



# PABLO ATCHUGARRY

## THE TIME OF SCULPTURE

**5th April – 24th November, 2024**

CONTINI ART GALLERY – CALLE LARGA XXII MARZO 2414 – VENICE  
Special event in the presence of the artist, Saturday 11 May, at 6.30 pm

At the Contini Art Gallery, in the headquarters of Venice in Calle Larga XXII Marzo 2414, will be held, on the occasion of the artist's seventieth birthday, "The Time of Sculpture", a solo show dedicated to the famous Uruguayan sculptor Pablo Atchugarry, from April 5th to November 24th, 2024. The artist has long divided his time between Italy, the United States, and Uruguay. A special event attended by the artist will be held on Saturday 11 May.

The Gallery will display a selection of over forty sculptures, a large body of works consisting of a series of iconic pieces, combined with the latest unpublished works. Also, the exclusive collection of jewels designed by the artist will be presented to the public for the first time: Atchugarry's unparalleled talent manifests into completely new shapes, transforming the concept of jewelry into a timeless form of art. The jewels, made of gold, become like small sculptures ready to wear, carrying the essence of Atchugarry's art.

The exhibition path winds through the various halls of the gallery, where the stylistic signature of Atchugarry is reflected in his sculptural works with a variety of dynamic forms and chromatic richness.

In the spaces of the gallery, distributed over two floors, you can admire the refined marbles and the original bronze pieces, covered by the artist with bright red, blue, gold, black, and white patinas. Furthermore, a few steelworks pieces will also be exhibited, including "Mariposa de la Vida" which, in its different chromatic variations, recalls the monumental sculpture presented in 2023 at the Teatro del Silenzio in Lajatico. Finally, a series of wooden sculptures will be displayed, created *ad hoc* for the exhibition. Through those, the artist gives new life to olive trees: amid his art, infinite possibilities.

Contini Art Gallery has been collaborating with Pablo Atchugarry since 2019. Ever since, it has promoted his work through important exhibitions including “The Movement of Light”, at its headquarters in Venice and “The Evolution of a Dream”, a public exhibition in the city of Pietrasanta (LU) in 2019; in 2021 “Vita della Materia” (Life of Matter), in the Sala delle Cariatidi of Palazzo Reale in Milan; in 2023 “Mariposa de la Vida”: a monumental steel sculpture that served as the stage design for the concert of Andrea Bocelli at the Teatro del Silenzio in Lajatico (PI), and, from April to October of this year, “Hacia el Futuro” in Valencia (Spain), in the City of Arts and Sciences. During his career, Atchugarry has experimented with different artistic expressions, eventually coming to embrace sculpture. Following Michelangelo's legacy, the artist aims to free the inner forms already found within the material, which he meticulously sculpts himself alone. After a beginning dedicated to figurative sculpture, today his abstract figures combine this Renaissance lesson with contemporary aesthetics and reveal the true essence of sculpture. The natural elements, from which the artist draws his inspiration, take on a new shape through his immediately recognizable artistic expression, characterized by the precision of the technique, the verticality, and the expressiveness of light. It is precisely the light that, sliding on the surfaces, becomes the protagonist of Atchugarry's sculptures.

### Biography

*Pablo Atchugarry (Montevideo, 1954) has shown a strong inclination for the arts since childhood, so much so that he exhibited for the first time at eleven years old. Fascinated by Europe, in 1977 he began to travel the continent, drawing inspiration for his art.*

*In 1982 he created his first monumental sculpture in Carrara marble commissioned by the city of Lecco. On this occasion, the artist decides to settle permanently in Lecco, where he opens his own studio.*

*In 2002 he was awarded the Michelangelo Prize in Carrara and, the following year, participated in the 50th Venice Biennale with an installation consisting of eight large sculptures in Carrara marble and Bardiglio gray marble of Garfagnana.*

*In 2007 he founded the Pablo Atchugarry Foundation in Manantiales (Uruguay), intending to create a place for the dissemination of art, meetings, and teaching: since then every year receives thousands of students. In 2018 he opened a second office in Miami.*

*Since 2019 the artist has been represented in Italy by the Contini Art Gallery, through which he has collaborated in the realization of numerous important exhibitions, including: “The Movement of Light” in Venice and “The Evolution of a Dream”, with monumental sculptures in the historic center of Pietrasanta (Lucca), both in 2019; “Vita della Materia” at Palazzo Reale in Milan, in 2021; “Il Suono dell’Anima” in Forte dei Marmi and “Il Risveglio della Natura” at the Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Lucca, both in 2022; finally, in 2023 “Mariposas de la Vida” for the Teatro del Silenzio in Lajatico (Pisa), and “Hacia El Futuro” at the Ciutat de Les Arts i les Ciències in Valencia (Spain). Today the artist lives and works between Lecco and Manantiales (Uruguay).*

Special Event: Saturday 11 May – 6.30 pm in the presence of the artist

The exhibition will be open every day from April 5th to November 24th, 2024

Hours: 10.30 am – 1.00 pm / 2.00 pm – 7.30 pm

Catalog available in the gallery with text by Kosme de Barañano

### For information:

CONTINI ART GALLERY

San Marco 2414

Calle Larga XXII Marzo

30124 Venice

Tel. +39 041 52 30 357

riccarda@continiarte.com

venezia@continiarte.com

www.continiarte.com