

6 BAGATELLES

OSAMA ALRAYYAN
BEATRICE MARCHI
DANIEL MURNAGHAN
MATTHEW PANG
GIANGIACOMO ROSSETTI
CINZIA RUGGERI

FEBRUARY 15 - MARCH 18, 2022

Back in 1817, Thomas Broadwood met the 47 year old Beethoven in Vienna. Upon discovering that the famed composer was almost deaf and somewhat impoverished, Broadwood decided to give Beethoven a new grand piano. At that time an English grand was noticeably louder than any of the Viennese instruments used by Beethoven. Broadwood arranged for some of the most accomplished pianists in London – Friedrich Kalkbrenner, Ferdinand Ries (Beethoven's London agent), Johann Baptist Cramer, Muzio Clementi, Jacques-Godefroi Ferrari and Charles Knyvett – to choose a piano for Beethoven, from his factory. And all, with the exception of Clementi, actually signed it. The piano was despatched from London in December 1817. On hearing of Broadwood's gift, Beethoven wrote:

*"My dearest friend Broadwood,
I have never felt a greater pleasure than that given me by the anticipation of the arrival of this piano, with which you are honouring me as a present. I shall regard it as an altar on which I shall place my spirit's most beautiful offerings to the divine Apollo. As soon as I receive your excellent instrument, I shall send you the fruits of the first moments of inspiration I spend at it, as a souvenir for you from me, my very dear B., and I hope that they will be worthy of your instrument.*

*My dear sir and friend, accept my warmest consideration,
from your friend and most humble servant,*

Louis Van Beethoven

Vienna, 3rd February 1818."

The Broadwood grand piano arrived at Beethoven's Viennese Summer residence in May 1818, and instantly became the composer's favoured instrument. Beethoven, however, suffered from worsening deafness, and to generate as much volume as possible played the piano with great force. Reports indicate that by 1824 it was quite unplayable.

ROOM 1

Works (from left to right):

Beatrice Marchi
Il Doppione, 2020
Acrylic, pastel on wood and acrylic on glass
90 x 75 cm

Cinzia Ruggeri
Nightgown
Coll. a/w 1984-85

Daniel Murnaghan
Untilted, 2021
Watercolor on paper
37,5 x 28,5 cm (framed)

ROOM 2:

Works (from left to right):

Osama Alrayyan
Untitled, 2021
Oil on canvas
150 x 140 cm

Giangiaco Rossetti
Ragazza con orologio, 2021
Oil on panel
45 x 35 cm

Matthew Pang
Pro-Venom Painting, 2021
Oil on canvas
135 x 99 cm