

## INVITO (INVITATION)

by Giuliana Benassi

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*Last night, this morning, feel different.*

*I can't explain it- the magic of certain works is beautiful precisely because you can't put it into words. We were looking from the street at the first lights being installed, while the water flowed like thought. And the light sparked remote connections between the subtle laws of physics and everyday life.*

*Josè, leaning thoughtfully on a parked car, said to me: "Streetlights are like life's lights, the ones each person seeks subjectively. The red light, the clock- these are lights we all follow, necessary to establish mutual organization, lights we impose on ourselves. But the real streetlights are the beacons that each of us carries, the ones we identify on our own path: they are the ones we endlessly search for."*

*Thus, the horizon appears ever-changing, in perpetual motion, slipping like a wake left by a boat in motion. The sea is all compressed within the lights. "Thought, like the ocean, cannot be blocked, cannot be fenced in." And in this attempt to enclose it within a glassy space: it escapes and changes, flows. It sets us free.*

The luminous works titled *Invito* (Invitation), conceived by Josè Angelino for the project *Luci di via* by *Matèria*, form a single site-specific installation made up of four sculptural glass bodies where electric light and water meet in a reciprocal dance, following each other along the delicate and fragile thread of survival. These works arise from a deeper reflection that the artist has been conducting for years, where water is treated as a chemical and physical element with a certain materiality. Angelino draws with water, showing us what would otherwise be invisible to the eye, elusive and unattainable like a waterfall or a stream. Along the glass tubes, water, propelled by hydraulic pumps, engages a constant movement, where the ripple it produces is never the same as the one preceding it. The lights thus become animated bodies that echo the comings and goings of the people living in the neighborhood, accompanying the inner motion of the observer.

They are an invitation to pause, to find your own streetlight, the one each of us longs for deep within. The streetlights encourage reflection on personal perceptions, sources of self-education.

*Invito* is also the title of the work presented inside the gallery: the entire empty space fills with a single pulse, that of the faint light from the piece placed on the back wall. Two vertically aligned glass tubes, positioned parallel, are luminous environments that house a mixture of argon and neon gas, traversed by an electric current. They present themselves to the observer as evolving flows of light, characterized by a hazy pink and violet torpor. The glass environments narrow at a point, making the luminous trajectories meet as in a moment stolen from the undetermined flow of life, in a corner of the world marked by fate.

Matèria

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