

CORTEMPORANEA#1**Pietro Ruffo. NEVER TOO YOUNG TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE****Site-specific project a Palazzo Chigi Zondadari**

Siena, Banchi di Sotto 46

8 May - 29 October 2022

The installation by Pietro Ruffo, **NEVER TOO YOUNG TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**, inaugurates **CORTEMPORANEA**, the project that transforms the courtyard of the historic building into an exhibition space dedicated to site-specific works by Italian and international artists invited by Flavio Misciattelli to freely interpret the space.

Conceived and created specifically for this space, **NEVER TOO YOUNG TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE** consists of several elements: visitors are welcomed by a large hand-painted ceramic amphora and video projections that interact with the architectural forms of the courtyard of **Palazzo Chigi Zondadari**, visible every day from **8 May to 19 June 2022**, from **6:00 pm to 9:00 pm**.

Ruffo reworks the ancient technique of ceramic painting and, by recovering the narrative value of the amphora, recounts episodes of our time. **NEVER TOO YOUNG TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**—a title borrowed from one of the symbolic slogans of “Fridays For Future”—expresses the spirit of the younger generations who have demonstrated worldwide their desire for a radical change in the relationship with our planet. In a scene rich with characters, the artist also engages with the collective memory of the city of Siena, incorporating symbols that refer to the 17 **contrade** of the **Palio**, the famous and historic event held in **Piazza del Campo** twice a year.

Past and future also meet in the projections that animate the courtyard: the figures of the young people painted on the amphora come to life and, playing with the architectural elements of the building itself, immerse themselves in a universe of constellations. The audience, placed at the center of this **cosmogony**, becomes an integral part of the installation.

By creating a dialogue between references from the past and the pressing issues of today, the exhibition continues inside the palace, where flows of ancient and contemporary people alternate in Ruffo's works: along the entrance staircase, we again encounter the young demonstrators, whose character the artist outlines in large drawings made with a **Bic** pen; immersed in the antique furnishings of the **House Museum**, peoples move from one continent to another across the curved surfaces of vases and globes, in a perpetual motion that follows the migration of birds and the fixedness of the stars.

The project invites us to rediscover that cultural heritage which endures in the memory of a community, defines the identity of places, and becomes the spark of a shared transformation.