

THE ARTISTS IN 8½

Darren Almond

Born in Wigan, UK in 1971, he lives and works in London.

Reportage, autobiography and sublime landscapes come together in Darren Almond's work to create a sort of emotional documentary, an exploration of the world and of the soul that is rooted in the tradition of English Romantic painting.

In **November 2003**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented his video installation *IF I HAD YOU*, conceived by the artist for the vast halls of the medieval **Palazzo della Ragione** in Milan.

In 2005, he was shortlisted for Tate Britain's Turner Prize.

He has had solo shows at Parasol unit foundation in London (2008), Musée d'art contemporain in Montreal (2007), K21 in Düsseldorf (2005), Tate Britain in London (2001), Kunsthalle Zürich (2001), de Appel arts centre in Amsterdam (2001), and The Renaissance Society in Chicago (1999). He has also taken part in many important group exhibitions and major international festivals, including the Tate Triennial at Tate Britain in London (2009), the Moscow Biennale (2007), the Busan Biennale (2004), the Venice Biennale (2003), the Berlin Biennale (2001) and Sensation (1997-1999).

Pawel Althamer

Born in Warsaw, Poland in 1967, he lives and works in Warsaw.

A modern-day shaman, Pawel Althamer reflects on human identity and probes its depths, creating sculptures and idols that embody collective anxieties and personal desires.

In **May 2007**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented *ONE OF MANY*, his first major solo exhibition in Italy, conceived for the spaces of **Palazzina Appiani** and Milan's **Arena Civica**, which was housing a contemporary art exhibition for the first time.

In 2010, Pawel Althamer won the Aachen Art Prize, and in 2004, the Vincent Award, organized from 2002 to 2004 by the Bonnefantenmuseum in Maastricht.

He has had solo shows at Centre Pompidou in Paris (2006), the Zacheta National Gallery in Warsaw (2005), Kunstverein in Düsseldorf (2003), the MCA in Chicago (2001) and Kunsthalle Basel (1997). He has taken part in many important group exhibitions and major international festivals, including the Gwangju Biennale (2010), the Shanghai Biennale (2008), Skulptur Projekte Münster (2007), the Berlin Biennale (2006), the Istanbul Biennial (2005), the Moscow Biennale (2005), the 54th Carnegie International in Pittsburgh (2004), the Venice Biennale (2003), Manifesta 3 in Ljubljana (2000) and documenta 10 in Kassel (1997).

John Bock

Born in Gribbohm, Germany in 1965, he lives and works in Berlin.

Half mad scientist and half Buster Keaton, a naughty child and a philosopher of chaos, John Bock's works construct a surreal universe where logic seems strangely befuddled, a miniature world where everything is both connected and isolated.



In November 2008, in the elegant, austere setting of the **Sala Reale** pavilion of Milan's **Stazione Centrale**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi organized John Bock's first solo show with an Italian institution. For the occasion, it produced and presented the European premiere of *MEECHFIEBER*, the artist's first full-length film.

In 2006, Bock was shortlisted for the New York Guggenheim's Hugo Boss Prize.

Many cultural institutions have organized solo exhibitions of his work, including KunstWerke in Berlin (2009), P.S.1 in New York (2007), Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt (2007), the ICA in London (2004), the MoMA in New York (2000), and Kunsthalle Basel (1999). His performance pieces, sculptures, and films have been featured in major contemporary art festivals such as the Venice Biennale (1999 and 2005), the Lyon Biennale (2005), Manifesta 5 in San Sebastián (2004), documenta 11 in Kassel (2002), and the Yokohama Triennale (2001).

Maurizio Cattelan

Born in Padua, Italy in 1969, he lives and works in New York and Milan.

A manipulator of images and master of provocation, Maurizio Cattelan draws on reality at its crudest to reveal the tensions and hysteria of the contemporary world, creating a series of short-circuits that hold up all its contradictions for public judgement.

In **May 2004**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented his sculpture *UNTITLED*: three life-size children, barefoot and open-eyed, hanging from the ancient oak tree of **Piazza XXIV Maggio in Milan**, one of the most significant locations in the city's history.

He has had solo shows at major museums such as the Menil Collection in Houston (2010), Palazzo Reale in Milan (2010), Kunsthhaus Bregenz (2008), Museum für Moderne Kunst and Portikus in Frankfurt (2007), Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris (2004), P.S.1 in New York (2002), the MoCA in Los Angeles (2003), the MoMA in New York (1998), and Castello di Rivoli in Turin (1997). He has also taken part in many major group exhibitions and large international festivals such as the Venice Biennale (2003, 2001, 1999, 1997 and 1993), the Whitney Biennial in New York (2004), the Lyon Biennale (2000), and Skulptur Projekte Münster (1997).

In 2006, he co-curated the 4th Berlin biennial with Massimiliano Gioni and Ali Subotnick.

Martin Creed

Born in Wakefield, UK in 1968, he lives and works in London.

Martin Creed's delicate minimalism is expressed through simple, radical gestures based on the words, sounds, and objects of everyday life: in his works, the most mundane elements of reality are brought to life in a dance of extremely simple forms, governed by maniacal rhythms.

In **May 2006**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented the exhibition *I LIKE THINGS*, a journey through Creed's most significant works, alongside pieces especially conceived for the spaces of **Milan's Palazzo dell'Arengario**, which opened its doors for the last time before the architectural renovation that would convert it into the home of the Museo del Novecento.

In 2001, Martin Creed won Tate Britain's prestigious Turner Prize.

Leading international museums have organized solo exhibitions of his work: Centre Pompidou in Metz (2009), Ikon Gallery in Birmingham (2008), Tate Britain in London (2008 and 2000), the Boston Center for the Arts (2007), Tate Modern in London (2006), Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven (2005), and Kunsthalle Bern (2003). He has taken part in important international festivals such as the Berlin biennale (2006), the Lyon Biennale (2005), and the Biennale of Sydney (1998).



Tacita Dean

Born in Canterbury, UK in 1965, she lives and works in Berlin.

Tacita Dean's films are a celebration of slowness and memory: shot and reproduced only on film, they open a window onto a vanished world, transforming every landscape, object, or character into an allegory of passing time.

In **May 2009**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented her show *STILL LIFE* in Milan: fourteen films, including two new ones, projected in the halls of the *piano nobile of Palazzo Dugnani*, restored after years of neglect and opened for the first time to the public, who thus also got the chance to admire its magnificent frescoes by Giambattista Tiepolo.

Shortlisted for the Turner Prize in 1998, in 2006 Tacita Dean received the New York Guggenheim's Hugo Boss Prize, and in 2009, the Kurt Schwitters-Preis.

Her films have been shown in solo exhibitions at major international institutions, including the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art in Melbourne (2009), the Guggenheim Museum in New York (2007), Schaulager in Basel (2006), Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris (2003), Tate Britain in London (2001), MACBA in Barcelona (2001), and Witte de With in Rotterdam (1997). She has taken part in prestigious contemporary art festivals such as Performa in New York (2009), the Berlin Biennale (2006), the São Paulo Biennale (2006), the Biennale of Sydney (2006), the Yokohama Triennale (2001), and twice at the Venice Biennale (2005 and 2003).

Michael Elmgreen & Ingar Dragset

Michael Elmgreen was born in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1961; Ingar Dragset was born in Trondheim, Norway in 1969. They have been collaborating since 1995. They live and work in Berlin.

Elmgreen & Dragset's temporary installations are exercises in sleight-of-hand that transform urban space into an elastic, flexible structure in constant evolution; they are incursions into daily life that tackle stereotypes, playing with their mise-en-scène and imposing new, unexpected interpretations.

In **May 2003**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi inaugurated its series of forays into Milan's urban fabric with Elmgreen & Dragset's installation *SHORT CUT*, placed in the city's symbolic heart, the **Octagon in Galleria Vittorio Emanuele**, traditionally considered "the city's parlour".

In 2009, Elmgreen & Dragset represented Denmark and the Nordic countries at the Venice Biennale, where they received a special mention.

They have exhibited their work in the world's leading museums, including the MCA in Chicago (2007 and 2005), the Serpentine Gallery in London (2004), Museum für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt (2003), Palais de Tokyo in Paris (2002 and 2001), and Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris (1998). Nominated in 2000 for the New York Guggenheim's Hugo Boss Prize, they have also taken part in the São Paulo Biennale (2002) and the Istanbul Biennial (2001).

Urs Fischer

Born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1973, he lives and works in New York.

Like a magician, Urs Fischer tames a wide range of everyday materials—wood, metal, wax, styrofoam, glue, and plastic; or even chairs, tables, fruit, vegetables and bread—and transforms them into sculptures, creating a fairy-tale universe that is a distorted reflection of our world, made up of precarious images and teetering equilibriums, of fragile objects in constant metamorphosis.



In **May 2005**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented *JET SET LADY*, the artist's first solo show in Italy, conceived for the spaces of the 19th-century **Istituto dei Ciechi in Milan**, which was housing a contemporary art exhibition for the first time.

Solo shows of his work have been organized by prestigious international institutions such as the New Museum in New York (2009), Museum Boijmans van Beuningen in Rotterdam (2006), Hamburger Bahnhof in Berlin (2005), Centre Pompidou in Paris (2004), Kunsthaus Zürich (2004), and the ICA di London (2000). He has taken part in many important group shows and major international festivals, including the Whitney Biennial in New York (2006), the Venice Biennale (2003), and Manifesta 3 in Ljubljana (2000).

Peter Fischli and David Weiss

Peter Fischli was born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1952; David Weiss was born in Zurich, Switzerland in 1946. They live and work in Zurich and have been collaborating since 1979.

In the works of Fischli and Weiss, even the most insignificant material is turned into something magical: as if by enchantment, reality becomes a workshop in which to undermine all convictions and hold them up to merciless criticism, through a blend of discipline and fantasy, whimsy and tragedy.

In **January 2008**, on the *piano nobile* of **Palazzo Litta** in Milan, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented *ALTRI FIORI E ALTRE DOMANDE*, an exhibition co-produced with Tate Modern in London and Kunsthaus Zürich. For the occasion, the spaces of this Baroque palazzo were restored by the foundation and opened for the first time to the public, with a contemporary art exhibition installed among its original furnishings, brocade walls and ballrooms.

In 2003, Fischli and Weiss were awarded a Golden Lion at the Venice Biennale.

They have had solo shows in major museums and institutions around the world, including Museo Reina Sofia in Madrid (2009), Kunsthaus Zürich (2007), Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris (2007), Tate Modern in London (2006), Museum Boijmans van Beuningen in Rotterdam (2003), Museum Ludwig in Cologne (2002), MACBA in Barcelona (2000), the SFMOMA in San Francisco (1997), the Serpentine Gallery in London (1996), and the MOCA in Los Angeles (1987). The two Swiss artists have taken part in leading contemporary art festivals such as the 55th Carnegie International in Pittsburgh (2008-2009), the Yokohama Triennale (2008), the Biennale of Sydney (1998), documenta in Kassel (1997 and 1987) and Skulptur Projekte Münster (1997 and 1987).

Paul McCarthy

Born in Salt Lake City, USA in 1945, he lives and works in Los Angeles.

Paul McCarthy's irreverent, mocking language blends pop-art whimsy with folktales, the nightmares of the daily news with the world's most lurid gossip programs: his videos, performances, installations and sculptures transport visitors into a universe that combines Hollywood glamor with the dark side of the American Dream.

In **May 2010**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented *PIG ISLAND*, Paul McCarthy's first solo show with an Italian institution, for which the foundation renovated the majestic spaces of **Palazzo Citterio**, an elegant, Rococo-style patrician home in the heart of Milan, reopened for the first time in 30 years. For the exhibition by this major American artist, the palazzo was restored to the city and the public: tens of thousands of visitors got the chance to admire this architectural gem, with its unfinished spaces in Brutalist style, invaded by McCarthy's powerful, provocative installations and his *Pig Island*, an extraordinary project presented for the first time in the world by the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi.

In his long career, McCarthy has had exhibitions at the world's leading contemporary art museums, including the Whitney Museum of American Art (2008), Moderna Museet in Stockholm (2006), the Whitechapel Gallery in London (2005), Tate Modern in London (2003), the New Museum in New York (2001), and the MOCA in Los Angeles (2000). He has also taken part in the most important



international festivals, such as the Biennale of Sydney (2010), the Yokohama Triennale (2008), the Berlin Biennale (2006), the Whitney Biennial in New York (2004, 1997 and 1995), the Lyon Biennale (2003 and 1997), the Venice Biennale (2001, 1999, 1995 and 1993), the Biennale of Sydney (2000), and the Gwangju Biennale (2010).

Paola Pivi

Born in Milan, Italy in 1971, she lives and works in Anchorage, Alaska.

With her sculptures and performance pieces, Paola Pivi builds an upside-down world, a personal universe ruled by the laws of absurdity: using light-handed irony, she turns colossal undertakings and impossible feats into disarmingly simple gestures.

In November 2006, in the austere spaces of the **Vecchi Magazzini**, the former warehouse at **Stazione di Porta Genova**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented the exhibition *MY RELIGION IS KINDNESS*, inhabited by forty roaming live animals, all white.

In 1999, along with Monica Bonvicini, Bruna Esposito, Luisa Lambri and Grazia Toderi, she represented Italy at the Venice Biennale, winning a Golden Lion for the best national pavilion.

She has had solo shows in many international museums, including Portikus in Frankfurt (2008), Kunsthalle Basel (2007), MACRO in Rome (2003), and Castello di Rivoli in Turin (2000). She has also taken part in prestigious international events such as the Berlin Biennale (2008), Manifesta 5 in San Sebastián (2004), the Venice Biennale (2003 and 1999), and Sonsbeek 9 in Arnhem (2001).

Anri Sala

Born in Tirana, Albania in 1974, he lives and works in Berlin.

Mingling personal stories with studies of society, Anri Sala's films, photographs and video installations explore the boundaries of history and geography, seen through the eyes of marginal characters who become accidental actors in collective dramas.

In **November 2005**, the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi produced and presented the film *LONG SORROW* as the central work in the solo show by the same name, mounted in the Art Nouveau halls of the **Circolo Filologico Milanese**.

Shortlisted for the Preis der Nationalgalerie für Junge Kunst award in Berlin in 2005 and the New York Guggenheim's Hugo Boss Prize in 2002, he won the Young Artist Prize at the Venice Biennale in 2001.

Anri Sala has had solo shows at international institutions such as CAC in Cincinnati (2009), the MOCA North Miami (2008), Museum Boijmans van Beuningen in Rotterdam (2005), Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris (2004), the Art Institute of Chicago (2004), Kunstverein in Hamburg (2004), and Kunsthalle Wien in Vienna (2003). He has also taken part in major international festivals such as the Venice Biennale (2003, 2001 and 1999), the Moscow Biennale (2007), the Biennale of Sydney (2006), the Berlin Biennale (2006 and 2001), the Istanbul Biennial (2003), the Tirana Biennale (2003 and 2001), the Yokohama Triennale (2001), Manifesta 4 in Frankfurt (2002), and Manifesta 3 in Ljubljana (2000).

Tino Sehgal

Born in London, UK in 1976, he lives and works in Berlin.

Influenced by his background in economics and contemporary dance, Tino Sehgal does not produce objects, but rather confronts viewers with peculiar, surreal situations, staged by dancers and museum guards who are turned into living statues.

In **November 2008**, in the Neoclassical halls of **Villa Reale in Milan**—home to the Galleria d'Arte Moderna—the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi presented the most comprehensive exhibition of Tino Sehgal's work to date.



FONDAZIONE
NICOLA
TRUSSARDI

In 2005, Sehgal represented Germany at the Venice Biennale, and in 2010, became the youngest artist ever to have a solo exhibition at the New York Guggenheim.

His work has been exhibited in solo shows at important museums such as the Guggenheim in New York (2010), the CCA in San Francisco (2009), Kunsthaus Zürich (2009), Magasin 3 in Stockholm (2008), the ICA in London (2007, 2006 and 2005), Museum für Moderne Kunst in Frankfurt (2007), the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis (2007), the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam (2006), Kunsthaus Bregenz (2006), Hamburger Kunsthalle (2005), and Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven (2004). He has also taken part in prestigious international festivals such as the Yokohama Triennale (2008 and 2005), the Lyon Biennale (2007), the Berlin Biennale (2006), the Tate Triennial at Tate Britain in London (2006), the Moscow Biennale (2005), the Venice Biennale (2003), and Manifesta 4 in Frankfurt (2002).

