

DANIELE FORMICA

PORTFOLIO



Janua (Studio Façade), 2023-2026, © Daniele Formica Foto: JMR-Dokumentation, © VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2026

MAY YOU STAND AGAINST
ANIMALS, TERMITES, MITES, PARASITES,
RODENTS, ANTS, WORMS, MICE,
RHINOS, BISONS, ELEPHANTS, CHARGES,
MARCHES, SEASONS, ATMOSPHERE,
ECOSPHERE, ECOSYSTEM, PHILOSOPHY,
LITERATURE, ARROGANCE, AESTHETIC,
RELIGIONS, MYSTERIES, CULTS, RITUALS,
ACADEMIA, INTELLECTUALS, PUNKS,
ANARCHY, MONARCHY, OLIGARCHY,
DEMOCRACY, ECONOMY, LIBERALISM,
ARTISTS, CURATORS, COLLECTORS,
PRODUCTION, CONSTRUCTION, CULTURE,
CONNECTION, RAGGED, GROUPING,
CONFUSION, LOSS, OBLIVION, ABANDON,
DELIRIUM, REASON, LOGIC, SILLOGISMS,
NEOLOGISMS, DOXAS, PARADOX,
THEFT, COPY, ORIGINALITY, SURPRISE,
SUSPENSE, MAXIMALISM, MINIMALISM,
LETTRISM, CRITIQUE, DISCOURSE,
RECOURSE, EVERY

Janua (Studio Façade),
2023-2026,

Installation Detail

© Daniele Formica

Foto: JMR-Dokumentation,
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Janua is a large-scale ready-made: the wall structure and door of my studio in The Hague, re-installed in the exhibition space of the Museum Schloss Moyland. "Janua" is Latin noun for door. It connects to the daily function of transit as the repetition of the act of going through. The façade, like the threshold of a temple, marks the edge, entrance and exit, between private and public worlds, the artist studio as inner space and its negative as the outer space. It is a permeable membrane incarnating separation and connection, inside and outside, verso and recto. The façade was built in 2022. In 2023 I painted on it, with pink paint, the mural that recites: "MAY YOU STAND AGAINST" and lists many words that we may stand against, or that the studio façade may face in the future.

VERSO
UNITA' POETICA, POESIA, POETICA
GRIDO, DI UCCELLI, ANIMALI
ESCLAMAZIONE INARTICOLATA CHE
ESPRIME FORTE EMOZIONE
MODO DI PARLARE CARATTERISTICO,
CADENZA, INFLESSIONE DIALETTALE
MODO DI ATTEGGIARSI,
MUOVERSI, CAMMINARE
SMORFIA, VERSACCIO,
GESTO
IMITARE I MODI (FARE IL VERSO)
DIREZIONE, ORIENTAMENTO, SENSO
VERSO UN LUOGO, VERSO SERA,
VERSO I 30 ANNI, VERSO L'ALTRO
NEI CONFRONTI DI,
ANDARE A VERSO
PER UN CERTO VERSO
IN QUEL VERSO
IN UN VERSO
CONTROVERSO, CONTRO VERSO
VERSO ORARIO
LATO, FACCIA POSTERIORE
GIRARE IL VERSO (DELLA FORTUNA)
MODO
NON C'E' VERSO
MANIERA
INCLINAZIONE DEI PELI
ORIENTAMENTO DEL VETTORE FORZA
VERSARE
VOLTARE
GIRARE
VOLGERE (PAROLE, UN LIQUIDO, EMOZIONI, LACRIME)
DEPOSITARE
FARE ESPERIENZA
TROVARSI
VERSIONE, DIVERSIONE, CONVERSIONE
IRREVERSIBILE
AVVERSO, ATTRAVERSO
TRAVERSO
PERVERSO
ESTROVERSO, INTROVERSO
INVERSO
UNIVERSO
SOVVERSIVO
VERSATILE
CONVERSAZIONE
DIVERSO

Verso List (Italian),

2026,

Acrylic Gouache on Tengucho Paper

© Daniele Formica

Foto: JMR-Dokumentation,

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This is a list of meanings of the Italian word "Verso", which is then translated in English and German, keeping the same organization of the original Italian list. The Italian word "Verso" has meanings that involve: poetry (as the verse in a poem), animal cries, direction in space and time, the back of something (recto/verso); and it is used to assemble many words such as: universe, averse and even diverse.

In classical mechanics, "Verso" is used to describe where the vector force is pointing towards, expressed with the symbol of the arrow point.



Dancing the Symphony: Evolution, Revolution, Volution, Spin! Spin! Spin! 2026, screenshot from Video-performance, © Daniele Formica



Dancing the Symphony: Evolution, Revolution, Volution, Spin! Spin! Spin!
2026,

Installation, video and performance

© Daniele Formica

Foto: JMR-Dokumentation,
© VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2026

This work is inspired by the action *Siberian Symphony* (1963) by Joseph Beuys. I accept quite literally to dance the *Symphony*, interpreting this invitation to dance by Beuys himself, responding to the elements in the original action as a 2026 dancer, placing the creation of this dance-based work between re-enactment and enactment; between reading and re-writing a compossible score: ultimately to point at the deeper possibility of agency and collaborative authorship we hold onto through time, space and signification, between a past composer and an Occurrent present-dancer.





Invisible Self Portrait (n1),
2026,

Dirty water on paper

© Daniele Formica

The invisible self portraits are drawings based on an impossible, paradoxical and contradicting self-given task to create an invisible resemblance with myself. Working with the minimization of colour, contrast, gesture and material; they work with the tension between semblance and resemblance, appearance and disappearance, possible and impossible. By defusing optics, the tradition of self-portraiture is investigated in its substantial quality of touch, the sense most intimately delimitating the body and site of myself.



Daniele Formica, 10 x Rewriting Trio A, 2025, 00:06:10, Video, link: <https://youtu.be/UHQiVBshQVw>



Reflections, 2025, © Daniele Formica



Reflection #3: entrance from the side,
2025,

202.5x140cm,
acrylic on polyester shiny textile

© Daniele Formica

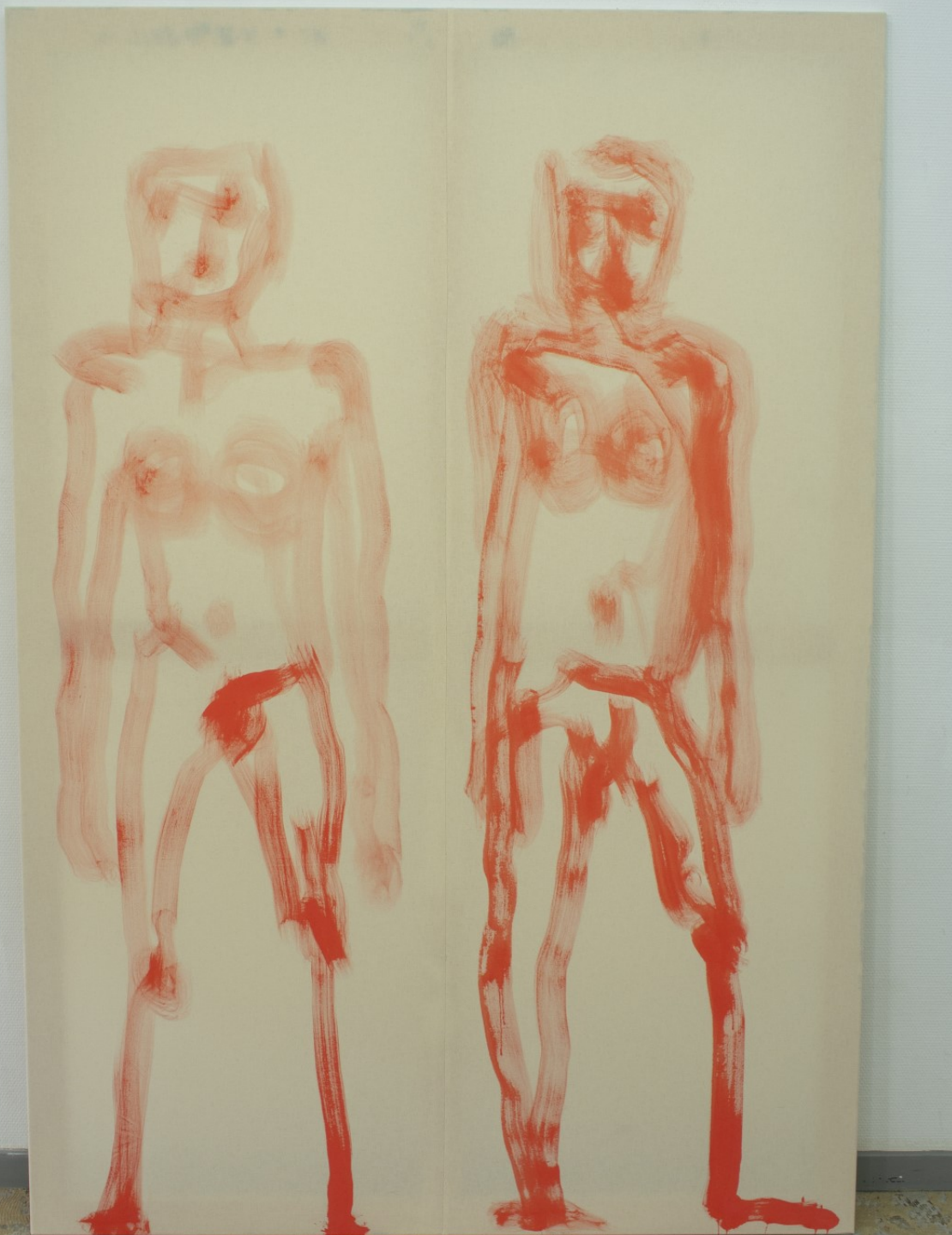
The series of paintings titled “reflections” is done by standing far-away from the reflective surface of the canvas and tracing my reflection on the surface with a long stick and brush. Each reflection involves the tracing of a small movement-dance executed real time as I move and paint-trace the movement on the surface. The result is ghostly traces of this specific interaction, each one defined and marked by the different gradient of reflectivity and colour of the original surface, namely faux leathers and acrylic canvases normally used for party and disco clothing.



Poses, 2025, installation view, © Daniele Formica



7 Poses, 2025, acrylic on raw cotton canvas, © Daniele Formica



Standing pauses (a couple),
2025,
195x135cm
Acrylic on raw cotton canvas

© Daniele Formica

The series of paintings titled “pauses” is executed by taking a firm position with my body in front of the canvas at a distance precisely measured by the paintbrush fitting between my body and the surface of the painting. I then quickly trace the pose I am holding with my body, leaving its imprint on the surface.

I consider each pose a pause in time, like a still-frame of a dance-video, each painting becoming a possible score to re-interpret previous and successor poses in an indeterminate chain of which only a handful is made visible.



Sewn copy of myself,
2025,
fabric, cotton thread, lightbox painted
with black acrylic
© Daniele Formica





Pink Bunny Costume,
2022,

© Daniele Formica
Foto: JMR-Dokumentation,
© VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn 2026



Boys by the pool, 2021, exhibition view, Ellen De Bruijne PROJECTS, Amsterdam, photographer: Jeroen Desmalen



Boys by the pool, 2021, 29 x 43 cm, gouache on paper, photography Jeroen Desmalen



Dirty Towel, 2020, © Daniele Formica , photography Jeroen Desmalen

Artist Statement, Daniele Formica, 2026

The scope and interest of my recent work is contracted dance and expanded painting.

Contracted dance is about looking at forms of minimized self expression through movement in performance and video. Minimizing involves the specific framing of each interaction between myself and the costumes and clothes I wear or the stages and objects I interact with in relation to task based dance and improvised movement. Layers of framing myself are explored in relation to video-performance, through the delimitation of the frame and composition of the in-frame space of the video (Looping is layering, working with repetition and variation of positions and movements in pattern-based expression in becoming).

The performance is not limited to actual dance, but often escapes the constrictions of the performative act to become interaction of ready-made and sculpture into space, working with presence and absence, suggestion of the body, semblance and resemblance, movement as change of perspective and relational transformation.

Text appears in the work as the inner voice that silently speaks, manifests itself and fills the body without sound.

Expanded painting becomes the dominion where depiction is a conscious enactment of gesture and the presence of the body withholding that gesture. Each act of depiction elaborates on my performance-based reflection of art-making at the threshold between appearance and disappearance, tracing the interaction with the body and the surface as the possibility of archiving and re-enacting dancing.

Contracting dance and expanding painting are substantially inspired by my understanding of interaction and relational interpretation in quantum physics. This requires a new conception of my self as specific to each relation, thinking my person and my body beyond property and within the site of each interaction, towards a re-formulation of my person defusing into the impersonal, highly specific and unrepeatable instance.

Daniele Formica CV 2026
b. 1996, Perugia (IT), lives between Brussels (BE) and The Hague (NL)

EDUCATION:

2025-2026 MFA, LUCA School of Arts, Brussels, BE
2015-2019 BFA, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten, The Hague, NL
2010-2015 Diploma di Maturità, Liceo Scientifico Statale Galileo Galilei, Perugia, IT

SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

2026 –*VERSO: Daniele Formica in conversation with Joseph Beuys*, Museum Schloss Moyland, Bedburg-hau, DE
2024 –*Lonely Legionnaires*, EDB Projects, Amsterdam, NL
2021 –*Boys by the pool*, EDB Projects, Amsterdam, NL
–*Ondertussen: Daniele Formica*, Stroom Den Haag, The Hague, NL

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 –*In Medias Res*, Omstand, Arnhem, NL
–*G.I.F.*, Schaumbad, Graz, AT
–*Mountain Friends*, Fred&Ferry, Antwerp, BE
2023 –*Flowers at room temperature*, Art Weekend, Antwerp, BE
–*Festa delle piante*, Villafredda, Udine, IT
2022 –*For every word [...]*, EDB Projects, Amsterdam, NL
2021 –*[...] the whisper of a plea*, EDB Projects, Amsterdam, NL
–*Superweakness*, The Hague, NL
–*Corporate Stoner*, Quartair, The Hague, NL

2020 –*Summer Show*, EDB Projects, Amsterdam, NL
2019 –*Ernstig Geschikt!* Omstand, Arnhem, NL

ART FAIRS:

2025 NAP+, EDB Projects, Amsterdam, NL
–JUNE Fair, EDB Projects, Basel, CH
2023–Art Rotterdam, EDB Projects, NL
–Art Island, EDB Projects, IJmuiden, NL
2022 –Unfair editions, Amsterdam, NL
–Art Rotterdam, EDB Projects, NL
–Art Island, EDB Projects, IJmuiden, NL
2021 –Art Rotterdam, EDB Projects, NL
2020 –Unfair TM, Amsterdam, NL

PROJECTS, PERFORMANCES:

2026 –Dancing the symphony: Evolution, Revolution, Volution, Spin! Spin! Spin!, Museum Schloss Moyland, Bedburg-Hau, DE
2023 –*The Fold in my chair*, Antwerp, BE
2022 –*Derive & Human Strike*, workshop with Claire Fontaine, CASTRO, Rome, IT
2021 –*Art Mnemonics*, Stroom Den Haag, NL

SUBSIDIES/AWARDS:

2024 –Amarte Fonds, research fund, NL
–Mondriaan Fonds Voucher, NL
–Stroom PRO Onderzoek, The Hague, NL
2022 –Stroom PRO Onderzoek, NL
–CASTRO#6 Stella Fellowship, Rome, IT
–Picket Kunstprizen Nominee, The Hague
2020 –Stroom PRO Invest, The Hague, NL
2019 –BFA Department Award KABK, NL

REPRESENTATION:

Ellen De Bruijne PROJECTS, Amsterdam

ARTIST INITIATIVES:

2019-2024: Hgtomi Rosa, The Hague, NL

RESIDENCIES/STUDIO PROGRAMS:

2024 –Styria Artist in Residence, Graz, AT
2022 –CASTRO studio program, Rome, IT

REVIEWS AND PUBLICATIONS:

2026 –*VERSO*, Daniele Formica im dialog mit Joeph Beuys, published by Museum Schloss Moyland
–Artribune, Mille artisti in uno: Intervista a Daniele Formica, Saverio Verini
2025 –*The Observer*, *JUNE art fair held its own*, by Elisa Carollo
2024 –*Gallery Viewer*, *The stillness of Haribo bears and coffee filters*, by Yves Joris
2023 –Jegens & Tevens, *Handgeschreven: de grote impact van een kleine tentoonstelling*, by Saskia Monshouwer
2022 –NRC, *Galerietips: protesten, verlies en troost* by Toef Jeager
2021 –*Gallery Viewer*, *Vulnerability as an art form*, by Sjoerd Kloosterhuis
–*Gallery Viewer*, *A future unknown to me except [...]*, by Flor Linckens
–*Gallery Viewer*, *Artists under 30*, Wouter van den Eijkel
–Jegens & Tevens, *Post Corona with Daniele Formica*, by Frits Dijks.
2019 –Metropolis M *Eindexamens 2019*, Jorik Amit Galama
–Mister Motley, *EINDEXAMENS 2019: AFDRUK*, Kiedes van Wouden en Lieneke Hulshof