The SCAD Museum of Art presents Lara Favaretto: Works from Rennie Collection, an exhibition specially adapted for the Pamela Elaine Poetter Gallery. Originally presented at the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, the show features an electrifying selection of the artist's works. Lara Favaretto connects to other 20th-century artists whose major concern centers on questioning the meaning of art. Through play and dark humor, her ever-changing work is spontaneous and ephemeral, unpredictable, and vulnerable.

The exhibition presents a series of iconic works by Favaretto made between 1998 and 2012, including Coppie Semplici / Simple Couples, a large-scale installation comprising a series of moving-car-wash brushes that alternate between high-speed mechanical rotations and stagnation. Removed from their original context, the brushes spin aimlessly as they deteriorate over time. Tutti giù per terra / We All Fall Down, one installation of a number of works by Favaretto that follow a consistent form: sealed rooms within rooms containing industrial fans that progressively move tons of confetti around the space. This work embraces dichotomies that speak to our human condition and our binary nature: perpetuity/impermanence, noise/silence, creation/destruction, gravity/decay.

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On occasion, one can experience the artist’s enthusiasm to cherish the past, the forgotten, the disregarded — sometimes spiced with a dash of irony. She questions why certain objects have survived over others, probing their relation to the forgotten while exposing their inevitable destiny: wear, corrosion, erosion, breakage. The meaning is clear: Nothing will last forever, including people. Humans may wish to endure, yet they, too, are destined to disappear.

Organized by the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara, Lara Favaretto: Works from Rennie Collection is curated by Abaseh Mirvali, executive director and chief curator. It is organized for the SCAD Museum of Art by Humberto Moro, curator of SCAD exhibitions.

For more information, visit scad.edu and scadmoa.org.
About the Artist and the Exhibition

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About SCAD and SCAD Museum of Art

SCAD Museum of Art educational materials engage K-12 audiences in activities that enhance understanding of art and design — investigations that reveal relevant personal, historical, and cultural connections while promoting cross-disciplinary links necessary for today’s innovative careers.

SCAD: The University for Creative Careers

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited university, offering more than 150 academic degree programs in more than 40 majors across 16 locations in Atlanta and Savannah, Georgia; Hong Kong, Lacoste, France; and online via SCAD eLearning.

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Cover Image: Lara Favaretto, Tutti giù per terra / We All Fall Down 2004. Installation view at MOCA Santa Barbara, California, 2019. Courtesy of the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara. Photo by Alex Blair.

LARA FAVARETTO: WORKS FROM RENNIE COLLECTION

LARA FAVARETTO

AUG. 13, 2019 – JAN. 12, 2020

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Lara Favaretto creates her artworks from unexpected materials and objects. In *Coppie Semplici / Simple Couples*, she transforms car wash brushes — standing them upright, grouping them into pairs, and giving each its own pattern of movement. These characteristics encourage viewers to imagine the unlikely forms as expressive, humanlike figures with individual personalities.

Favaretto’s *Lost & Found* is one of a series of suitcases that were lost and later auctioned off by airlines and railways, or found at flea markets and landfills. Although its lock might easily be broken, to open the suitcase would defeat the artist’s intent and strip the substance from the artwork.

Favaretto’s *Tutti giù per terra / We All Fall Down*, a sealed room containing four fans and one ton of flying, drifting, colorful confetti, fascinates viewers. It’s a delightful, celebratory scene, playing nonstop in a sealed room.

Relying on what you observe — patterns of movement, textures, sounds, color, and shape — describe the human qualities of one “couple,” including the kind of relationship they appear to have. For example, how do they seem to interact?

Like *Tutti giù per terra / We All Fall Down*, this work immediately engages viewers and then gradually reveals different levels of meaning. As you move beyond your first impressions, what other ideas and feelings emerge?

Imagine what would be found and lost by breaking open the suitcase. Building on this idea, consider the substance or primary meaning of this artwork. What do you believe is the artist’s intent or purpose? For instance, what are some of the ideas Favaretto might have wanted to communicate to a viewer?


I like it if a work lends itself to various interpretations.¹

…at first glance, it may appear carefree and lighthearted.²

²Ibid.


ục. ¹Lara Favaretto, *Coppie Semplici / Simple Couples*, iron slabs, motors, electrical boxes, car wash brushes, and wires, 2009.


3Lara Favaretto, *Tutti giù per terra / We All Fall Down*, one ton of confetti joker lux, talcum powder, and four hermetic stage ventilators, 2004.

“Once a year I seal one up after having filled it with things. I lock it up and throw away the key.”³
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