

*NOCTURNES*  
**PAOLO PELOSINI**

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**New York, NY – HG Contemporary is pleased to announce the latest solo exhibition by contemporary artist Paolo Pelosini entitled, “Nocturnes.” Opening Thursday, November 14th and running through Saturday, December 14th, 2019.**



Nocturne #18, 2015, Oil and Tar on Canvas, 84" x 70"

Paolo Pelosini’s *Nocturnes* builds his vision of Eden at night, where destructive elements flourish through the thick black tar, ghastly creatures party in the absence of humans, and metal angels guard the canvases. While Pelosini’s style is informed by his classical training at the Instituto d’Arte, it is his affinity for the gruesome, dark and malevolent, that flash into the viewer visions of a monstrous, polluted world, while the artwork itself maintains its beauty.

The paintings are large scale portals into landscapes that spread somewhere between the wild and the city, which emphasize big, turbulent clouds, and the eerie moon. On first glance the viewer may think these places are impossible, but soon one notices how common some of these animals can be, how often we encounter tar in the city, and how often natural disasters loom over our post-industrial world.

The sculptures are made out of the decadence found in the streets of Manhattan: sheet metal, file cabinets, drums; objects that retain the signs of their use and human contamination (what Pelosini calls “the local stone”). Mostly, the materials are cut with an axe. The sharp, tense and tormented edges could only be obtained with a tool of immense physicality. Sculpture itself is the subject of his work: a Venus in a classical pose, a figure inspired by west African practices or an animal with a Folk Art that cohabit the same space.

### **A Word from the Artist**

“My recent work is the end result of a long journey beginning over fifty years ago. I was born in Tuscany on the hills near Lucca facing the Mediterranean Sea, the house where I grew up had no books, and with the exception of the frescos in the local Romanesque church, I had never seen any art. At the age of ten I was given a small encyclopedia with a few color reproductions of paintings, for the first time I saw Leonardo Monet and Picasso. I was so fascinated by those images that I knew then that I was going to be an artist... At sixteen I enrolled at the Istituto d'Arte in Lucca, at that time the school had still a classical curriculum, but what interested me most was contemporary art. In 1964 I entered the Accademia d'Arte in Florence but America was where I wanted to be. In 1967 I landed in JFK with \$50 in my pocket. I rented a big raw loft in Tribeca where I lived and worked from for thirty years. I realized then that until that point I had followed and imitated others. I had acquired certain knowledge of art, but I needed to find my own way and most of all I wanted the work to come from within. The years that followed were the most difficult, but eventually I started experimenting with sculpture, it was something fresh to be explored, it was physical and expressive, it was what I had been looking for.

The challenge is for me to be able to make intelligent and original work for everybody. My studio is now in Spanish Harlem, it is a storefront with two large windows where I show my work, it is an ideal situation to test this new direction. The last several years have been the most productive and I believe that the best pieces I have created to date is in this body of work - “Nocturnes”.

### **About HG Contemporary**

HG Contemporary is a global fine art gallery founded and curated by Philippe Hoerle-Guggenheim in the United States and Europe; New York, Madrid, and Napa Valley. Hoerle-Guggenheim has built a reputation for identifying and cultivating artists worldwide and producing shows that embrace groundbreaking aesthetics, concepts and visual expression. Hoerle-Guggenheim has an unparalleled eye for quality, combined with a distinct skill for nurturing and promoting new art. He exhibits both internationally and locally acclaimed artists whose processes and backgrounds are unique, diverse, and relevant. HG Contemporary prioritizes personal investigation and individual narratives with a mission to create value for art collectors and artists alike. This commitment carries an innovative and clear vision about producing exceptional art exhibitions as well as a deep understanding of visual culture's function within and beyond the walls of the gallery.

Philippe Hoerle-Guggenheim and HG Contemporary has represented artists and produced exhibitions featuring AICAN, Alison Jackson, Arsen Savadov, CÉVÉ, Doug Menuetz, Jason Dussault, Massimo Agostinelli, Mehwish Iqbal, Nelson Saiers, Natvar Bhavsar, RETNA, Salvador Dalí, Stuart McAlpine Miller, Tim Bengel, Zurab Tsereteli among many others. Philippe is also known for curating beyond the HG Contemporary walls; partnering with brands like Aston Martin and Louis XIII and street artists, e.g. Kobra; curating relevant projects across the globe.

HG Contemporary hours are Monday through Saturday, 11am - 6pm. For further information please call 732.533.3658.