

6TH AUG  
TO 5TH SEP 2023

# POP IN NFT

**Hvar Arsenal, Croatia**

**Opening: 6th August at 8:00 pm**

**Richard Bernstein**  
in dialogue with:

Stefano Favaretto  
Soheil Hosseini  
Alessandra Manias  
NuvolaProject  
Nasim Pachi  
Elham Shafaei  
Marjan Shariat  
Marco Veronese  
Leo Crane  
Arne Spangereid

PRESENTED BY



GRAD HVAR

NFTAA



*Richard Bernstein*  
THE ESTATE OF RICHARD BERNSTEIN





Catalog published by

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## **NFT Art Alliance**

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Grad HVAR  
Mayor of Hvar Town Rikardo Novak  
NFT Art Alliance; Stefano Favaretto  
AnimusLive; Thomas Julian Farrell  
The State of Richard Bernstein; Rory Trifon

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# Foreword

By: **Leo Crane**

Sotheby's Institute of Art

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New York, 1983: a pixelated David Bowie stares back at his creator, the Pop Art pioneer Richard Bernstein. Working closely with Andy Warhol, Bernstein was experimenting with the new Quantel Paintbox, the first commercial computer designed specifically for artists. He would integrate this revolutionary digital process into his paintings, creating eye-catching images for mass consumption: magazine covers, album designs, a postage stamp and some of his most iconic celebrity portraits. Bernstein would create a seductive world of escapism that would define an era.

40 years later, the Richard Bernstein Estate has partnered with NFT Art Alliance, Hvar Tourist Board and Animus Live to embrace today's fast-emerging technologies. Eleven contemporary artists, including myself, are exhibiting recent work alongside the Pop Artist's renowned images. Like Bernstein, we exploit digital technology to blur the boundaries between our physical world and another reality.

Faithful to Bernstein's spirit, some of the works are both alluring and entertaining. Soheil Hosseini looks to the future to capture a new kind of portrait, whose flower-bird subjects pose like fashionable celebrities, daring you to be fabulous. Arne Spangereid looks back to imagined aristocratic societies, disrupting his masterfully painted scenes with 21st-century pop culture interventions. Alessandra Manias alternates between colourful abstraction and video game references, opening up a joyful quest for a higher consciousness.

Other works reflect a more nuanced sensibility. The portraits of Marjan Shariat move from figurative realism into a dreamlike state, leaving us with an ungraspable and unsettling intuition. Nasim Pachi's large paintings draw us in with a rich aestheticism, but the cultural references force us to consider why the identities of her subjects remain hidden. Elham Shafaei's desaturated paintings are immediately melancholic, creatures displaced and transplanted into another reality, animated in loss. My own hand-painted animations also fall into this category, placing expressive nude subjects alongside images of transfiguration and escape.

For other artists, technology becomes the subject of philosophical enquiry: Stefano Favaretto uses scientific research to visualise what the naked eye cannot see, creating mesmerising manifestations of a universal energy. Nuvola Project (Gaia Riposati and Massimo Di Leo) use AI and performance to remix historic paintings, connecting the global impact of today's technology with the long-view of humanity. Marco Veronese uses similar techniques to awaken an awareness in the viewer through symbolism and spirituality.

Through our diverse approaches, we are continuing Bernstein's legacy of building experimental new techniques on strong artistic foundations, a bridge between tradition and innovation. Projected at scale in the medieval Hvar Arsenal, our work connects an intangible digital realm with layers of human history. As the world around us transforms at unprecedented speed, this future-fuelled installation encourages us to consider the impact on our human, physical selves.



# *Introduction:*

By: **Stefano Favaretto**

NFT Art Alliance (NFTAA)

## *NFT Art Alliance (NFTAA)*

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The NFT Art Alliance (NFTAA) was founded by nine international artists to bridge the divide between traditional practice and new technologies. They represent a range of creative disciplines, from painting and photography to performance and film, united by a commitment to lifelong practice, deep research and artistic dialogue.

Through blockchain and non-fungible tokens (NFTs), they see the art world opening up to a new generation of artists, curators, collectors and consumers, whose diverse practices and perspectives spark debate over the very definition of art. At the same time, the mainstream art world increasingly rejects NFTs because of their association with volatile and often unregulated cryptocurrencies. The NFTAA seeks to challenge this skepticism with a programme of landmark exhibitions, virtual experiences, panel discussions, social media engagement and an online magazine.

With contemporary art as a universal language, the NFTAA can demonstrate the power of new technologies to foster genuine interactions between diverse cultures, serving as an ambassador of peace and unity between our physical and virtual worlds.



# *The State of Richard Bernstein*

By: **Rory Trifon**

The State of Richard Bernstein

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Established in 2018, The Estate of Richard Bernstein's mission is to sustain, expand, and protect the legacy of Richard Bernstein, his art, and his ideals. The Estate is led by President Rory Trifon, Richard Bernstein's nephew. Following the publication of Richard Bernstein Starmaker: Andy Warhol's Cover Artist by Roger Padilha and Mauricio Padilha which sparked renewed interest in Bernstein's work, the estate oversaw inclusion of his fine art in a number of high-profile Museum and Gallery shows as well as collaborations with luxury brands such as Coach and Loewe showcasing Bernstein's archives.





# AnimusLive

By: **Thomas Julian Farrell**

AnimusLive

AnimusLive bridges artists & collectors, uniting the fascinating & fascinated. Over the past 35 years, AnimusLive has meticulously acquired an enviable art collection, now boasting more than 3500 unique digital masterpieces. This passion for the aesthetic isn't contained to a virtual collection - it bursts into reality through the curation of massive-scale projections at prestigious events, such as NFT London, Art Basel Miami, NFT Paris, and the NFC Summit Lisbon. AnimusLive is a Leading Curator and Publisher on digital art platforms MakersPlace and Nifty Gateway. As Producing Partner of both Val Kilmer and The Duchess of York, AnimusLive's influence extends beyond the digital art sphere. In addition, AnimusLive is a Sotheby's Institute Twitter Spaces Co-host. As the exclusive digital representative for acclaimed artists Arne Spangereid and Richard Nadler and curator and advisor to countless hundreds more, it further strengthens its commitment to harmonising the traditional and digital art worlds.

## Pop in HVAR

**HVAR Tourist Board**

Embark on a captivating journey of discovery through the layers of history that have enriched HVAR Island with an abundance of culture and heritage. Spanning twenty-four centuries of urban life, echoes of the past resonate in stone monuments, buildings, and the various facets of art and daily existence. From the blossoming era of the Renaissance, which bestowed upon Europe its oldest public theater, to the remnants of antiquity, the island's artistic expression weaves a mesmerizing tapestry.







The mystical allure of ancient churches, adorned with priceless works of art, and the majesty of centuries-old dry-stone walls and piles, whispering tales of time gone by. The Island's cultural trove encompasses the secrets of Illyrian remnants and the narratives of narrow stone alleys, each contributing to a vivid and dynamic heritage.

Centuries ago, the first Arsenal stood proudly, serving as a shipyard for galleys between 1292 and 1331. Though it faced destruction by the Turks in 1571, a new Arsenal rose from the ashes in the 16th century. Under the guidance of Duke Pietro Semitecolo in 1611, Arsenal underwent renovation and expansion, revealing the form it maintains to this day. Adjacent to it, the Fontik – a grain warehouse – and the grand terrace known as Belvedere were erected in 1612, granting access to the public theater founded in the same year – a landmark as the first of its kind in Europe.

The historical Theatre of Hvar, nestled on the second floor of the Arsenal building, where an inscription above the entrance door proudly declares the year of its establishment: ANNO SECVNDO PACIS MDCXII, marking the second year of peace between the warring factions of the Hvar commune. The auditorium, complete with boxes, harks back to the founding of the Theatre Society in 1803. Meanwhile, the present neo-Baroque appearance took shape in the mid-19th century, enveloping visitors in an ambiance of timeless elegance.

Intriguingly, two wall scenographies have endured the passage of time – a fresco dating back to 1819 still graces the back wall of the stage, while another, approximately from 1900, portraying the Duke's Palace, has been lovingly restored and preserved on large, movable boards, a testament to the island's commitment to honoring its artistic legacy.

The Hvar Tourist Board is dedicated to promoting tourism on the island of Hvar, together with its partner tourist boards in Stari Grad, Jelsa, Vrboska and Suuraj. The Hvar Tourist Board presents the pop in NFT Exhibition from 6th August until 5th September 2023 at HVAR Arsenal.



# Richard Bernstein



@ richardbernsteinart

While Richard Bernstein is most widely remembered today as the creator of Andy Warhol's Interview Magazine distinctive covers, since the mid-60s he was one of the pioneers and architects of Pop Art. One of the first artists to blur the line between commercial and fine art, Bernstein's technicolor work (whether on canvas shown in a gallery or a magazine cover at a newsstand) captured the glamour, extravagance, and innovation of the Pop Art era.

Bernstein's storied career began in the early 1960s after earning a B.F.A. from Pratt Institute and M.F.A. from Columbia University. After a successful debut solo exhibition in 1965, he was invited to a prestigious group show at the Byron Gallery alongside Andy Warhol, Sol Lewitt, and Robert Rauschenberg. After his success in New York, he continued to show new artworks at the legendary Iris Clert Gallery in Paris, which led to exhibitions throughout Europe, Japan, and North America. In 1968 Richard moved back to New York and into the Chelsea Hotel grand ballroom, which he converted into his art studio. With his dynamic personality, movie star looks, and exceptional talent, Richard was at the center of the New York social scene that revolved around the Warhol Factory and Studio 54. While working

at Andy Warhol's Interview Magazine from 1972 until 1989, he developed an unmistakable style that is instantly recognizable as the "Bernstein Look." His portraits helped to amplify celebrity culture that characterized this dynamic period in New York's history. After his tenure at Interview, he remained active as an art director in the fashion and music industries while continuing to make his own art. In 1990, Bernstein had been commissioned by the World Federation of United Nations Associations to create the first postal stamp for the new decade. This commission places him in the company of Warhol, Calder, and Picasso, who have been similarly honored. Today Richard Bernstein's impact on artists, art institutions and the creative culture is stronger than ever.

His works are in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; National Portrait Gallery, Washington D.C.; Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C.; Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington D.C., and has had exhibitions at the Iris Clert Gallery, Paris, Gallerie Barozzi, Venice; Gallerie Axiom, London; Gallery Monet, Amsterdam among others.



Andy Warhol with Red Paint

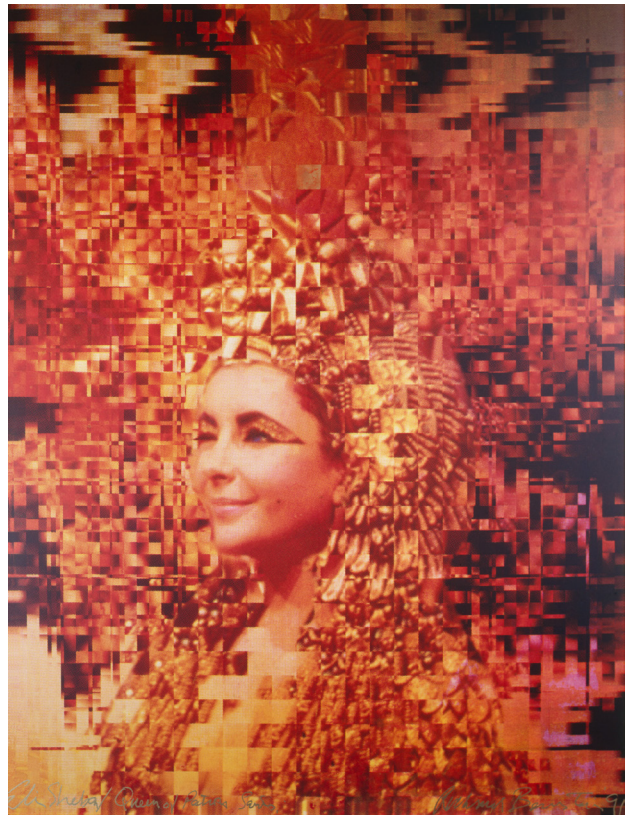


Grace Jones Do or Die





Charlie Sheen



ET Cleopatra, 1991



Duchamp Monte Carlo II

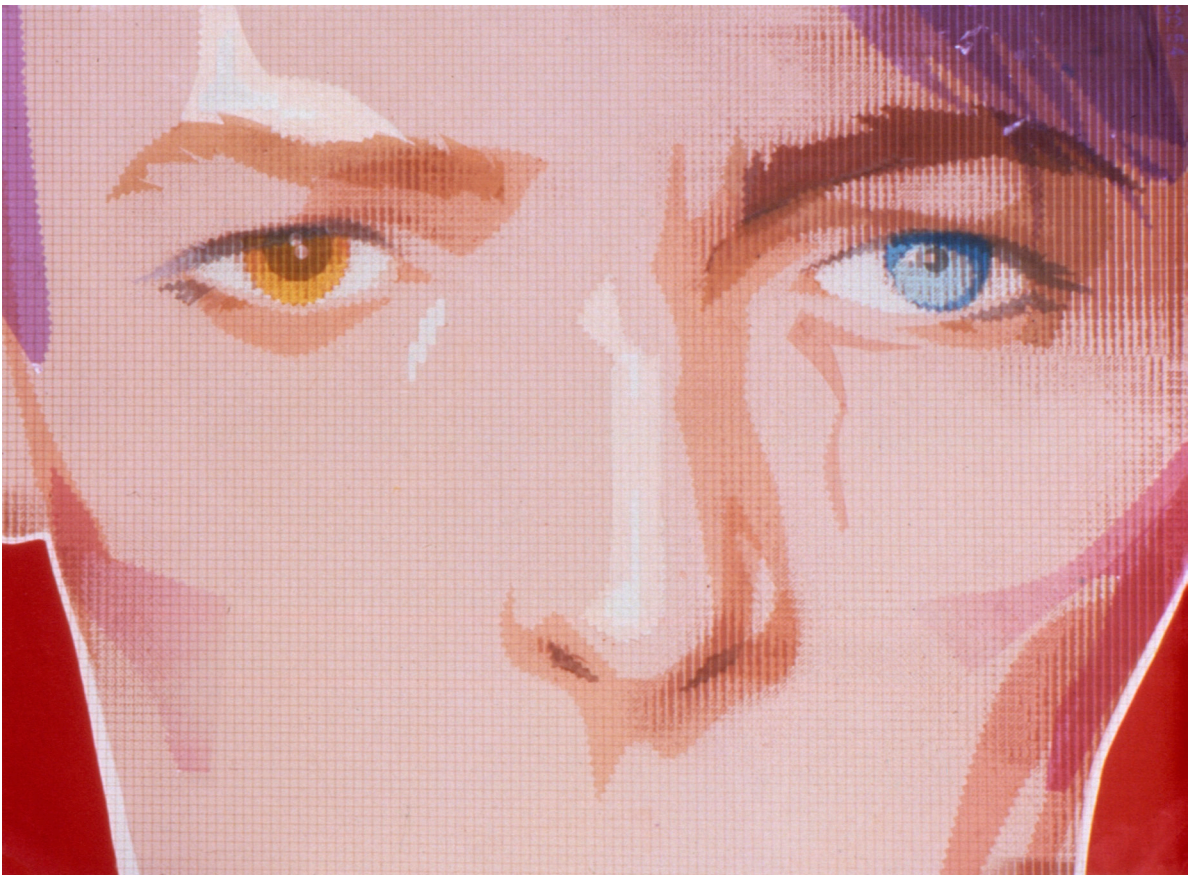


First Breakfast 3D, 1990





I'm Not Perfect Album Cover with Fangs

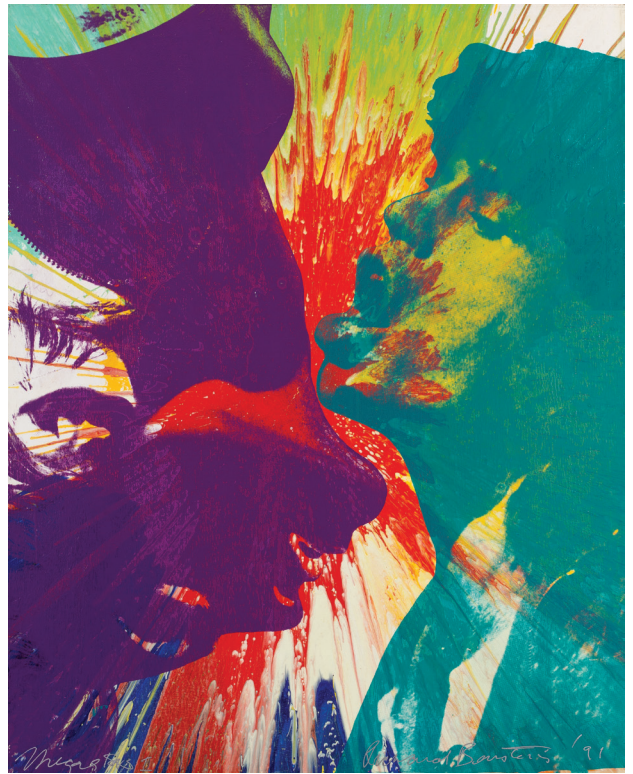


David Bowie 1983 ,4





Greta Garbo II, 1992



Mick and Madonna, 1991



Van Gogh as Kirk Douglas (Color Balanced), 1992



Pablo Picasso as a Boy, 1988



# Stefano Favaretto



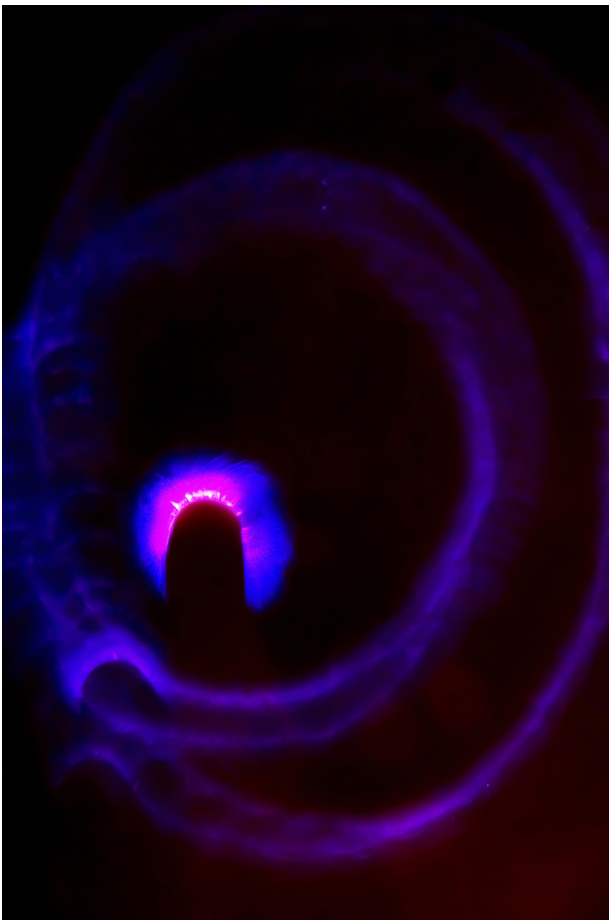
@ stefanofavarettoofficial

My artistic research tries to investigate the existence of a link between a so - called invisible universe made of energies, frequencies, vibrations, and what instead represents the visible, tangible world. My attempt is to undo the boundaries between physical and intangible matter by diving into human spirituality by showing the existence of a universal energy with different shapes at different levels of frequency, but all belonging to a unique source.

My research investigates elements that have always been the bridge between the two alleged universes (physical and not physical), like myths

and legends and focuses on the study of energies as part of a collective identity. By exploring energy essence, I try to demonstrate that human beings have always tried to 'look beyond' what the naked eye can't see and confirm the existence of an intangible universe that we do not see and is yet, part of us.

Immortalizing the invisible reality that is there in front of our eyes (by using my camera), I bring it to light and reveal incredible figures and shapes made of pure energy. Thanks to an old Kirlian that can detect human body aura, I'm investigating the concept of personal identity using the photographed body energy as a bridge to the concept of collective identity showing that we are part of the same universal energy. My art is an invitation to go deeper into our spiritual side and to use different perspectives to explore our existence.



Circular Energy, 2023, Digital photography, 1080x1080 px, MP4



The Lion, 2023, Digital photography, 1080x1388 px, MP4

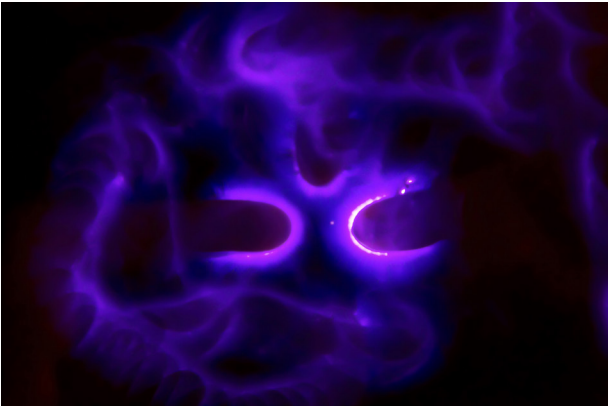




Energy Balance, 2023, digital photography, 1034x1150 px, MP4



Floating Energy, 2023, Digital photography, 1508x12160 px, MP4



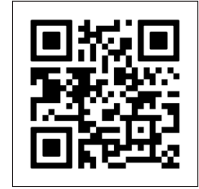
Energy Friendship, 2023, Digital photography, 1920x1268 px, MP4



Revelations, 2023, Digital photography, 1920x1270 px, MP4



# Soheil Hosseini



@soheilhosseini1

In this collection, I present an image of bird-like creatures, each of which has been digitally created with the help of artificial intelligence based on my previous traditional drawings and paintings.

This series consists of three sections: “Acidosis”, “Metamorphosis” and “Mesmerized” which specifically explore a new generation of animals, suggesting a combination between roosters and owls that could potentially emerge in the future. While reimagining animalistic anatomies, I provide most of my creatures with striking floral details, particularly petals and moss-like growth, inviting an unusual symbiosis of species. As a consequence of this world’s constant evolution, the creation of new creatures will arise, presenting peculiar physical and behavioral characteristics.

This work can be taken as a sort of prediction of the future. I have always freed my mind to conceive an abstract concept opposed to reality

with the sole purpose of creating a strong link between what already exists and what could be pro-generated.

For the most part, these imaginary birds have rich, colorful plumage and beguiling eyes with glowing reflections that resemble those of humans. The integration of human emotions and other traits in animals such as anger, happiness, and reasoning, is one main characteristic of this piece. As mentioned before, this set was generated with Artificial Intelligence elements from the “Midjourney” online platform. Once the drawings were completed, I modified each bird by using programs such as Photoshop and Procreate on the iPad Pro, along with a digital painting program as an aid to give them the shape that I wanted.



MRIZ III, 2023, AI and Digital painting, 7000x7000 px



RSTR II, 2023, AI and Digital painting, 7000x7000 px





RSTR III, 2023, AI and Digital painting, 7000x7000 px



RSTR IV, 2023, AI and Digital painting, 7000x7000 px



RSTR I, 2023, AI and Digital painting, 7000x7000 px



HLCN XVII, 2023, AI and Digital painting, 7000x7000 px



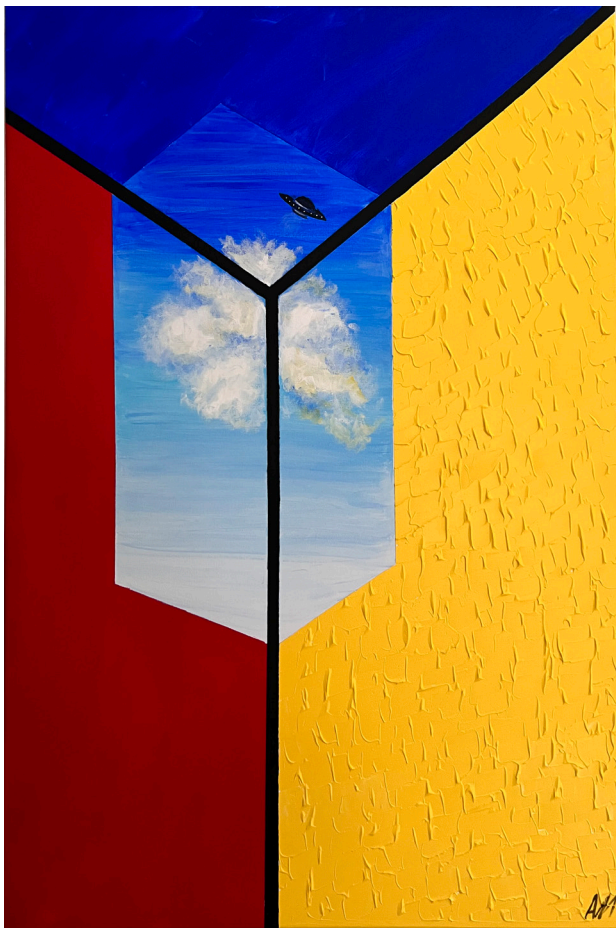
# Alessandra Manias



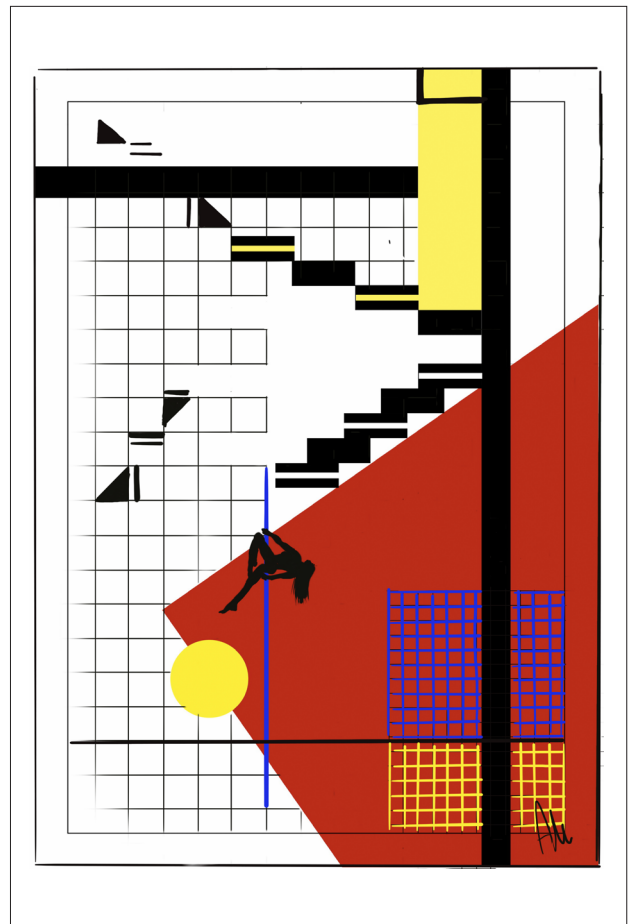
@alessandramanias\_art

VITA GAME! is a collection of digital paintings that represent Life as a Video Game and personifies her world as an architect, artist, and spiritual human being. The stairs represent the path to follow to achieve a higher level of human evolution and therefore,

attaining a subsequential level of consciousness. Each painting depicts a woman happily dancing and interacting with space enjoying her life journey. The vertical stripes represent the frame of the window we see through.

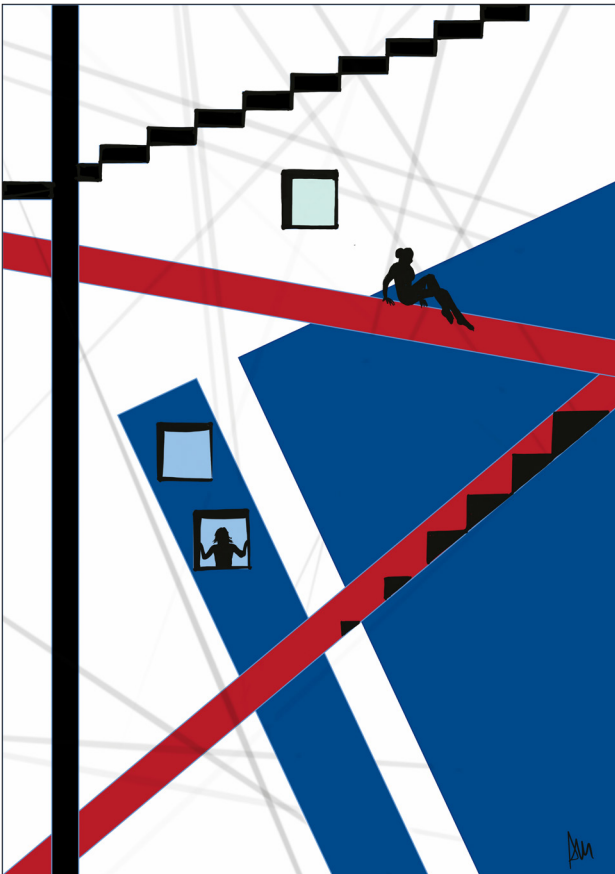


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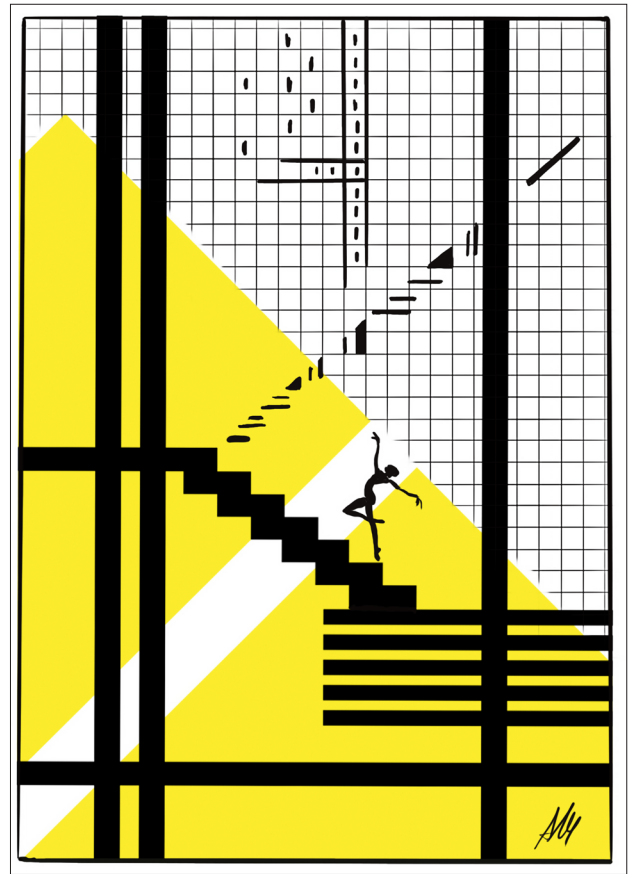


Vita Game, Grab What Belong to You





Vita Game, Players and Observers



Vita Game, Stairs to Next Level of Consciousness



# NuvolaProject



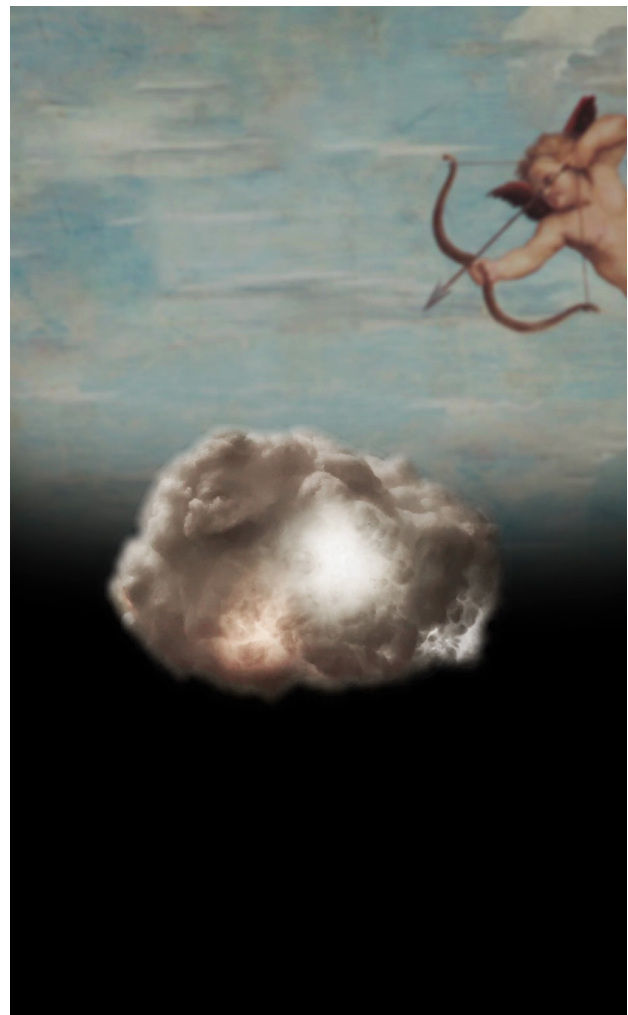
@gaiariposati @massimodileo @nuvolaproject

Our art investigates the interaction with new media by weaving a dialogue of diagonal crossings between art, thought and contemporaneity. Today, projected into a highly technological world in which we are increasingly connected without touching each other, in which we are becoming more and more accustomed to strengthening our bodies, our being, with less and less physical reinforcement, in which we are witnessing a fast and pervasive dematerialization of the elements of our daily life, we find ourselves in need of emotional, archetypal references to define the world we are designing. Today it is more important than ever not to lose the perception, the awareness of the principle

of cause and effect. The increasingly dense and “intense” connections that we are tracing with our “existence” on the net, are intangible, but their effects are real. Therefore, our art investigates the relationship between our physical world and the digital metaverse, smoothing the boundaries between them, creating connections and interactions between physical performances and digital art or with interactive physical sculptures that react to virtual events. Our work has a strong focus on social and ecological issues, in our role and our impact as humans over both the planet and the new virtual dimensions. Our art is about life.



Blue Call, Signals from Earth collection, 2022, Digital animation



Renaissance, Signals from Earth collection, 2022, Digital animation

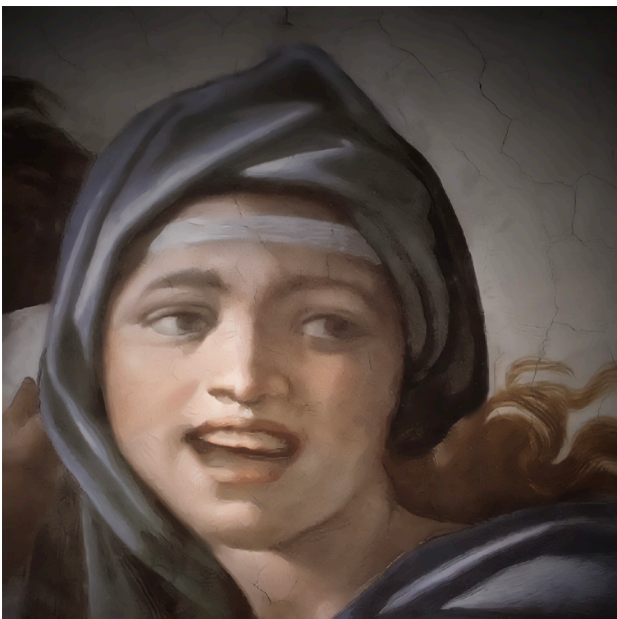




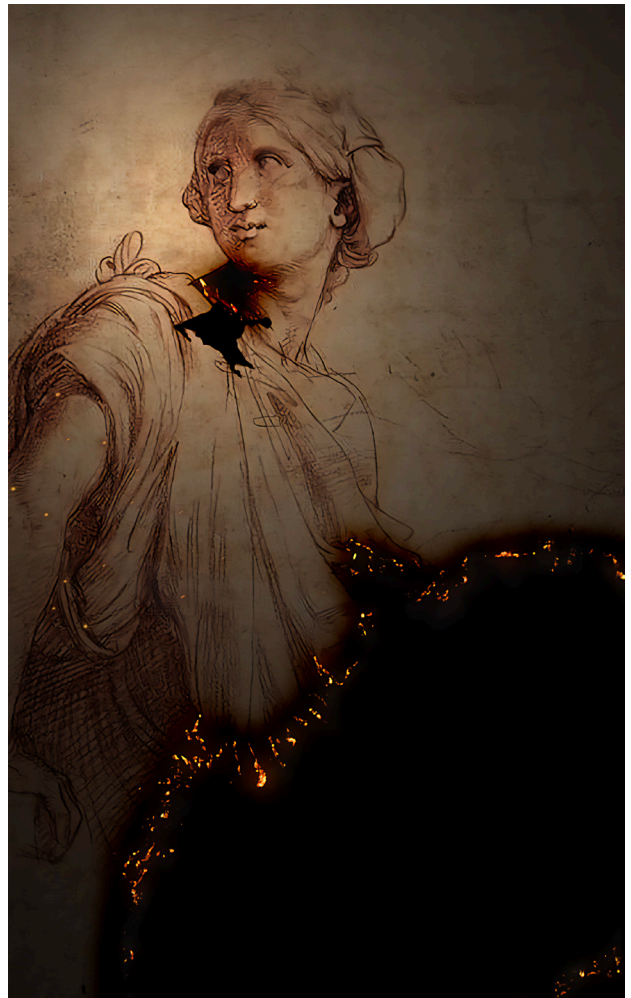
Sibilla Persica (The Persian Sibyl), Art Prophecies collection, 2023, Digital animation



The Priestess, Art Prophecies collection, 2022, Digital animation



Sibilla Persica (The Persian Sibyl), Art Prophecies collection, 2023, Digital animation



The Dream of 100 Suns, Art Prophecies collection, 2022, Digital animation



# Nasim Pachi



@ nasimpachi

The recognition of personal identity serves as a recurring theme throughout my work.

My work is often inspired by the complex relationship between subject and environment. By contrasting the female form with intricate cultural patterns of fabric or mosaics, my work aims to illustrate statements on identity, freedom, and gender.

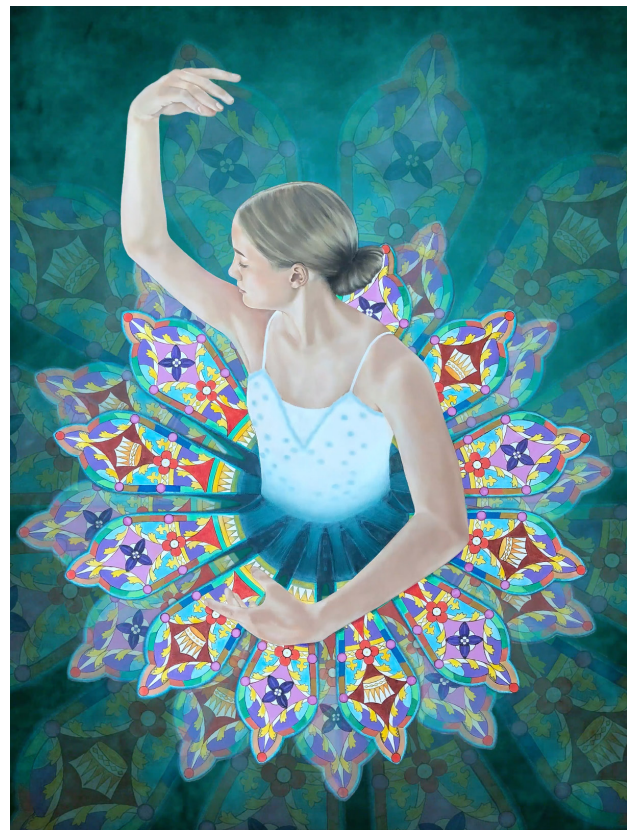
I mostly work in series on smooth linen or canvas. The patterns I usually paint in acrylic, skin in oil. I

start by conceptualizing an idea and take a variety of photos on the subject. The composition of each painting is developed from a combination of many edited photographs. All the elements I use in my work are physical - if they don't exist, I create them for my own reality.

On a deeper level, working with repetitive patterns allows me to explore a connection to the infinite.

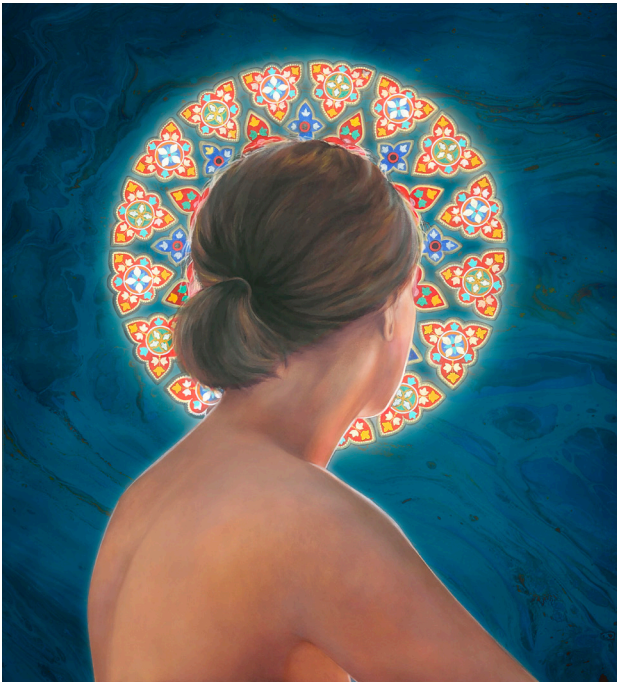


The Scent of Love, 2019, Oil and acrylic on Linen, 68x60 cm, MP4

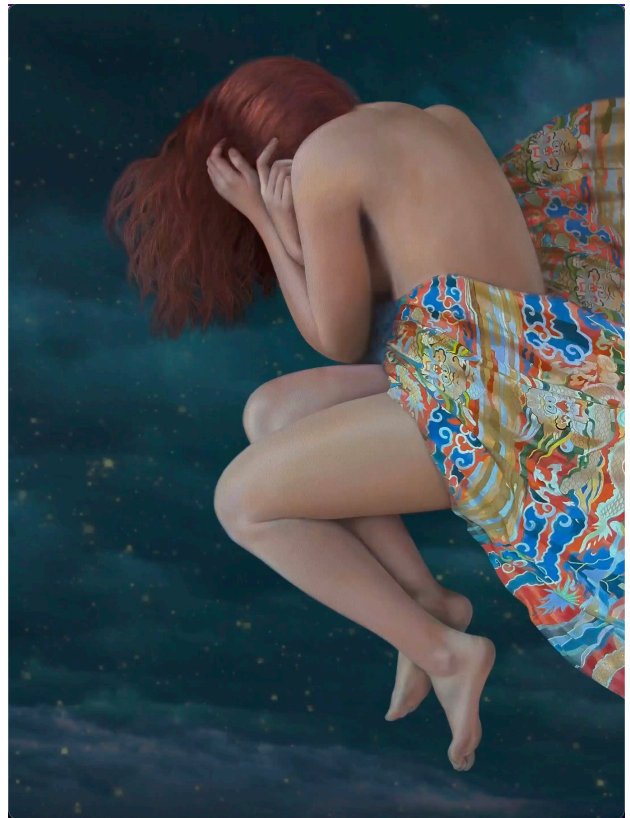


Caught in a Spin, 2021, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 125x100 cm, MP4





Seeing Beyond, 2016, Oil on linen with digital refinement, 100x80 cm



Letting Go, 2019, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 175x132 cm, MP4



Unseen or Exposed, 2016, Oil on linen with digital refinement, 80x100 cm



# Elham Shafaei



@ elishafaei

While my academic foundation is in painting, drawing and papermaking, I recently started experimenting with more versatile trajectories in my practice, allowing myself to work with a wide range of ideas and materials. This conceptualization began with an earnest attempt to expand on my pictorial sense by adding another dimension of stitching onto the surface, from which a body of work emerged under the theme of loss and belonging. As a matter of fact, the idea of loss has been an integral part of my artistic identity. I contend that Loss is rather a universal phenomenon from where we all start, the fundamental loss of leaving the maternal body. We

began our existence as a continuity of another body and became an individual by virtue of cutting off the umbilical cord and hence, we fell into the world. We enter the world as foreigners and forever submit ourselves to a profound sense of not belonging. Our existence will always be structured by loss and the sense of not belonging, which entails our eternal desire to belong. Love, family, friendship, patriotism, even work itself are among the names of this desire. My art extends these names of desire through melancholic creatures that mark my artworks.



We Are lost 2018 ,7, Mixed media on canvas board, 22x16 cm, MP4



We are lost 2018 ,3, Mixed media on canvas board, 25.4x30.5 cm, MP4





We are lost 2018 ,2, Mixed media on canvas board, 30.5x30.5 cm, MP4



We are lost 2018 ,6, Mixed media on canvas board, 20.4x20.4 cm, MP4



We are lost 2018 ,5, Mixed media on canvas board, 30.5x30.5 cm, MP4



# Marjan Shariat



@ marjan.shariat

I will start by speaking about Gilles Deleuze, who was not just an unconventional thinker, but a philosopher with a perception of life that provides him with the power of restoring life from a soulless body. He believes that unlike the human “self” which is personal and conscious, life is impersonal and unique and is obtained only through unknown sensorial perceptions (intuitions). Art, like life, consists of intuitions, from a line, sound, color, image, weight, movement, etc., but will never be completely understood and always remain in our memory indelibly and unmistakably. In contrast and according to Kant, art is the result of a free game between our imagination and our sensory perception in such a way that neither one wins this game. That is, imagination cannot grasp art with general knowledge, just as reason can't place art from an emotional perspective. For me, painting is opening the complex emotions that can only be depicted by a pen or through my paintbrush.

In the process, I become more aware of my feelings. During my college days, I often focused on the stillness and silence of space. spaces empty of humans, an unconscious expression with no filter. I loved the silence between the lines and surfaces and liked to observe them all in my abstract paintings, but recently, I have focused more on humans and their presence in space. Nowadays, I am constantly changing between expressionism and realism in my portraits. Fluctuating between human memory and those related to existence, presence, and reality. The difference between a dream and reality. By doing this shifting, I look for myself along the lines of realism, colors, and forms of expression. The sense of human existence and presence opened a new window to the world for me, which I addressed in my works with the help of colored grays. I portray my concerns and worries. Painting has always been my safe haven.



Delusion, 2023, Colored-pencil on cardboard



Alzheimer 2023 ,3, Colored-pencil on cardboard

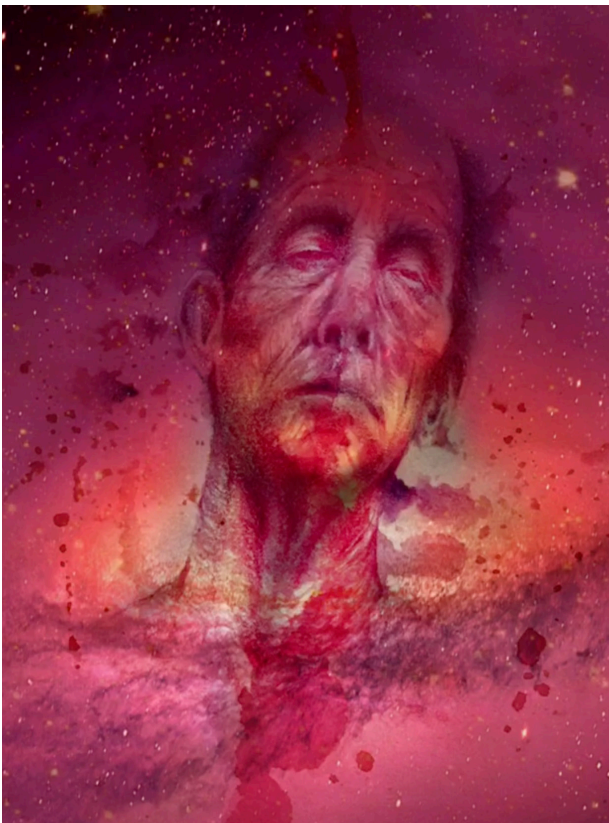




Imagination, 2022, Colored-pencil on cardboard



Remembrance, 2023, Colored-pencil on cardboard



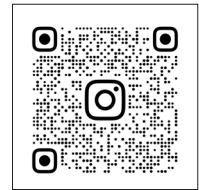
Memento, 2023, Colored-pencil on cardboard



Memory, 2023, Colored-pencil on cardboard



# Marco Veronese



@marcoveronese

On the stage where the human condition takes place, we are directors, actors, and spectators in search of reality and a possible truth. The artist is a lighting technician, who turns the spotlight on awareness.

“My daily commitment is to awaken dormant consciences by giving back, through a poetic and recognizable aesthetic, a new value to the word spirituality”.

I consider myself a “warrior artist”, an alchemist who transforms the lead of violence into the gold of beauty and harmony.

I’m only an instrument, a sensor wire that allows energy to flow and take shape in a harmonious and balanced way. Symbolism is the grapheme of my vocabulary. My tool is the space where I

bring my visions, stories, and inner journeys to life. Despite our uniqueness, we share common roots that ingrain and sprout from the energizing soil of the universe.

Paintings, sculptures, installations, lectures, and books are the means of expression to interact with the public. I encourage the audience not to be passive spectators! but rather, to become a messenger for the awakening of awareness through art.

You can be an important element in the vision of a newfound humanity.

“My research is not about finding new forms and new materials, but rather, is trying to restore what manipulation of the masses has made of us: unrecognizable human beings.”

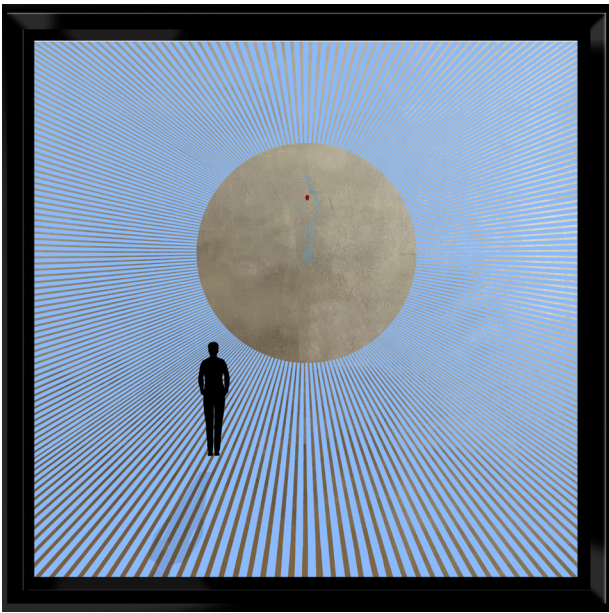


AMBRA, Photoshop, AI (Artificial Intelligence), AR (Augmented Reality), HS (Human soul), Print on PVC panels, Black silicon dots, 135x90 cm



LIRA, Photoshop, AI (Artificial Intelligence), AR (Augmented Reality), HS (Human soul), Print on PVC panels, Black silicon dots, 136x90 cm

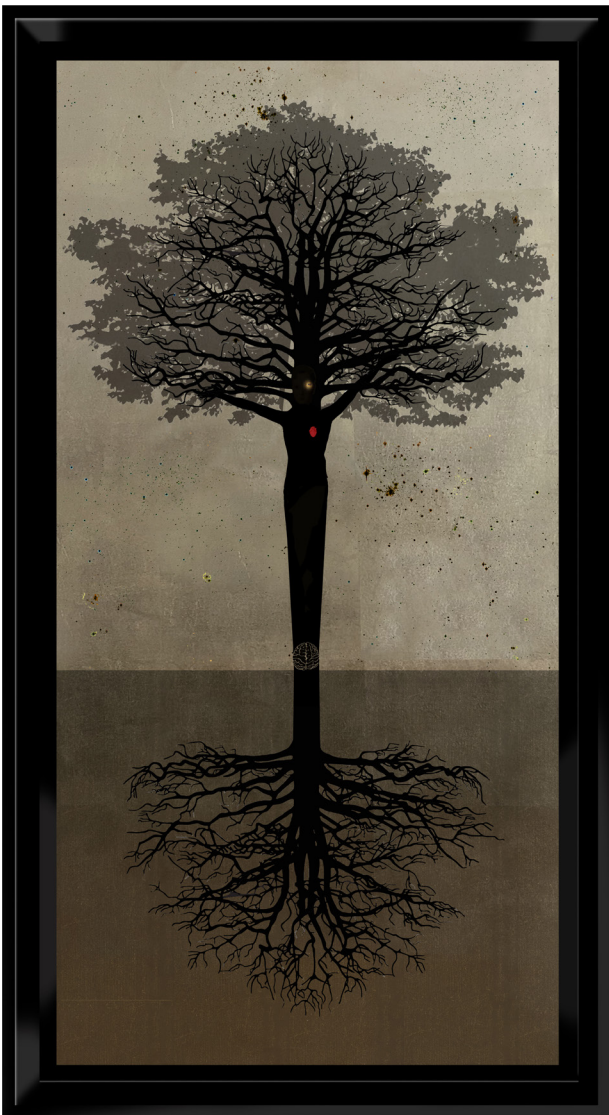




CONTINUOUS, Photoshop, print on Gold leaf on PVC panels, 140x140 cm



Love Can Do Everything, Photoshop, print on Gold leaf on PVC panels, 70x70 cm



The Tree of Consciousness, Photoshop, print on Gold leaf on PVC panels, 100x50 cm



MARTINA, Photoshop, AI (Artificial Intelligence), AR (Augmented Reality), HS (Human soul), Print on PVC panels, Black silicon dots, 120x120 cm



# Leo Crane



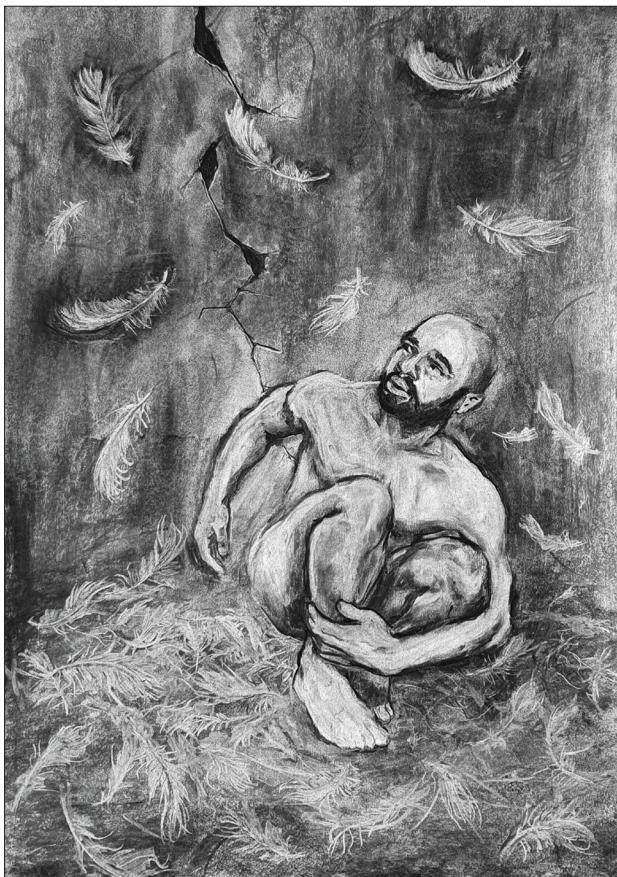
@leocrane77

Over the past decade, I have been developing a body of work that merges physical and digital media to explore our relationship with technology and ourselves. My practice develops out of years of figurative drawing and painting following my postgraduate training in 3D computer animation. The nude remains central to my work, particularly through collaboration with my husband Roy Joseph Butler, a professional life model. Together we investigate gesture and movement and the expression of Queer and minoritised identities in the digital age.

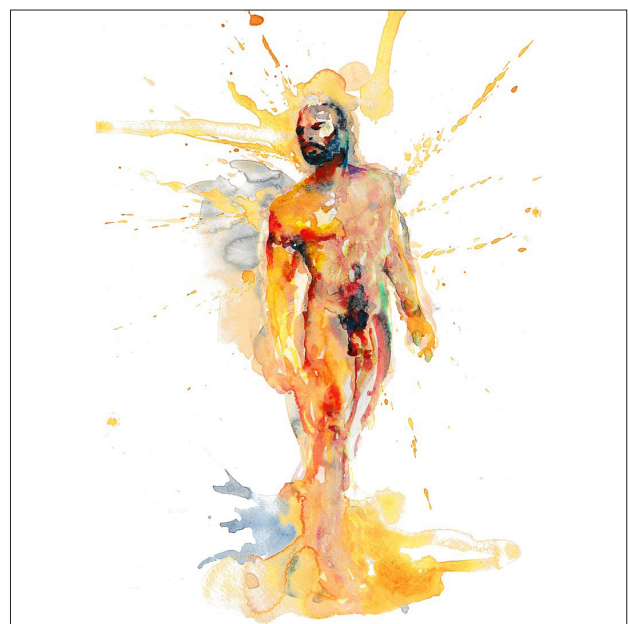
I use short form animation and blockchain to experiment with new techniques and concepts, whilst developing longer-form visual narratives. I am currently producing and directing my first feature animation *The Masterpiece of Tamaga-*

*ta*, a hand-painted tale where real and virtual worlds collide (2024). This builds on the success of *L'amour rebelle*, the first ever live opera on the blockchain, created with Zachary Whitney and Merav Eldan and performed with players from the LA Philharmonic in March 2022.

With two postgraduate degrees and 25 years' experience as a museum professional, my practice is rooted in a deep understanding of the history of human creativity. As a course leader at Sotheby's Institute and the V&A Academy, I continue to engage in academic discourse to consider how my practice reflects the human condition in a fast-moving world.



*L'amour rebelle*, 2023, Ink painting and digital animation, 1440x1080 px

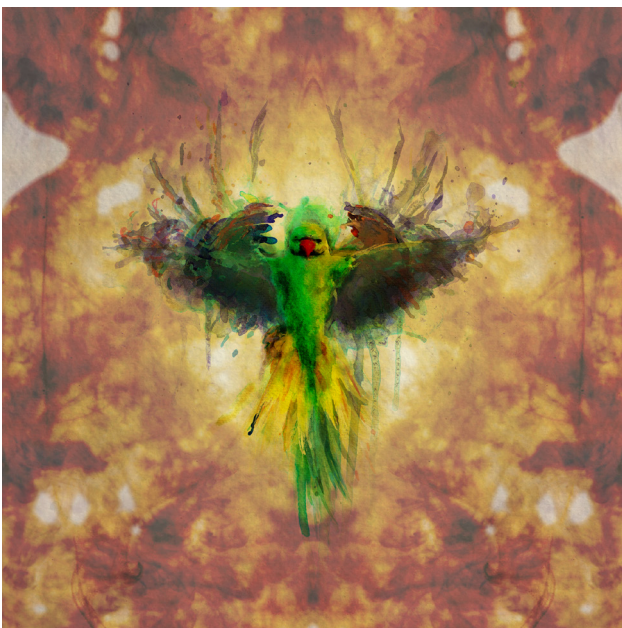


*Jay Triumphant*, 2020, Watercolour, digital animation, 1080x1080 px





The Escape, 2023, Ink painting and digital animation, Tbc



Ithakas, 2021, Watercolour, digital animation, cinematic score, 2880x2160 px



... before we disappear, 2023, Charcoal, digital animation, found sound, 1080x1080 px



# Arne Spangereid



@arnespangereid

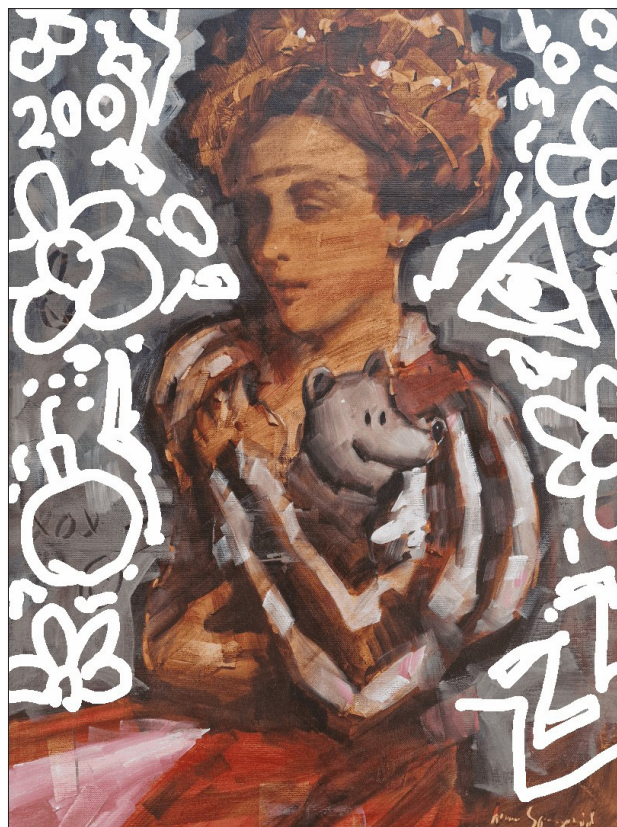
Paradoxes and contrasts intrigue me. In terms of technique, I explore the effects of combining classical oil painting methods, such as underpaintings, delicate brush strokes and layers of glazing with brutal, unconventional tools, such as squeegees and rubber spatulas, and contrasting abstract elements with descriptive passages. When it comes to themes I may juxtapose an elegant interior scene with playful focal elements such as a rubber duck or an inflatable fish. This collision of worlds has the power to open up a broad vista of interpretations, and allow the viewer to participate in telling the story of what

the painting is about. My focus is more on creating a certain atmosphere or mood - setting a stage that the viewer wants to explore further, rather than proclaiming a message.

I am always mindful of biological reproduction, wherein nature has ordered it so that two sets of DNA come together to create new life. The offspring is not a clone of either parent, but a combination of the two. Like mother nature, I am constantly setting up new matches and mis-matches in my images, ever searching for vitality, ever evolving.



The Dining Room, 2023, Oil on canvas, 125x100 cm Collaboration with Sarah Ferguson, The Duchess of York, BlockMuseSeeEm Collection



Pauline Redux, 2023, Oil on canvas + digital, 70x50 cm, Inspired by a @OlgaShpakArt, photograph, AnimusLive Collection





Waiting for the Sun, 2023, Oil on canvas, 105x125 cm, AnimusLive Collection



The Vision, 2022, Oil on canvas, 120x100 cm, AnimusLive Collection



Big Eyes, 2022, Oil on canvas, 120x105 cm, AnimusLive Collection



## INDEX

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### **Richard Brenstein**

Richard Bernstein is renowned for his iconic covers for Andy Warhol's Interview Magazine and his pioneering role in Pop Art. His vibrant and boundary-blurring works exude the allure and innovation of the Pop Art era. After early success, Bernstein's career soared with exhibitions across the globe and association with art luminaries like Warhol. His distinctive «Bernstein Look» left an indelible mark during his time at Interview. Even beyond, his influence persists, as his art adorns esteemed collections worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Bernstein's impact on the art world remains undeniably profound.

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### **Stefano Favaretto**

Stefano Favaretto was born in Merano, Italy in 1969. His passion for photography led him right from the age of 15 to study photographic techniques and experiment with them. After his studies in human sciences, he worked as a psychologist and became a full-time artist in 2014. His passion for photography and human narratives propelled him to travel across continents. Favaretto has exhibited his art all over the world with great success. In 2021 he became a pioneer in the world of NFTs as an artist, curator, and community builder.

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### **Soheil Hosseini**

Soheil Hosseini was born in Tehran, Iran in 1988. He is a painter, an artist, graphic designer and the co-founder of Tehran Studio and Tehran Gallery based in Austria and Iran where he works on the intersection of visual arts and human-centric design of information systems. He has participated in over 40 exhibits and conferences as a graphic designer. At the present time, he serves as an editor and graphic designer of "Tehran Studio Book" and as a director at "Contemporary Identities" International Online Art Magazine. Soheil has presented more than 20 single and joint exhibits in Iran and other countries. Furthermore, he is a member of a sustainable computing laboratory in Austria and an honorary member at The Institute for the Development of Contemporary Visual Arts in Iran.

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Nowadays, pursuing his projects at the NFT and his work has taken the attention of "designboom", "The New York NFT Club <>", "Photographize magazine» and "BeauxArts».

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### **Alessandra Manias**

Alessandra Manias is an Italian award-winning film production designer established in Los Angeles. In her style we find powerful colors, geometry, minimalism, and light.

At the beginning of her career, she started drawing figurative sketches using paper and pencil, but in 2012 she moved to abstract paintings working with acrylic on canvas.

We can recognize her style of primary colors, lines and shapes that contains her essence as an architect. Alessandra joined NFT in 2022 with digital paintings of her first collection "Vita Game!", inspired by her canvas collection "Architetto".

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### **NuvolaProject**

Nuvola Project is an artistic initiative that started fifteen years ago but was launched in 2016 by artist and digital innovator Massimo Di Leo and artist and performer Gaia Riposati. Their artwork intertwines the real and virtual world to investigate the relationship between our physical world and the digital metaverse, by using performances and physical installations empowered by technological tools like artificial intelligence, sensors, video projections amongst others. These works have been exhibited in museums and art galleries in Italy, France, Greece, The United States of America, The United Arab Emirates, China, and other countries. NuvolaProject collaborates with important museums and cultural institutions and universities.

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### **Nasim Pachi**

Nasim G. Pachi is an Iranian-German contemporary painter. She spent the first two decades of her life growing up in Iran. Her education, career and family have since moved her around Europe, West Africa, and Southeast Asia.

Experiencing life on several different continents, especially the social, cultural, and political

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paradoxes she encounters are her creative fuel. Fascinated by people and the choices they make, Nasim is continuously assessing her own identity and trying to understand how her upbringing and travels continue to mold it. She challenges her audience to comprehend the contrasts she presents in her aesthetically rich portraits.

Nasim received her Master of Arts in Illustration from HAW Hamburg, Germany. She joined the NFT space in 2021 while pursuing her physical art. Her work is exhibited and collected internationally. She currently lives and works in Hong Kong.

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### **Elham Shafae**

Elham Shafaei was born in Iran in 1983. She attended the School of Arts at the University of Science and Culture in Tehran where she received her bachelor's degree in art. In 2010 she moved to Malaysia where she received both her M.A. and PhD in Fine Arts. In 2017 she relocated to the United Arab Emirates, where she is currently living and pursuing her studio practice. She is an international exhibiting artist and curator. She is the founder of i.e. Art Projects Online Art foundation, and the Co-Founder and Co-Editor of ContemporaryIdentities International Online Art Magazine.

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### **Marjan Shariat**

Marjan Shariat was born in Iran in 1983. She became interested in painting at a very young age. She received her bachelor's degree in Painting at The Science and Culture University in Tehran, with a project based on the role of women in contemporary Iranian painting. For ten years, she served as a magazine graphic designer and has been working on her art exhibits since 2016.

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### **Marco Veronese**

Marco Veronese is a multidisciplinary artist who excels as a photographer, digital painter, sculptor, writer and performance artist. His love for art was inspired by the book Renaissance to Mannerism which he received as a birthday present on his tenth birthday. In this reading, he recalls discovering the beauty and

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importance of art. His many works have been exhibited around the world since 1982.

In the last 20 years, he has presented his exhibitions in countries like Italy, Spain, France, Switzerland, Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Turkey and The United States among others.

Marco is a founding member of the recognized art movement CrackingArtGroup.

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### **Leo Crane**

Leo Crane is a creative producer, artist, and educator, known mostly for his animated films and commissioned portraits. His work has been widely exhibited, screened, performed, and published, from the V&A and British Library in London to 40ft-high projections in Paris, billboards in New York and film festivals across the world. As a painter, Leo is featured in the books Contemporary Figures in Watercolour (Batsford), Portraits for NHS Heroes (Bloomsbury) and has appeared on national TV in Brazil and the UK, including Sky Portrait Artist of the Year. Leo runs the London-based studio Figuration and teaches at Sotheby's Institute of Art, V&A Academy, British Library, and the Heatherley School of Art. He holds an MA (Distinction) in Animation from Bournemouth University and an MA (Hons) in Classics from Oxford University.

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### **Arne Spangereid**

Arne Spangereid (born 1981) lives and works in Norway. From early childhood he possessed a keen interest in painting and drawing, and at the age of 12 began formal study with various art teachers. Arne got his first 15 minutes of fame in 2005 while studying at the University of Malta. He was invited onto a talk show to paint Prime Minister Alfred Sant live on television, which led to a commission by Malta International Airport. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree, he accepted a position in Philadelphia as a regional manager for a Norwegian company. There he continued his studies under the legendary Nelson Shanks at Studio Incamminati. Beginning with exhibitions in 2008, Arne has never looked back and has had successful shows around the world - in addition to the world of NFTs.

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