



UniCredit Milan presents the sixth exhibition of UniCredit STUDIOS,
the network of exhibition spaces dedicated to young artists

**CARTE BLANCHE #6: *The Painter who Fled the Wind.*
*Five artists in search of Antonio Donghi.***

**A bridge between past and present:
five young artists interpret the works and research
of one of the key exponents of Magical Realism**

Palazzo Cordusio – UniCredit Branch, Milan
31st January – 8th April 2012

Milan, January 2012 – The Painter who Fled the Wind. Five artists in search of Antonio Donghi is the title of the sixth exhibition in the Carte Blanche series, on show from 31st January until 8th April 2012 at the UniCredit STUDIO in Milan, Palazzo Cordusio, the first of the exhibition spaces to be opened in May 2010 within a UniCredit branch. The STUDIOS constitute an innovative formula designed by UniCredit so as to give space to emerging talented artists who have yet to enter the gallery circuit, from the 22 European Countries in which the Group is operative.

The exhibition features original works by **Alessandro Agudio, Helena Hladilova, Alice Mandelli, Valerio Nicolai** and **Namsal Siedlecki**: five young artists who have been invited to reflect on the contemporary elements to be identified in the work of **Antonio Donghi**. A century down the line, the set of works by the artist to be found in the UniCredit Collection – along with his research and his interests – are brought back to life through the proposals of contemporary artists, in the form of paintings, drawings, installations, sculptures and photographs.

The young artists, all from countries in which the Group is present, thus accepted the challenge to give a modern-day interpretation of this enigmatic figure, coupling it with their own interests and fields of research. With this sixth display, **UniCredit STUDIOS** bridges the gap between a great 19th-century painter and five young contemporary artists, with a selection of the works found in the UniCredit Collection alongside the artists' most avant-garde research, promoted by UniCredit STUDIOS.

The opening of *The Painter who Fled the Wind. Five artists in search of Antonio Donghi* is accompanied by **Carte Blanche #6**, the sixth issue of the UniCredit STUDIO Notebooks. In particular, this issue also includes a series of special pages recounting the artists' dialogue with Donghi. Carte Blanche is the name used to indicate both the exhibitions on show in the STUDIOS and the series of catalogues published to provide visibility to the research and experimentation of artists and curators, who – as the name suggests – are given *carte blanche*. Thanks to the STUDIOS formula, UniCredit hosts art inside the workspaces of the Bank itself, in constant touch with the general public, thus transforming them into hubs of creativity for up-and-coming artistic talent.

UniCredit STUDIO**Carte Blanche #6:*****The Painter who Fled the Wind. Five artists in search of Antonio Donghi***

Palazzo Cordusio – UniCredit Branch, Milan

31st January – 8th April, 2012

From Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:15pm, **free entrance**.

Public opening: 31st January, 6pm

Press Preview: same day from 11.30am to 1pm

For further information:

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Antonio Donghi (Rome, 16th March 1897 – Rome, 16th July 1963). Among the main protagonists of the Magical Realism movement, Donghi made his debut in the early 1920s, marking the start of his clear and coherent development: precision in drawing, solidity of volumes, dreamlike atmospheres and figures captured in an unsettling fixedness. His was a reality so perfect and clear as to become unreal and hence magical. Also defined as “the painter of immobilism,” it was said that he would not go out to paint if it was windy, for the wind would rustle the leaves, and this is where the inspiration for the title of the exhibition comes from.

Valerio Nicolai, born in Gorizia in 1988, he lives and works between Gorizia and Venice. In 2011 he was awarded a study grant at the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation in Venice, where he is currently attending the Academy of Fine Arts.

Alice Mandelli, born in Vimercate, province of Milan, in 1983; she lives and works in Milan. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera, from which she graduated in April 2007. Since 2009 she has collaborated with the Lucie Fontaine exhibition space, where in 2011 she presented a series of works as part of a project entitled TUTTO SU.

Helena Hladilová, born in Kroměříž (Czech Republic) in 1983, she lives and works in Turin. She studied at the Academy of Fine Arts of Milan and Carrara and before that at the University of Technology in Brno. Helena Hladilová is the co-founder and co-curator of the non-profit Gum Studio exhibition space, based in Carrara from 2008 until 2011, which has now been relocated to Turin.

Namsal Siedlecki, born in the USA in 1986, lives and works in Turin. From 2007 until 2010 he attended the Academy of Fine Arts of Carrara, and he currently attends that of Turin. Namsal Siedlecki is the co-founder and co-curator of the non-profit Gum Studio exhibition space, based in Carrara from 2008 until 2011, which has now been relocated to Turin.

Alessandro Agudio, born in Milan in 1982, lives and works in Milan. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera, Milan. He is one of the members of Motel Lucie, a collective of young artists founded in Milan on the night of New Year's Eve between 2009 and 2010.