

Claudio Parmiggiani

28 May – 31 August 2025

Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art, London, N1

www.estorickcollection.com



Claudio Parmiggiani, *Untitled* (Senza titolo), 2023, smoke and soot on board, 150 x 200 cm
Private collection, Switzerland. Courtesy Tornabuoni Art

London, UK: The Estorick Collection presents the first ever institutional UK exhibition dedicated to pioneering contemporary Italian master Claudio Parmiggiani (b. Luzzara, 1943). Featuring selected works from the past 50 years, the exhibition highlights the artist's distinctive exploration of themes of memory, absence and silence in his "search for an image, object or assemblage that transcends time and individual experience to evoke a universal, existential truth".

After the Second World War, during a period of crisis for traditional figurative art, Parmiggiani developed a visual language that was both deeply personal and profoundly

universal. His innovative approach positioned him as a pioneer of his time, redefining artistic expression through a unique and introspective lens.

At the heart of the exhibition are the *Delocazioni* (Italian for 'displacements') that employ smoke and soot to create ghostly impressions of negative space left by objects such as bottles, books, the human form and musical instruments. Originally conceived in the 1970s, this technique has become one of Parmiggiani's most emblematic and recognisable methods, a recurrent and fundamental element of his oeuvre, and one of his most powerful ways of exploring absence.

The exhibition features both monumental and more intimate works from this iconic series. The panels on show depict bookcases where only traces of books remain, impressions of the burned remains of a library, windows and other recurring motifs in Parmiggiani's work. Reminiscent of photograms but more fragile and evocative, these contemplative works function as poetic meditations on memory.

Also on view are works on paper and sculptural assemblages that the artist describes as "sculpted paintings".

Organised in collaboration with the artist's Archive and Tornabuoni Art, and supported by the Consulate General of Italy in London as an event related to the celebrations of the Italian National Day, the exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue.



Claudio Parmiggiani, *Untitled (Senza titolo)*, 2009, book, plaster cast, clock, 50 x 70 x 30 cm
Courtesy Archivio Claudio Parmiggiani

Notes to Editors

About the Estorick Collection

The Estorick Collection of Modern Italian Art is internationally renowned for its core of Futurist works. It comprises some 120 paintings, drawings, watercolours, prints and sculptures by many of the most prominent Italian artists of the modernist era. There are six galleries, two of which are used for temporary exhibitions. Since opening in 1998, the Collection has established a reputation and gained critical acclaim as a key venue for bringing Italian art to the British public.

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