

**Franco Angeli**  
**“Adrianopoli”**

24 November – 20 December 2015

Armada is pleased to present “Adrianopoli” a solo exhibition dedicated to Franco Angeli’s late works.

Franco Angeli (Rome, 14 May 1935 – 12 November 1988) was born in the neighbourhood of San Lorenzo. He starts painting—self-taught—in the mid Fifties. He joins the Communist party and becomes friends with Tano Festa and Mario Schifano, who were named “masters of pain” together with all the other artists from the “Scuola di Piazza del Popolo”.

Starting from the Sixties, he paints images and ideological symbols stemming from his own daily relationship with the streets of Rome: the hammer and sickle, the swastika, the she-wolf, the eagle and, later on, the half dollar, emblem of the American capitalism. According to Angeli these simulacra were only the fantastic nightmares of his childhood, as he would later quote. The habits and the sentimental relationships of the artists of the group provoked scandal; it was a difficult period made up of excesses and strains, living in the shadow of the American artists’ success. In the Eighties, the political and ideological symbols give space to landscapes: the deserted squares, the obelisks and the pyramids. The titles of Angeli's works suggest voyages in real or ideal places, near and far. The motifs become more contemplative: they are antidotes to pain, to violence, to the rebellious instinct of the prior decades.

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