

BIOGRAPHY

ENZO FORGIONE is a contemporary botanical artists based in Turin, Italy where in 1983 he gain a degree at the Fine Art Academy. After graduation he has a range of experiences between art and design until 2006, when he decide to paint full time. At the academy he was trained mainly in water-based painting techniques, aimed at scenography, he later learns the use of oil on his own. After a period of experimentation with oil paint, he begins a significant production of works within a specific project dedicated to orchids. This experience fosters in him a strong desire to open up and share his work, that in 2009 leads to his first solo show at the EDP in Turin, entitled 'IconaOrchidea', entirely dedicated to this flower, icon since ancient times, which is represented on canvas with the emphasis of a portrait.

Since that first solo show, Enzo takes part in many exhibitions in Italy and abroad. In 2013 in consideration of his skill in the botanical painting, he becomes a member of the Society of Botanical Artists of which he is currently part again after a brief absence due to Brexit. With the SBA he takes part in the London and European exhibitions, such as the biennials at the Palmengarten in Frankfurt (2016-2018) and the memorable exhibition in 2018 at the Real Jardin Botanico in Madrid dedicated to Tulip.

From 2013 to 2015 are worth a mention collaborations with Italian Gallery Wikiarte in Bologna, l'Art Gallery in Parma, which include the artist on art promotion projects consisting of insertions in art volumes presented in various exhibitions of Italian Galleries. Follows new collaborations with Satura Gallery in Genua, Miit Museum and Malinpenza Gallery both in Turin.

In 2017 he collaborates the English magazine Paint&Draw for the creation of tutorials and workshops. In 2022 the partnership with the renowned Italian brush brand Tintoretto begins, resulting in a specific kit for botanical painting bearing the artist's name.

Enzo's artworks are held in private collections in Italy, the UK and in Germany.

Awards:

2023

VIII°Concorso Nazionale Arte Contemporanea - II° premio Pittura - Satura - Genova

Paris Prix - I° premio Pittura -MMM - Miit Museum Marais a Parigi

Art Market Premio Trieste - Tivarnella Gallery -Trieste

Biennale di Genova - Artista selezionato Satura

Xa Biennale d'Arte a Montecarlo - fra i 10 artisti premiati.

Premio MIIT- Premio Editoriale - MIIT Museum - Torino

Great Art Award 2016 ' -Shape Pattern Structure -Westminster Hall – LONDRA Satura-

Bibliografia

- International Contemporary Artists 2010 ICA New York
- Chianciano Biennale 2011
- Collana arte Giorgio Mondadori:
 - 'Sensazioni Artistiche' 1st.volume 2013
 - 'Sensazioni Artistiche' 2nd volume 2014
 - 'Sensazioni Artistiche' 3rd volume 2015 (Italiano/English)
- Fuuran - Solo show catalog -Wikiarte Gallery -Bologna 2013
- IconaOrchidea – Solo show catalog – 3A Pinerolo (Turin)2015
- A Fior d'Acqua – Solo show catalog – MIIT Museum -Torino 2019

STATEMENT

My favorite subjects are mainly botanical and floral especially orchids. I don't have to move from my studio to find my inspiration, as my greenhouse and garden are a never ending source.

I think flowers differ one other not only for their shapes and colors, but also for the emotions they might trigger observing them. I try to capture on canvas those emotions to engage the viewers and share with them what had inspired me.

I work mainly in oil, which I believe is the medium that responds best to light both natural and artificial. Moreover, it allows me to work on large scales. The subject I portrait, in fact, are deliberately enlarged to provide details that normally escape the eye of the observer. I aim to reveal reality rather than merely represent it. My artworks are meant to be 'immersive' rather than just contemplative.

The technique I use is similar to 'Alla prima', also known as direct painting', painting. Consisting in obtaining all tonal and chromatic effects while the paint is still wet, in order to give the painting immediacy and expressive freshness. Unlike the actual 'alla prima' technique, I don't usually complete my work in just one sitting, but it takes more working sessions.

In 'Narcissus', my latest and ongoing series, I've added a new element to the composition : the reflection on water. This introduces curious and intriguing textures into the works, which can even lead to abstraction. The reflection gives the painting an evocative power, and I also believe that this series harmoniously combines Botany and Visual Perception, on which my artistic research is centered. More info on my website: www.enzoforgione.it