

CANOVA QUATTRO TEMPI VOL. II

This volume is a continuation of the first installment of the editorial project *Canova | In Four Tempos*, born in co-edition with the Pallavicino Foundation in Genoa with the goal of collecting in a refined publication the photographic research of Luigi Spina focused on the plaster models by Antonio Canova almost entirely preserved at the plaster cast gallery in Possagno.

This project accompanying the four-year Canovian celebrations (2019–2022) is structured in four publications, each focused on a specific nucleus of plaster models. Its aim is to give new dignity to Antonio Canova's creative process while highlighting the fundamental role of the bronze nails (*repères*) that made the metamorphoses from plaster model to marble sculpture possible.

The first volume is devoted to the dialogue of Myth and Faith, illustrated by Spina with photographs of Cupid and Psyche, Paolina Borghese Bonaparte, Venus and Mars, the Lying Magdalen, Peace, and the Lamentation of Christ, while the second volume revolves mainly around Myth. The sculptures on which the visual narrative focuses are: Dancer with Finger on Chin, Dedalus and Icarus, Theseus Defeats the Centaur, Naiad, Pius VII Praying, Venus and Adonis, and Sleeping Nymph.

Luigi Spina is a photographer. His work depicts amphitheatres and the civic dimension of the sacred and explores the links between art and faith, the search for ancient cultural roots, and the physical impact of classical sculpture. His published works include *L'Ora incerta* (2014), *The Buchner Boxes* (2014), *Hemba* (2017), and *Mythical Diary* (2017). Spina has collaborated with Valeria Sampaolo and 5 Continents Editions to create the series *Oggetti rari e preziosi* al Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli, whose titles to date are *Memorie del Vaso blu* (2016), *Amazzonomachia* (2017), *Centauri* (2017), *Sette sapienti* (2018), and *Zefiro e Clori* (2018), as well as the Hidden Treasures series, which now includes *The Farnese Cup*. He has also published *The Dancers at the Villa of the Papyri* for 5 Continents Editions' Tailormade series.

Vittorio Sgarbi is an art critic, the curator of exhibitions with international relevance, a refined collector, and the author of several popular volumes on the importance of culture and art. Among his most recent publications, *Dall'ombra alla luce. Da Caravaggio a Tiepolo; Dal mito alla favola bella. Da Canaletto a Boldini* (La Nave di Teseo, 2019), installments of the "Treasures of Italy" series. He is also a politician and an independent free thinker.