

Pino Casagrande (1939-2013) was a refined collector of ancient and contemporary art and also a very active gallery owner. With his original proposals, he contributed greatly to the cultural life of Rome over a period of at least two decades. His home on the Aventine Hill fully reflects his inclinations, refinement and elegance. The residence was built by architect Patrizio Paris around the Casagrande collection, within an early twentieth-century building. A dialogue is created here between ancient amphorae, Roman sarcophagi and marble busts, on the one hand, and, on the other, avant-garde works by leading, internationally renowned artists. Paolo Sorrentino chose this setting for the party, during which a little girl artist furiously drops paint onto an enormous canvas. For the interior, Sorrentino, removed all the furniture and turned the house into a contemporary arts venue, where a dialogue is set up between an installation by Giovanni Anselmo and a photograph by Thomas Ruff. One of the guests admires a painting on the wall (the painting actually does not belong to the collection). The painting was placed above a sarcophagus dating back to the first century AD. A group of children on the floor eat, between a sculpture in felt by Bob Morris and a canvas by Daniel Buren. Such works as these, worthy of any gallery, were part of Casagrande's day-to-day life.