

PRESS RELEASE

THE ORDER OF THINGS

For its first participation in RendezVous, **Colnaghi** Brussels has invited **COSEINCORSO** to curate *The Order of Things*, an exhibition bringing works from the gallery's collection into dialogue with objects and photographs produced by the design studio.

The exhibition examines how the interpretation of an object is shaped by its surroundings and by its relationship to other works. Paintings, antiquities, furniture and contemporary design are presented together within an installation conceived as an interior, recalling the arrangement of a private collection or an artist's studio. In place of a chronological display, works from different periods are connected through specific correspondences of material, form, function and subject.

By returning the selected works to an interior setting, *The Order of Things* considers how objects move between different contexts: from artistic production and practical use to collection, display and reinterpretation. Distinctions between periods and media are maintained, while their arrangement makes new comparisons possible.

COSEINCORSO is a design studio founded by Marzia Cerio and Marwann Frikach. Working at the intersection of craftsmanship, curation, and contemporary aesthetics, the studio develops objects and spaces that reconnect design with meaning and narrative depth.

Highlights include an early seventeenth-century *Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation* by Doménikos Theotokópoulos, called El Greco, and his workshop. Saint Francis occupied a central place in the religious culture of Counter-Reformation Toledo, where El Greco settled in 1577 and where numerous Franciscan institutions and lay confraternities sustained devotion to the saint. El Greco became the defining interpreter of Franciscan spirituality in Spanish painting. The present work belongs to one of El Greco's most celebrated compositions, also represented in the collections of the Museo Nacional del Prado, the National Gallery of Canada and the monastery of Monforte de Lemos. It depicts Saint Francis at Mount La Verna, where he withdrew for prayer and fasting towards the end of his life, contemplating a skull alongside Brother Leo.

A Greek (Apulian) *Black-glazed Mug* of the fourth century BC represents one of the exhibitions earliest object. Made in terracotta, the vessel has a smooth body, flaring circular rim, disc foot and single loop handle. Its restrained form is closely determined by its original function and by the technical properties of glazed clay.

The ancient vessel is displayed alongside COSEINCORSO's *The Fiasca*, a hand-thrown terracotta vase inspired by the historic Castelli drug pots in the Orsini-Colonna collection. These vessels were originally used by apothecaries to store herbal syrups. Finished with a lead-free black glaze, *The Fiasca* adapts this historical ceramic type as a contemporary

sculptural object. Its presentation alongside the Apulian mug permits a direct comparison between two vessels separated by chronology and function but connected through material, manufacture and surface.

Also included is COSEINCORSO's *Memory XV*, part of an ongoing series of photographic prints recording travels, sources of inspiration and intimate moments. Captured on film following a journey to Pompeii, the work considers the archaeological site through a contemporary and personal encounter with its surviving architecture.

Through these four works, *The Order of Things* brings together devotional painting, ancient pottery, contemporary design and photography. Their arrangement within a shared interior provides the exhibition with its central curatorial method, allowing each object to be considered both on its own historical terms and in relation to the forms and materials surrounding it.

Exhibition Information

Title: *The Order of Things*

Dates: 10 September – 10 October 2026

Location: Colnaghi Brussels, 30 rue Jacques Jordaens, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Opening Hours: Thursday 10 September, 10:00-20:00

Friday 11 September to Sunday 13 September, 10:00-18:00

Monday 14 September to Saturday 10 October by appointment

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COSEINCORSO, *The Fiasca*, terracotta with lead-free glaze, handmade in Italy, open edition, 34 × 25 cm (13 3/8 × 9 7/8 in.).

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Doménikos Theotokópoulos, called El Greco, and workshop (Crete 1541–1614 Toledo), *Saint Francis and Brother Leo in Meditation*, early 17th century, oil on canvas, inscribed '160(7)?' on the verso, 78 × 57 cm (30 3/4 × 22 1/2 in.).



COSEINCORSO, *Memory XV*, fine art print on Ilford Galerie Prestige Smooth Pearl 310 gsm paper, numbered and signed, limited edition of 30 + 2 A.P., 33 × 48 cm (print); 50 × 70 cm (frame).

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Greek (Apulian), *Black-glazed Mug*, 4th century BC, terracotta, 9.2 cm (3 5/8 in.) high.