

# CIARLO

**FRANCO CIARLO  
FRESCOS**

**at the Sordoni Art Gallery.**

***Reception: Monday,  
September 13, 7-9 P.M.***

**September 13-October 3,  
1976. Daily 1-5 P.M.,  
Saturdays 10-5 P.M.,  
Sundays 1-5 P.M.**



*For years I have been involved with fresco as a technique; however, my present use of it did not materialize until the summer of 1972. While walking in Manhattan I passed the site of my former studio. The space had since been demolished. Only an imprint of each floor remained on the adjoining structure, indicating the existence of a razed building. The ghostly remains of my own environment reminded me that the time in space which we "lose" or pass through makes us what we are. We seldom have a conscious awareness of our own time.*

*After photographing and sketching the walls I returned to my studio and recreated on canvas what I had seen. I have since continued this process of recreating actual walls in addition to experimenting with imagined surfaces based on my documentary sketches, photographs, and notes.*

Franco Ciarlo  
New York, 1976

Franco Ciarlo's frescos are as much about time as they are about walls; they exhibit time spent, and time lost or accumulated; however, a time historically undefinable. Viewing these surfaces devoid of peripheral historical definition one questions their origin. Even their technique, fresco painting, seems dated in modern context. Ciarlo's art is, however, not a remnant but a contemporary statement — a reminder of man's transience. To realize this statement the artist has become a contemporary archeological novelist/chronicler by creating or re-structuring parts of large-scale *objet trouvés* demolished buildings in New York City.

The process of contemporary aesthetic reportage is often accomplished via hardware/software indigenous to the immediacy of Twentieth Century technology. Ciarlo's frescos retain for the viewer the immediacy of contemporary time information; however, they do so via a classical technique, underscoring further their transient context.

Simultaneously about physical walls, the face of each fresco juggles time by means of space — layers of adjacent pigment move visually for definition — which surface was applied first and which removed last? As with descent into an Etruscan tomb the feeling for the whole is stressed by what is missing or lost while at the same time being defined by what is present.

Dusty, soiled, faded, tarnished, cracking, peeling, rusting, molding walls in ochre, white, tan, olive, cinnabar, brown, cyan, black, rust, peach and violet pigment and plaster are also Ciarlo's frescos, thus joining their concept and process into a visually stimulating and calculated work of art.

Alexander Carlson  
New York, 1976

Mr. Carlson was a former curator of collections and exhibitions at the Everson Museum, Syracuse, and now is the director of the Martha Jackson West Art Gallery, New York.

# FRANCO CIARLO

## EXHIBITIONS:

- Galleria del Palazzo delle Esposizioni — 1963 — Rome, Italy
- Galleria "La Botteguccia" — 1963 — Rome, Italy
- Galleria del Palazzo delle Esposizioni — 1964 — Rome, Italy
- Galleria S. Fedele — 1964 — Milan, Italy
- Ekletra — 1970 — New York, New York
- Rizzoli Gallery — 1972 — New York, New York
- Young Artist — 1973 — New York, New York
- Six Italian Painters — 1973 — New York University, New York
- Lajesky Gallery — New York, New York (an extension of Tower Gallery; South Hampton, L.I.)
- Rizzoli Gallery — 1975 — New York, New York

## ONE MAN EXHIBITIONS:

- Galleria "La Botteguccia" — 1963 — Rome, Italy
- "Moore" Gallery — 1967 — San Francisco, California
- Triton Museum — 1967 — San Jose, California
- Chabot College — 1967 — Hayward, California
- Italian Cultural Institute — 1969 — Stockholm, Sweden
- J-WT World Gallery — 1970 — New York, New York
- Lajesky Gallery — 1975 — New York, New York (an extension of Tower Gallery; South Hampton, L.I.)

## PRIZES:

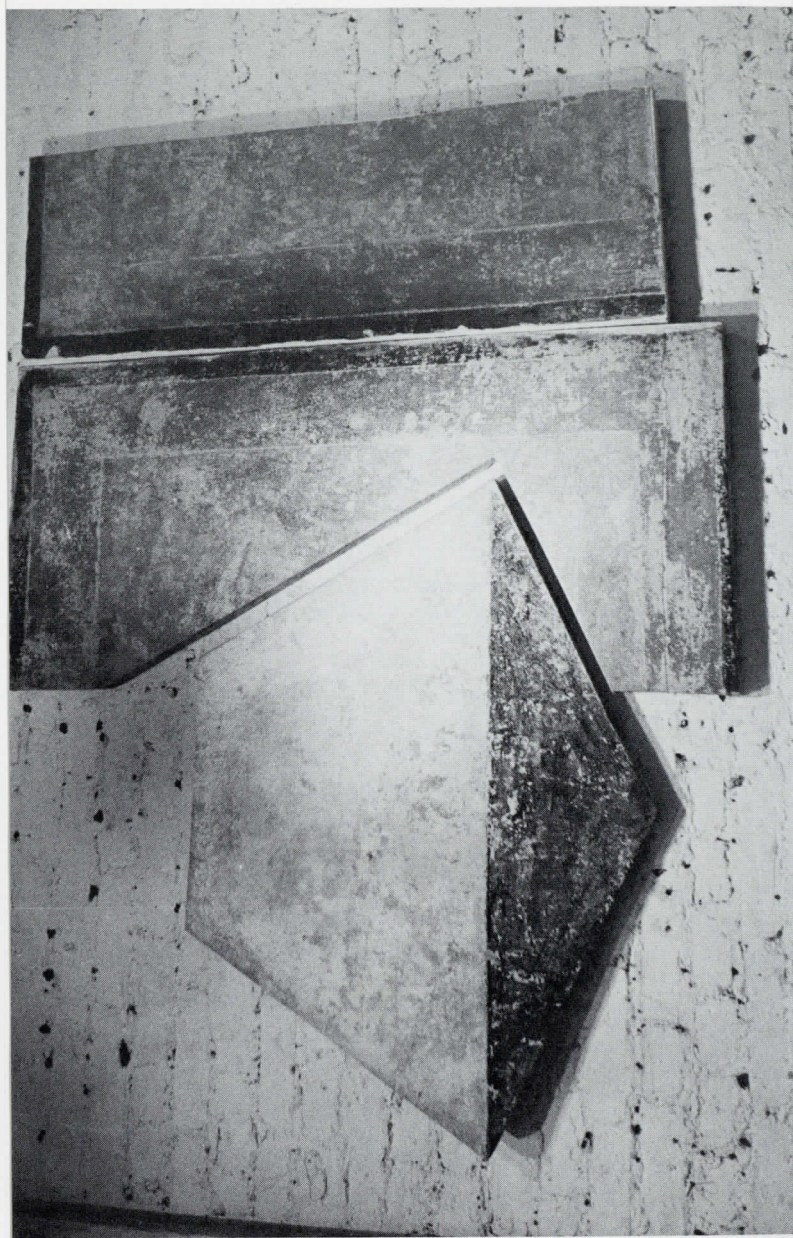
- 1st Prize — "Il Giornale d'Italia" Palazzo delle Esposizioni
- 1st Prize — "Gold Medal Ministro Folchi"

## COLLECTIONS:

- Museum of Modern Art, Stockholm, Sweden
- Honorable Abraham Beame, Mayor of the City of New York
- Mrs. Alva Bernard Gimbel, New York, New York
- Miss Nina Rosenwald, New York, New York
- Mr. Craig Braun, New York, New York
- Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jaffee, New York, New York
- Mr. and Mrs. Tevis Jacobs, San Francisco, California
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dana, New York, New York
- Mr. and Mrs. Clint Murchison, Dallas, Texas
- Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Klien, Cleveland, Ohio
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Guggenheim, Jr., San Francisco, California
- Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Rosen, Los Angeles, California
- Mr. Michael Habermen, Paris, France
- Mr. and Mrs. John Neyland McBaine Washington, D.C.
- Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Harrison, Honolulu, Hawaii
- Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ichelson, San Francisco, California
- Mr. and Mrs. Mathieu Heidenberg, Caracas, Venezuela
- Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Wolfin, Paris, France
- Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Curtis, Paris, France; Venice, Italy
- Mr. and Mrs. Norton Simon, Los Angeles, California
- Mr. and Mrs. Aldo Forte, Rome, Italy
- Mr. Angelo Litrico, Rome, Italy
- Mr. and Mrs. B. Basso, New York, New York
- Mr. and Mrs. Jim Buckeley, New York, New York
- Mr. and Mrs. Saul P. Steinberg, New York, New York
- Mr. and Mrs. Franco Palma, New York, New York

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- |                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Il Popolo</i>                     | June 2, 1963; Rome, Italy            |
| <i>Corriere di Sicilia</i>           | June 7, 1963; Catania, Italy         |
| <i>Il Popolo</i>                     | June 11, 1963; Rome, Italy           |
| <i>Il Giornale d'Italia</i>          | June 3, 1963; Rome, Italy            |
| <i>Il Popolo</i>                     | June 20, 1963; Rome, Italy           |
| <i>Chronicle</i>                     | Jan. 10, 1967; San Francisco, Calif. |
| <i>Examiner</i>                      | Jan. 18, 1967; San Francisco, Calif. |
| <i>Art in America</i>                | February 1967                        |
| <i>American Home</i>                 | October 1971                         |
| <i>The Christian Science Monitor</i> | May 25, 1973; New York               |
| <i>Pictures on Exhibit</i>           | March 1975; New York, New York       |





**SORDANI ART GALLERY**  
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