

chart

Angelo Filomeno

By the ocean waiting for sunset

May 6 – June 18, 2022



Angelo Filomeno, *Island (Red, Silver, Copper)*, 2022, silk shantung stretched over canvas
68 x 50 in (172.7 x 127 cm). Courtesy the Artist and Galerie Lelong & Co., New York.

CHART, in collaboration with Galerie Lelong & Co., is pleased to present *By the ocean waiting for sunset*, an exhibition of new paintings by Angelo Filomeno. This is Filomeno's first New York solo exhibition in seven years, and will be installed across both floors of the gallery. Eleven recent paintings will fill the main gallery, paired with an installation of related smaller works on the gallery's lower level. There will be an opening reception on Friday, May 6 from 6-8 pm and the exhibition will remain on view through June 18.

In this new body of work, Filomeno uses subjects from the natural world to further explore the symbolic struggles between life and death that have been prominently featured throughout his multi-decade artistic career. Known for his established practice of skillfully embroidering fabrics, Filomeno uses luxurious materials like shantung silk and rare crystals in his richly

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textured paintings, which are adorned throughout with his trademark zig-zagging threadwork. For his show at CHART, the artist has created a series of memento mori motifs featuring depictions of icebergs, islands, and other recognizable symbols from our current climate crisis.

As the critic Janet Koplos noted in *Art in America*, Filomeno “found his own way to the sublime by combining repulsion and beauty.” The works in *By the ocean waiting for sunset* utilize a similar pairing of contrasting forces to capture the grandeur of the world around us, albeit in a more minimalist manner than his past tableaux. The large-scale “Island” series, on view in the gallery’s main space, could be considered combinations of architectural geometry and color field painting. For instance, racing up the lower half of *Island (Red, Silver, Copper)* are a sequence of hard-edged reflections in the sea—or, alternatively, chunks of the icy mass that have been calved away—that ascend to the meticulously rendered floating form, before giving way to a large swath of shimmering red silk.

The resplendence of the artist’s materials—which have been sourced from his own archival stores, in a nod to environmental consciousness—and the lucious fabrication of his forms mask the frightening symbolism these simple shapes express. In Filomeno’s hands, beauty itself can be shocking, and warming or stormy landscapes, however colorful, are no less grotesque than traditional symbols of death and decay. In another, more somber series, Filomeno presents stark portraits of magpies, a highly intelligent cousin of the common crow and popularly known as tiny thieves of shiny objects, evidenced here in *Waiting for sunrise*, where the little bird clutches a dangling onyx skull necklace. The stately, watchful creature addresses the viewer as if to say: if we’re not careful, nature will find a way to take back everything we hold precious. Death, as the classical memento mori serve to remind us, is inevitable, but if we take the warnings seriously, climate catastrophe does not have to be.

Filomeno has had solo museum exhibitions at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia; Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Tennessee; Italian Cultural Institute of New York; Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Trento and Rovereto, Italy; Fondazione Museo Pino Pascali, Italy; and Italian Cultural Institute of Toronto, Canada. His work has been included in major international biennials including the 52nd Venice Biennale, Italy (2007), and ARS 06, Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma, Finland (2006). Filomeno's work can be found in several public collections including the Centre Georges Pompidou, France; 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Japan; Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Connecticut; 21C Museum, Kentucky; and Museum of Art & Design, New York. Filomeno was born in Ostuni, Italy, in 1963. He has lived and worked in New York City since 1992.

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Angelo Filomeno: By the ocean waiting for sunset



Angelo Filomeno

Island (red, silver, copper), 2022

silk shantung stretched over canvas

68 x 50 inches

172.7 x 127 cm



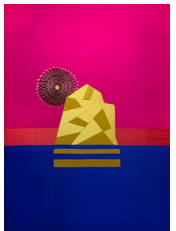
Angelo Filomeno

Storm, 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

68 x 52 inches

172.7 x 132.1 cm



Angelo Filomeno

Dahlia, 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

68 x 50 inches

172.7 x 127 cm



Angelo Filomeno

Daisies in the sky, 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

68 x 52 inches

172.7 x 127 cm



Angelo Filomeno

Island (blue, gold, green), 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

68 x 52 inches

172.7 x 132.1 cm

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Angelo Filomeno

American barn (red moon), 2022

silk shantung stretched over cotton

46 x 32 inches

116.8 x 81.3 cm



Angelo Filomeno

American barn (gray), 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

70 x 52 inches

177.8 x 132.1 cm



Angelo Filomeno

American barn (yellow moon), 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

70 x 50 inches

177.8 x 127 cm



Angelo Filomeno

Waiting for sunrise (purple), 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

with silver

68 x 52 inches

172.7 x 132.1 cm



Angelo Filomeno

Starry night, 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

68 x 52 inches

172.7 x 132.1 cm

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Angelo Filomeno

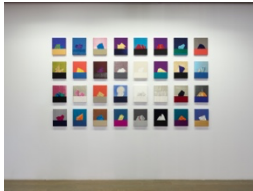
Waiting for sunrise (dark green), 2022

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton
with silver

68 x 52 inches

172.7 x 132.1 cm

Lower Level:



Angelo Filomeno

Thirty-two works from *Island* series, 2020-2021

embroidery on silk shantung stretched over cotton

10 x 8 inches

25.4 x 20.3 cm