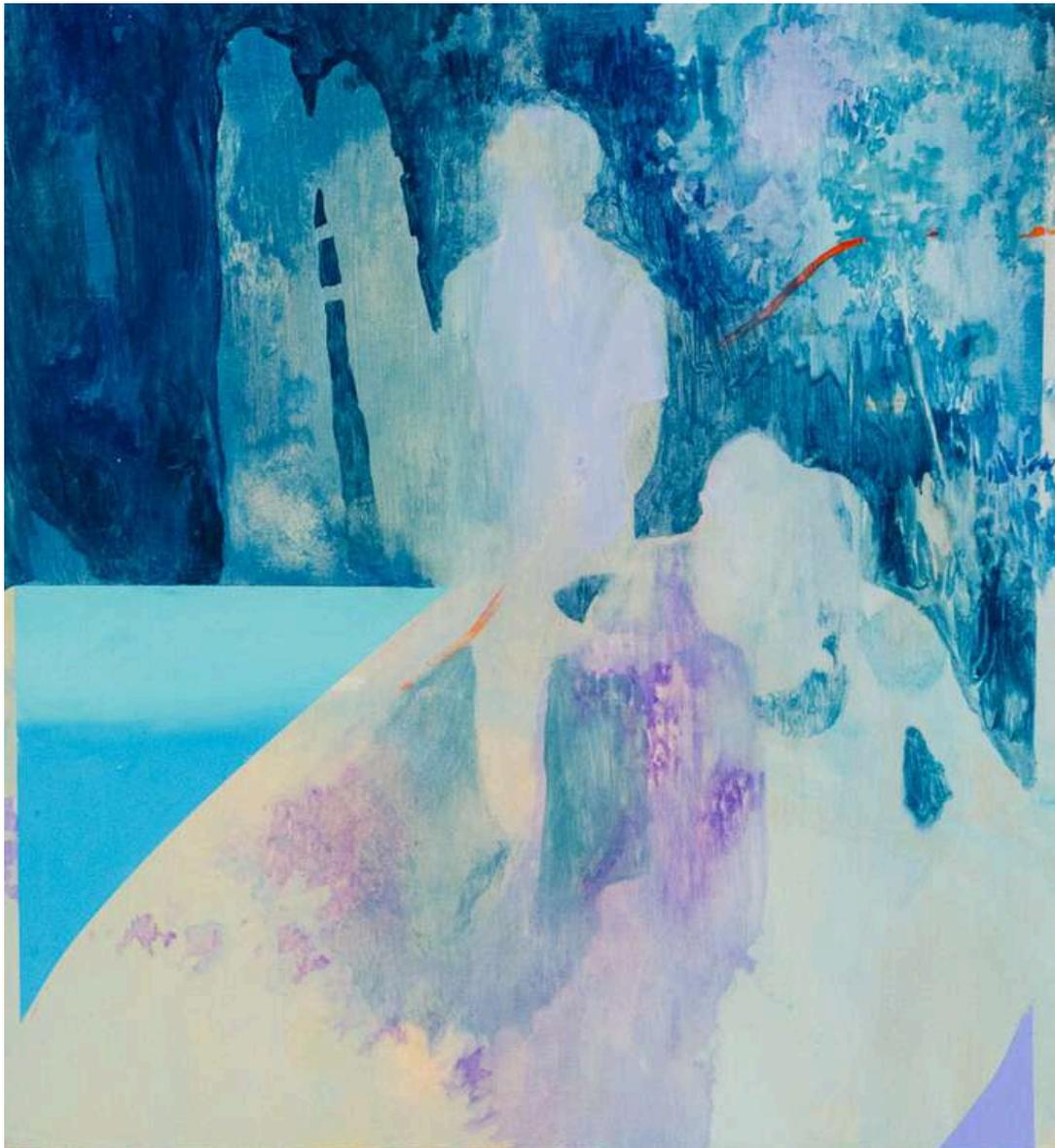




Bricole, 2024

Oil on cardboard

35 x 30 cm



Sofia Massalongo

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Fuga a San Pieretto, 2024

Oil on cardboard

35 x 30 cm



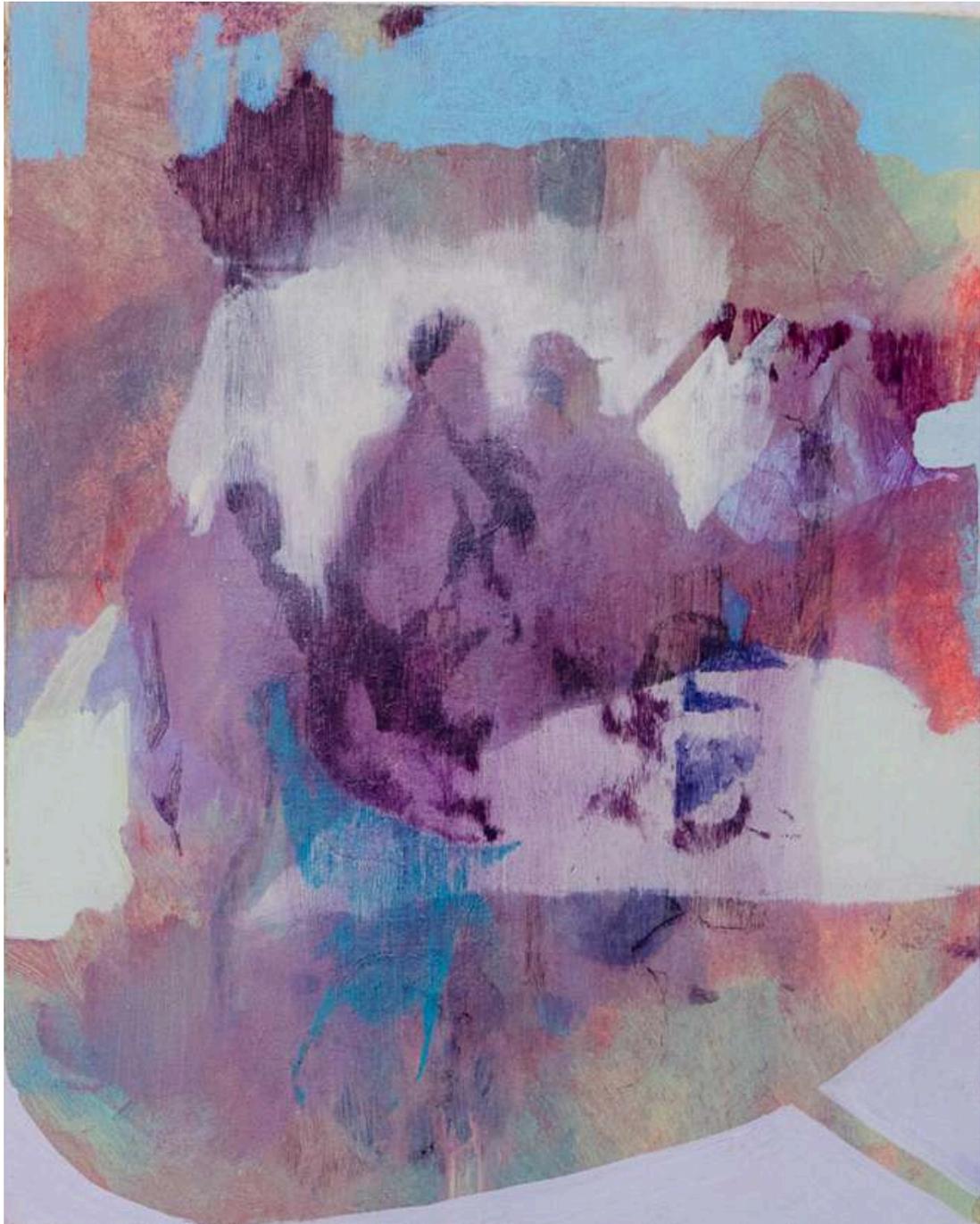
Sofia Massalongo

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Traghettoni, 2024

Oil on cardboard

26 x 20 cm



# Elena Andreato





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Elena is an art director and photographer based in Venice. Her practice has recently expanded beyond photography into the material world. Elena began working with clay, a shift sparked during a trip to the Wadi Rum desert. The raw beauty of the landscape, its colors and light, left a lasting mark on her imagination.

Back in Venice, that experience evolved into a tactile exploration: her hands searching for ways to shape memory. Today, ceramics have become a vital extension of her creative process, a more direct, physical language that complements her photographic work.

Elena Andreato

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artifact 1/7, 2023

Ceramic

19 x 19 x 5 cm



Elena Andreato

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Living rock I, 2025

Ceramic (various colours available)

3 x 10 x 10 cm



# Luke Hamel Cooke





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Luke Hamel Cooke uses analogue experimental techniques to unearth and materialise aspects of his unconscious. His father, Francis Hamel, a painter, educated him in art history, drawing and painting, and provided him with modelling materials from a young age.

After studying Fine Art at Falmouth, Luke was mentored by renowned British ceramicist Michel Francois, who offered him a studio and guidance in ceramic art. In October 2024, he made his solo debut, a large-scale DIY exhibition titled "FORCE OF NATURE", a major turning point in his career. He is now working on various projects internationally.

Luke Hamel Cooke

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Grail, 2024

Ceramic

8 x 13 x 13 cm





Amulet, 2025

Ceramic

20 x 8 x 8 cm



Luke Hamel Cooke

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Stigma VII, 2024

Ceramic

17 x 10 x 10 cm



# Fiedler 0 Mastrangelo





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Fiedler O Mastrangelo is the collaborative duo of Nicolas Fiedler and Giulia Mastrangelo. Fiedler, an Italian-Brazilian artist and architect, focuses on structure and spatial clarity. Mastrangelo, trained in Milan and Venice, brings a conceptual and linguistic approach.

Their work merges geometric precision with poetic symbolism, creating sculptural forms that explore duality, language, and transformation. Together, they present a large-scale work that combines poetry, colour, and abstract painting, an exploration of the five most popular religions of the world brought together on a single canvas.

Fiedler O Mastrangelo

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Il Principio della Fine, 2025

Acrylic and paper on canvas

240 x 175 cm



# Vittorio Da Mosto





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Vittorio is a lifelong artist and internationally exhibited photographer, deeply rooted in Venetian society and known for activating spaces and communities. He has played a key role in Venice's creative revival through AIZENEV and various cultural initiatives.

His work is centred on reflection, inspired by the fluidity of water in Venice and influenced by the gesture of Japanese calligraphy. His practice draws from a personal philosophy about the relationship between water and life. For this exhibition, he presents a series of photographs transformed into silk screen prints.



Untitled 1, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm





Untitled 2, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm





Untitled 3, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm





Untitled 4, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm





Untitled 5, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm





Untitled 6, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm





Untitled 7, 2024

Silkscreen print

42 x 30 cm



# About our Patrons

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As tourism increases and the cost of living rises, local artisans, musicians, and young creatives are leaving the city. Their crafts, passed down for generations, are no longer sustainable. Without intervention, the living culture of Venice will vanish.

The support of our Patrons directly funds our initiatives that help restore endangered crafts and enables cultural events that reconnect the city to its people, not just its tourists. From artist sponsorship to community initiatives, every contribution creates a tangible, visible impact.

As a Patron, you become part of a cultural alliance. You'll gain access to curated experiences and intimate encounters in spaces most never see. We believe in relationships over reach, substance over spectacle.

Whether you live in Venice or far away, your voice and support help shape Venice as a living city long into the future.

Become a Patron of the New Venetian Renaissance.

Email [info@aizenev.com](mailto:info@aizenev.com) or visit [www.aizenev.com](http://www.aizenev.com) to take your first step.



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