

# THE BLOOD RITES OF THE BOURGEOISE

GIULIA MESSINA & T-SPACE

**T**he *Blood Rites of the Bourgeoise* is a story of a dinner. More precisely it's the story of a betrayal and the attempt to cope with it. What are our rites made of? What if we finally find out that the snake is among us? What if the snake was the host herself, tied on the same table she prepared for the guests?

"The Blood Rites of the Bourgeoise" (2023) is the work that combines research by artist Giulia Messina with t-space practice. Previously unveiled in 16 December at Villa Olmo, Como, the project returns in a second chapter with a one-day exhibition on 6 March within Specific's spaces in Milan. The event is curated by t-space and is produced in collaboration with MASSIMO and Specific.

The idea of the video clip comes from a customary practice of the artist Giulia Messina of organizing themed parties in her apartment or hosted elsewhere. For each dinner, she preserves the image of the laid table, which is transformed, consumed and filled with the time spent in the company of the guests. Messina usually draws large still lives from it, using marker pens. The theme of the body, nudity, modesty, sexuality, excess, always protagonists of Messina's dinners, manifest themselves in Blood Rites revealing a part usually

hidden from the viewer: every dinner is half-way between party, performance, interpretation of a role and sharing of experiences.

A reconstructed crime scene: a laden table of which we can see only the remains of a dinner already passed. A false reconstruction of the original dinner, or better, a vague attempt to replicate it. Tracking shots and slow shots of this table try to give value and richness to the consumed objects, found after the dinner. Of the Edenic meal, of nature and liberated bodies, only a synthetic trace remains, as in a tale, when the dream has come and gone. Fake grass, lights, wisely arranged objects.

The calm images of the table alternate with flashback scenes, dirty moves. In a garden people have dinner, talk and celebrate. They discuss, they find, hidden among themselves, the snake. On the table, the reconstructed one, the snake appears and reveals itself, tied and powerless.

The sound design by Jacopo Pagin, the vocals by Giulia Messina, the song is inspired by the punk frenetic track of Bobby Peru by Mary and the Boy. The song lyrics have been rewritten giving life to a confession, a flow of consciousness that reveals the deep feelings and thoughts of the snake.

c/o SPECIFIC  
Viale dell'Innovazione 3, Milan

MARCH 6TH, 2024  
6.30–10.30 PM

## GIULIA MESSINA

*(Milan, 1998) lives and works in Brussels. She attended the Brera Academy of Fine Arts before moving to Brussels and obtaining her BA from the Académie royale des Beaux-Arts in Painting.*

*Her work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions in international galleries such as Martos Gallery in New York (2023), Nino Mier in Los Angeles (2024), Stems x Volery Gallery in Dubai (2023), and Candid House Project in London (2023).*

## T-SPACE

*t-space was born in Milan in 2016 from the idea of Rui Wu and Giulia Spreafico of creating a space that would make artistic activity sustainable. t-space has always been a place that combines artistic production with the photographic studio's activity of commercial services for contemporary art.*

*From 2016 to the present, t-space has curated 26 exhibition projects mainly in its Milan venue and most recently, in the 2022-2023 season, within the t-space X MAO project, a space dedicated to contemporary art at the Museum of Oriental Art in Turin.*

## MASSIMO

*Founded in 2019 by Stefano Galeotti, Giulia Parolin, and Martina Rota, MASSIMO is a project space aimed at providing artists with a stimulating environment where questioning and discussion are key elements of research.*

## SPECIFIC

*SPECIFIC is a multidisciplinary design and creative production laboratory that hosts artist residencies, exhibitions, workshops, talks and events within BiM in the name of artistic and cultural contamination.*

*In collaboration w/ MASSIMO & SPECIFIC*

**THE BLOOD RITES OF THE BOURGEOISE, 2023** *3 channel video installation, ledwall 2x3 m, 6'40"*

*Produced by T-SPACE*

*Direction RUI WU & GIULIA MESSINA*

*Photography & editing RUI WU & GIULIA SPREAFICO*

*Musica & production JACOPO PAGIN*

*Songwriting and interpretation GIULIA MESSINA*

*Set Design GIULIA MESSINA*

*Graphic design FRANCESCO DIPIERRO*

**THE BLOOD RITES OF THE BOURGEOISE, 2023, GIULIA MESSINA** *Markers on paper, 42x29,7 cm*

**SERPENTE, 2023, T-SPACE** *c-print, 50x40 cm*

**TAVOLO, 2023, T-SPACE** *c-print, 50x40 cm*

6.30–10.30 PM

**THE BLOOD RITES OF THE BOURGEOISE** *Exhibition opening*

10.30 PM–2 AM

**THE BLOOD RITES AFTERPARTY** *Dj set w/ LUWEI + GOODBOI*