

MILANO
GALLERIA 10 A.M. ART
FROM 5 MARCH TO 8 MAY 2026
“Tilde Poli. Oltre il confine”
Catalogue with texts by Lorenzo Giusti and Sandra Nava

From 5 March to 8 May 2026, the 10 A.M. ART Gallery of Milan, in its Corso San Gottardo 5 location, presents a retrospective dedicated to the artist Tilde Poli (1924 - 2006), whose expressive freedom and anti-conventional spirit made her a unique figure on the Italian art scene.

Tilde Poli is one of the artists identified through a process of rediscovery carried out by the gallery over the years, reinterpreting in a contemporary vein the work of artists who, thanks to their unique language, have made a major mark. Featuring works from the 50s to the 2000s, the exhibition is part of a wider project that 10 A.M. ART is dedicating throughout 2026 to this extraordinary artist, whom it represents exclusively. The project includes international presentations and the publication of a comprehensive monograph, with texts by Lorenzo Giusti, director of GAMeC of Bergamo, and Sandra Nava, art critic and historian.

Tilde Poli developed her own independent pursuit, driven by an inexhaustible poetic tension. Between the 50s and 70s, she focused on relationships of light and colour and on the exploration of spatial dimensionality, where luminous volumes float on the canvas with a musical cadence, creating a delicate, ethereal geometry. She maintained a distinct rejection of predetermined schematizations and the dominant trends of her time; her painting became a space of colour, a revelation of its flow, a threshold – as in a dream – of appearance and disappearance, an extended substance, vibrant movement, a point of arrival and departure for a new beginning.

This process evolves until forms dissolve in favour of a refined, lyrical abstraction characterized by curvilinear shapes and subdued, evanescent tones, creating resonances and absences and elevating sensorial data to expressions of pure poetry. In her final period, she returned to geometry, with essential images and metaphysical traces, fixed onto clear surfaces where subtle variations and minimal deviations punctuate space and time. Shunning ornamental interventions and dramatizations, Tilde Poli appears today to reflect an inviolate contemporaneity along a linear, logical path of great depth and lucid awareness.

Biographical note:

Born in Bergamo in 1924 Tilde Poli studied under Guido Ballo, after graduating from Brera Art High School. She began exhibiting very early, sparking interest in the more discerning critics and many international collectors who became loyal patrons.

After participating in the 1942 4th Bergamo Prize, the artist moved to Rome where she worked from 1947 to 1950 and then to Milan from 1952 to 1957, where she was part of the vibrant cultural scene in that unique period, working alongside and befriending artists such as Lucio Fontana, Enrico Baj, Gianni Dova, Emilio Vedova and Carlo Cardazzo.

In 1956 she was among the founders of the Gruppo Bergamo (active between 1956 and 1962), as the only exhibiting female artist and the coordinator of exhibition activities at the Galleria Gruppo Bergamo which she ran until 1959.

Poli then began to show her work at some of the most prestigious public and private galleries. In 1958 she was already included in the seminal exhibition *Giovani Artisti Italiani* (Young Italian Artists) at Palazzo della Permanente in Milan, and acknowledged as one of the most interesting younger representatives of contemporary Italian abstract art.

This was followed in the early 1960s by exhibitions at the Lorenzelli and Fumagalli galleries in Bergamo, Vismara in Milan, Brandale in Savona, Martano in Turin, and Diade and Vanna Casati, also in Bergamo. Significantly, her return to Bergamo coincided with her collaboration with Bindo Missiroli's *Teatro della Novità* held at the Donizetti Theatre during the 1959 to 1961 seasons, which was exhaustively documented in the *Doppio Segno* retrospective staged in the foyer in 2008.

The two major exhibitions held in Paris in 1990 and 1991, set the seal on her international reputation.

In 2001 the Province of Bergamo awarded her the Ulysses Prize for her artistic achievements and in 2005, the GAMeC in Bergamo organized a solo show of her work.

Tilde Poli died on 26 December 2006.

“Tilde Poli. Oltre il confine”

Milan, galleria 10 A.M. ART (Corso San Gottardo, 5)
5 March - 8 May 2026

Opening day: Thursday 5 March 2026 at 5 p.m.

Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
All other days, by appointment only

Free entry

Information:

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