



CLIFTON BENEVENTO

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A Broken Inheritance



Niki de Saint Phalle, Philippe Perrot and Loredana Sperini are the protagonists of the three-person show on view at [Clifton Benevento](#). Under the title of *A Broken Inheritance*, the exhibition investigates themes and forms related to fragmented memory, familial dysfunctions and body traumas. The personal sphere on the one hand and the socio-political one on the other create a dialogue among the works, which appear as specific variations on the ideas of autobiography, physical perception, human experience. Freudian imagery mingles with individual languages.

Daddy (1973) by Niki de Saint Phalle juxtaposes scenes of incest between the father figure and the daughter with a gradual undertaking of power by the grown female character, who ultimately 'kills' him by shooting her own painting *La Mort du Patriarche*. The psychoanalytical, surreal and haunting imagery of the film is a recurring characteristic of the artist's production.

Philippe Perrot painting is connoted by the use of unusual materials which influence the stylistic and conceptual layering of his works. Antimicrobials, antiseptics and chemical mixtures are used as pigments on the surface of the canvases, giving an unexpected atmosphere to the depicted scenes of familial tension infused with desire, sexuality, love and death. On show are also Loredana Sperini's relief works and small-scale sculptures, both complex and rich in their narrative depth. The materials used by the artist are charged with human experience (World War II bombing rubble found in souvenir shops or fragments of broken porcelain figures) and contribute to the creation of hybrid, delicate and refined images and bodies.

Until August 2, 2013