

Resistere

Installation

Marta Strambi's *Resistere* stands out for its quiet force and material clarity. Composed of a trestle table, glass elements, a lamp, and glass handles positioned both on a tabletop and affixed to a wall-mounted map of conflict regions, the installation unfolds as an environment rather than an object. It is spare, measured, and deeply resonant.

What moved me most is Strambi's use of glass—not merely as medium, but as metaphor. Glass is transparent, fragile, and structurally dependent on careful handling. By rendering handles—objects meant for grasping and control—in glass, Strambi destabilizes the notion of power. What appears functional becomes precarious. The gesture of reaching, holding, or pulling is complicated by the risk of fracture.

The maps of conflict regions situate the work within geopolitical reality, yet the installation avoids overt spectacle. Instead, it offers a contemplative space where fragility and endurance coexist. The title, *Resistere*—to resist—does not manifest as defiance, but as persistence. Light from the lamp interacts with the glass, creating subtle reflections and shadows that shift as the viewer moves. Resistance here is not loud; it is sustained.

I was particularly drawn to the spatial intelligence of the installation. The 118-inch cubic scale establishes immersion without overwhelming the viewer. The table suggests labor, negotiation, or assembly; the wall maps expand the conversation outward into global terrain. Together, they create a dialogue between personal action and collective struggle.

Resistere demonstrates how restraint can generate profound impact. Its material vulnerability mirrors the instability of the regions it references, yet the work itself stands intact. For me, it is a meditation on resilience—how structures, like glass, like societies, hold under pressure through careful balance and conscious engagement. Liz Faust

