# A DIARY OF DAILY TEXTURES

# **Conversation between Ludovica Gioscia and Arturo**

### Arturo: Miao, miao miaoamiaaaaaoooooooooo

Ludovica: Ciao Arturo my sweetie - are you upset because I have taken away your tissue paper? It covered the entire living room for weeks and I really needed to mop the floor. Anyway, it had lost its verve and the crunchiness that you love to explore. I promise I'll replace it soon, and the fresh sheets will form a new lunar landscape. I'd like to use the older paper as part of our ongoing collaboration, if you don't mind – I'll pulp it into a work that retains all your joy. Your purring and happiness heal me, Arturo. When you purr I find myself breathing slower, the vibrations recalibrating my body.

Ludovica: Look in a few weeks we've nearly filled an empty marmalade jar with all the hair I comb out - you must be moulting! I'll use your tender and fluffy cast offs to make my textile assemblages. This batch will be part of the sleeve of Dream Robe 2. It's coming along so nicely I'll bring it home soon, so you can have a nap on it. It will be even more precious then, and fully charged. Ready to be worn when I lay next to you, so we can dream together.

Arturo: (Purring deeply, throat vibrating and sitting upright whilst looking intensely into Ludovica's eyes. He occasionally closes his eyelids very slowly, before opening them again widely, followed by a relaxed blink).

Ludovica: Tonight I dreamt about you. We were at the beach. Neill was with us. The sand was the colour of caramel and there were many dunes. The sun warmed our skin. I began to feel anxious because I could not see you. I started to run, to rush in every direction to find you. And then I saw many Arturos floating in the sea, floating in an incredible mass of vertical water that interlocked and flowed like a Baroque scenography. Hues that ranged from turquoise to deep ultramarine were stacked and layered like a section of an imaginary geological formation. You were there, multiplied several times and serene. The Arturos, in different positions, were each enjoying the weightless sensation of floating and were not in danger of sliding off the vertical liquid, as gravity did not exist in this place.

Arturo: (Looking rather confused jumps on the sofa next to Ludovica and digs his claws into the soft pillows. He stretches a few times and gently pushes his forehead against her arm). Meeeoooooowwwww miaaaaaooooooo meeeooooowwwwww.

Ludovica: (Gets up followed by Arturo and walks towards the kitchen. Opens the small red cupboard that is home to Turo's food and grabs two bags with different types of crackers). CCrrrrr crrkkkkkkrrrcccc cccrrrkkkkkkrrkkkkk.

Arturo: (Excitedly turns on himself a few times to form small circles around Ludovica and is purring very loudly. His tail is fully vertical like an antenna).

Ludovica: (Pours 25 grams of small dark crackers in a small red and white ceramic bowl followed by 5 larger and lighter crackers. She walks towards the corner of the kitchen and places the bowl next to another containing water).

Ludovica: (Looks at small round dollops of paper mache mixed with earth, natural pigments and Arturo's hair which are sitting close by on the window ledge. She grabs hold of one and presses it between her thumb and index finger to check it is dry and ready to be inserted into one of her larger paper pulp works. The small formations look uncannily like nuggets, like Arturo's crackers).

Several hours later....

Arturo: (Breathing deeply, a sound that to the human ear could be confused with snoring).

Ludovica: (Gently caressing Arturo's head, she lies next to him on the heavily patterned light blue and white duvet cover. Places her hand palm up underneath Arturo's paw, holding it tenderly. It's warm in the room, the sky is painted orange and purple. Ludovica synchronizes her breathing with Arturo's and they both relax into one another).

Arturo: (Deep asleep, his arms twitch slightly, as if possessed by electrical currents).

Ludovica: ZZZZZzzzzzapppppppp......pfffffffff..... (Bright red, magenta, cadmium orange and teal appear in Ludovica's mind, like sudden, powerful and urgent fireworks. The electrical currents causing Arturo's arm to twitch and originating in his imagination are received as vivid colours in Ludovica's brain).

Both are now in a deep sleep, and the room is pitch black.

### **Biography Arturo**

Arturo, born in Romford in 2016 and raised in lower Clapton. Arturo spends his time between the Kremlin - a screenprinted and intricately composed cardboard structure that mimicks the original architecture in Moscow and is located in the living room – and the leafy backyards of the houses near Millfields Park.

Arturo's favourite activities are to patrol his territory, hunt small frogs in the neighbours' miniature pond and to spend time with his humans, Ludovica and Neill.

### **Biography Ludovica Gioscia:**

Ludovica Gioscia, born in Rome in 1977, works and lives in London. Strongly process-based, Gioscia's practice reads like a diary of layered experiences and relations. Often employing unusual materials, such as cat hair, emotions and energy, the artists' studio functions as the catalyst for non-linear ecological experiments.

Recent solo shows include *The Tenderness Of Insects* at VITRINE, Basel, CH (2019); *POP THERAPY. Lo spirito rivoluzionario delle figurine Fiorucci* at Museo della Figurina, Modena, IT (2019); *Nuclear Reaction Cosmic Interaction* at Ex Elettrofonica, Rome, IT (2018); *Infinite Present* at Baert Gallery, Los Angeles, US (2017) and *Shapeshifters* at Max Mara, London, UK (2017). Previous solo shows include *Forecasting Ouroboros* at MACRO, Rome, IT (2012) and *Papered Portraits* at The Warhol, Pittsburgh, US (2009). Gioscia has participated in numerous group shows in galleries and institutions including La Fabbrica del Cioccolato, Blenio, CH; Creative Centre Osaka, Osaka, JP; Palazzo da Mosto, Fondazione Palazzo Magnani, Reggio Emilia, IT; Palazzo Fiano and American Academy, Rome, IT; FuturDome, Milan, IT; Salon 94, The Flag Art Foundation, Allegra LaViola, NY, US; Maraya Art Park, Sharjah, U.A.E.; The Miro' Foundation, Barcelona, ES; Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, UK; Jerwood Space, South London Gallery and Sothebys, London, UK; MNAC, Bucharest, RO; and Comfort Moderne, Poitiers, FR. Ludovica is included in the recent survey on sculpture 100 Sculptors of Tomorrow published by Thames & Hudson and As Brilliant As The Sun published by Vanilla edizioni.