

□ **of Lisa Panzera**

Materia or material has long defined Italian modern art. While Francesco Perilli's work has played a paramount role in Perilli's work, beginning with his series of bronze sculptures. Even more suggestive of human traces and fossilized remains, as well as the stratified layers of earth in Perilli—dissatisfied with the traditional role of the artist as a craftsman—has led to a new practice that treats the material as a subject. The intersecting concerns of the artist's work are the origins of matter.

- 1 Flavio Fergonzi, "On the Title of the Painting Materia," in Laura Mattioli Rossi, ed., *Boccioni, Materia: A Study* (New York: The Museum of Modern Art, 2011), 102.
- 2 Kirk Varnedoe, *Pictures of Nothing: Abstract Art Since Pollock* (Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2001), 102.

Lisa Panzera received a Bachelors degree from Smith College and a doctorate from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Her doctoral dissertation is a focused study on the work of Benedetta Cappa Marinetti. She has written numerous essays, exhibition catalogues and reviews, contributing to journals such as *Art News* and *Art in America*. Dr. Panzera has taught and lectured extensively at several well-known institutions, including Hunter College and the Museum of Modern Art, New York. She has worked in a curatorial capacity for several prominent organizations, including Guild Hall Museum, the Guggenheim Museum and the Fondazione Prada. She is currently Director of McCaffrey Fine Art, New York .