

# PAULA COOPER GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BEATRICE CARACCILO: *BATTAGLIA***

**Paula Cooper Gallery  
534 West 21<sup>st</sup> Street, front gallery  
February 16 – March 23, 2013**

NEW YORK -- Paula Cooper Gallery is pleased to present *Battaglia*, an exhibition of new drawings by Beatrice Caracciolo. The show will be on view from February 16 – March 23 at 534 West 21<sup>st</sup> Street.

For this exhibition, Caracciolo brings her vigorous, precise linework to bear on the theme of the crowd scene. The artist has used the Henri Cartier-Bresson photograph *Vente d'or dans les derniers jours du Kuomintang, Shanghai, Chine, 1949*, which depicts a street protest in China. In the *Battaglia (Battle)*, and *Lotta (Fight)* works shown here, Caracciolo's drawings tap the unpredictable vitality of bodies in violent motion: "the aesthetic equivalent of a fragile equilibrium threatened by a fracture."<sup>1</sup>

Caracciolo's drawings engage the limits of abstraction, both distilling and disrupting the photographic image, her frequent source material. Working from forms caught in motion, her keenly observed drawings reveal frenetic, entangled bodies. Beneath their surfaces, the pentimenti of past markings suggest additional voluminous depths.

Also on view is a portfolio of photogravures titled *Attraversare il Fuoco (Walking Through the Fire)* based on the artist's photographs of fire and burning embers. The images are etched onto metal plates and printed on board, resulting in rich black tones and a velvety surface. The portfolio is the second in a series dedicated to the four elements. Quotes on the subject of fire are printed on the reverse of each print and on pages inserted between them.

**Beatrice Caracciolo** is an Italian artist based in Paris. In 2012, her work was shown at Almine Rech Gallery in Paris and at the Château de Haroué in Haroué, France. In 2010,

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<sup>1</sup> Berggruen, Olivier. "Le mouvement de la ligne." In *Beatrice Caracciolo: Tumulti*, 12-27. Paris: Editions du Regard, 2009.

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Caracciolo's work was the subject of a one-person exhibition *Tumulti* at the Académie de France à Rome, Villa Medici. Her series of drawings *Life Lines* was shown at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia in 2002. Caracciolo's most recent show at Paula Cooper Gallery was *Cercare nella Terra*, in 2011.

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