

VORTICI

Alexi Worth in dialogo con la ceramica antica - *Alexi Worth in Dialogue with Ancient Ceramics*

Gallerie d'Italia – Naples

Intesa Sanpaolo Museum in Naples

3 April – 5 July 2026

Curated by Silvia Gaspardo Moro and Richard Neer

IMAGES AT THE FOLLOWING LINK: [Alexi Worth](#)

Naples, 2 April 2026 – Intesa Sanpaolo presents at Gallerie d'Italia – Naples, **from 3 April to 5 July 2026**, the exhibition *Vortici. Alexi Worth in dialogo con la ceramica antica* curated by Silvia Gaspardo Moro and Richard Neer, an unprecedented dialogue between the Attic and Magna Graecia ceramics from the Intesa Sanpaolo collection and the works of contemporary American artist Alexi Worth.

Nine paintings by Worth, who is exhibiting in Italy for the first time, are displayed in the galleries of Gallerie d'Italia alongside four vases from the Caputi Collection — a historic nineteenth-century archaeological collection comprising over 500 Greek and Magna Graecia ceramic pieces dating from the 6th to the 3rd century BC, now part of Intesa Sanpaolo's artistic heritage — selected by Richard Neer, Professor of Art History at the University of Chicago, as part of a reflection that spans history and explores the theme of the symposium and the gestures associated with drinking.

Michele Coppola, Executive Director of Art, Culture and Historical Heritage at Intesa Sanpaolo and General Director of Gallerie d'Italia, states: “*“At Gallerie d'Italia in Naples, we keep the beauty of our archaeological collection alive and accessible to all by presenting it in ever-changing ways: from dialogue with the precious artefacts of the MANN to contemporary interpretation projects, to emphasise the close connection between these masterpieces and the present day and highlight how deeply they are part of our identity. Pairing them with the original works of the New York artist Alexi Worth means recognising the surprising modernity of the ancient vases and the power of their extraordinary visual heritage, whose value continues to speak to us, fascinate us and inspire contemporary creativity.”*”

In ancient Greece, kraters used for symposia were placed at the centre of a room, becoming the focal point of the gathering; around the krater, guests drank, conversed, recited poetry and played games. In the same way, the exhibition layout positions the ancient vases in the central space of the galleries, while Alexi Worth's canvases take the place of the symposium guests along the walls.

The American artist's works draw our attention to variations on a symposium for two. Hands and wine glasses are depicted against an indeterminate background, executed using a technique that is at once archaic and contemporary: the airbrush.

Using flat forms and a palette limited to **three colours (black and shades of terracotta orange)**, the artist explores formal aspects such as the relationship between figure and silhouette, realism and abstraction, focusing on the space between face and fingers — a microcosm charged with psychological nuances during the ancient ritual of “drinking together”.

Worth’s works echo the aesthetic of archaic vases decorated with naturalistic, realistic and allegorical motifs, sharing their restricted colour palette, the ambiguity between foreground and background, and the tension between image and material support.

The relationship between the kraters and the canvases, and the parallels between ancient and modern representations of symposia, invite visitors to reflect on the images of a complex social and cultural phenomenon that has inspired artists from the 8th century BC to the present day.

The museum in Naples, together with those in Milan, Turin and Vicenza, is part of Intesa Sanpaolo’s Gallerie d’Italia museum project, led by **Michele Coppola**, the Bank’s Executive Director of Art, Culture and Historical Heritage and General Director of the Gallerie d’Italia.

ALEXI WORTH

Alexi Worth (New York, 1964) is a New York-based artist whose work explores what it means, within today’s hyper-saturated digital world, for images to be “conceived by the mind and executed by hand”. In his distinctive, precise and concise, Worth presents enigmatic and reimagined versions of everyday objects, including wine glasses, doors, hands and leaves. With pared-down surfaces and viewpoints that often appear unconventional, Worth’s work stands apart from much recent figurative art for its essentiality and simplicity, suggesting an attempt to restore the contemplative power of abstraction within figurative practice.

Worth has received awards from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Tiffany Foundation and the New England Foundation for the Arts, and is represented by DC Moore Gallery in New York. In addition to his painting, Worth is also a well-known art critic and has reviewed exhibitions for The New Yorker, Artforum, T Magazine, Art in America, ARTnews and other publications. He has written catalogue essays for artists including Jasper Johns, Carroll Dunham, Jackie Saccoccio and Jim Nutt.

USEFUL INFORMATION

WHERE: Gallerie d’Italia - Naples | Via Toledo, 177 Naples

OPENING TIMES: Tuesday to Friday from 10.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.; closed on Monday; last entry: one hour before closing

TICKETS: full price €7, reduced €4, free admission for members, schools, under-18s and Intesa Sanpaolo Group customers

INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS: <http://www.gallerieditalia.com>, napoli@gallerieditalia.com, Toll-free number 800.167619

Intesa Sanpaolo

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stampa@intesasanpaolo.com

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Intesa Sanpaolo

Intesa Sanpaolo, with €425 billion in loans and more than €1.5 trillion in customer financial assets at the end of December 2025, is the largest banking group in Italy, with a significant international presence.

It is a European leader in wealth management, and operates an integrated Wealth Management, Protection and Advisory platform, built on fully owned product factories and distribution networks working under full strategic control.

With a world-class position in social impact, Intesa Sanpaolo is also committed to decarbonization and to supporting clients in the sustainable transition.

The Bank’s network of museums, the Gallerie d’Italia, hosts its owned artistic heritage and cultural projects of recognized value.

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