

Stefano Calligaro – Poetricks

For the second exhibition in its 2025 programme, Spazio Leonardo presents **Poetricks**, a solo show by **Stefano Calligaro**. The exhibition brings together a new collection of text-based works, selected specifically for the company's spaces. For years, Spazio Leonardo has supported contemporary art as a meeting point between culture, corporate values, and innovation.

Through a visual world made of **words, images, and poetry**, Calligaro has recently pared back the aesthetic of his work to focus on what he calls *Poetricks*: a form of clandestine and ambiguous anti-poetry, deliberately free from pre-packaged interpretations. Through these works, the artist explores not only the value of writing – and its content –, but also the significance of the artistic gesture and what it means to be an artist today. His work challenges established cultural and social codes through visual simplicity and a precise, yet intentional (mis)-use of language: short, direct verbal glitches, *Poetricks* are words that live – or hide – within other words, waiting to emerge and be "materialized".

For Spazio Leonardo, Calligaro has selected around ninety *Poetricks* which – whether deliberately or by coincidence – revolve around several key themes that also reflect the company's philosophy: **wellbeing, ecosystem, sustainability, and uniqueness**. These concepts became the starting point for a series of interventions that permeate the entire space – from the gallery to the bistro, from offices to communal areas – creating a visual and textual journey that invites visitors to slow down, reflect, and (re)think, perhaps with a smile.

For the gallery's long wall, Calligaro has created the wall painting **Poetrick No.108 (Wonderfool.)** – a word that merges wonder and creative energy, hallmarks of both Calligaro's work and of Spazio Leonardo's spirit, always open to experimentation and new directions. The wall painting is accompanied by a series of hats embroidered with **Poetrick No.57 (Simplexity)**.

Calligaro's *Poetricks* also take form in a series of A3 prints that cover an entire wall, creating a kind of visual poetry anthology. Among the selected *Poetricks* are phrases such as: *Mess Is More, Instant Massage, Il Silenzio è Toro, Disdegno a Matita, La Pecora Vera, Walking Class, Italians Do It Bitter, Fabuloser*, and many more.

Conceived specifically for the exhibition, **Poetrick No.2171 (A Spasso coi Tempi)** has also been chosen as the title for a special edition Spazio Leonardo tote bag. With wit and clarity, *A Spasso coi Tempi [Walking with times]* seems to unconsciously encapsulate the company's mission: to remain attentive and receptive to the most pressing issues of the present, while looking to the future with awareness and intention – planning both personal and professional growth with care.

The exhibition also includes, for the first time, a series of materializations created in collaboration with various entities active within the company. Foremost among these is **EYELET MILANO**, a brand that co-developed a **limited-edition T-shirt** featuring **Poetrick No.108 (Wonderfool.)** – designed for those who live a daily life between work, creativity, and new perspectives.

Rounding out the project is a selection of food-inspired *Poetricks* – including *Spa-Ghetto, Cake News, Stiletto in salsa verde*, and others – featured in the **ohWell** bistro at Spazio Leonardo. Additionally, for the first time, the exhibition expands to the new restaurant **Oasi** on Via Sturzo: here, Calligaro's irreverent poetry customises both the long blackboard wall and the placemats used during daily lunches. The EYELET MILANO showroom also features a selection of *Poetricks* displayed on mirrors.

Special thanks go to Ricamificio Franciacorta for its collaboration in the materializations of *Poetrick No.57 (SIMPLEXITY)* as embroidery on hats.

Exhibition open to the public:

9 June 2025 – 26 September 2025

Monday to Friday: 09:00 – 18:00

Spazio Leonardo

[Via della Liberazione 16/a, 20124 Milan](#)

www.leonardoassicurazioni.it

Free admission

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Stefano Calligaro (Cividale del Friuli) has exhibited his work in numerous solo and group exhibitions at galleries and institutions including: Secondroom, Antwerp; Galerie Emmanuele Hervé, Marseille; Sabot, Cluj-Napoca; Centre des livres d'artistes, Saint-Yrieix-la-Perche; Invitro, Bucharest; MÉLANGE, Cologne; Frutta, Rome; Kunstverein Langenhagen, Langenhagen; Museo dell'Alto Garda, Riva del Garda; David Roberts Art Foundation, London; UNA, Piacenza. In 2017, one of his installations received the Roger Pahas Prize at Art-O-Rama in Marseille. His work is included in several public and private collections, including the Nomas Foundation in Rome and the Grecu Collection in Bucharest. His first collection of Poetricks was published in 2022 by Edition Taube. His children's book *FastOne* is published by HappyPotatoPress, while his quasi-poetry collections *Spick and Spam* and *Three Bullshit Poems* are published by GUESSWHO?.

All "*Materialisations*" of the *Poetricks* in this exhibition are the result of collaborations between Stefano Calligaro and local individuals and organisations:

Wall paintings (Poetrick No.108 / Poetrick No.2171): Andrea Bocca

Poetricks on paper: UNA Galleria

Embroidered cap (Poetrick No.57): Ricamificio Franciacorta

T-shirt (Poetrick No.108): EYELET MILANO

Tote bag (Poetrick No.2171): Leonardo Assicurazioni

Blackboard wall (Poetrick No.1077): Fausto Chittofrati

Placemat (Poetrick No.2671): ohWell