



ARTS
IN
HABIT

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

ALTROVE

Italy is where the journey begins.

A CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN ART EXHIBITION



17 & 18 OCTOBER 2026

Royal Exhibition Building | Level 1 | Carlton, Melbourne



Daniele Afferni

DAF

PROJECT

Beyond the Surface

ABOUT THE ARTIST

DAF (Daniele Afferni) is an Italian artist working at the intersection of fine art, cinematic storytelling and comic iconography. A graduate of the Sforza Castle School of Arts in Milan, he trained at the Armando Testa agency and collaborated with film directors including Dario Argento, Wim Wenders and Nicolas Roeg. His oils and mixed media have been shown in Milan, Berlin, London and New York, alongside award-winning work for Heavy Metal Magazine, Marvel (Upper Deck) and DC-related projects. He teaches Anatomy and Perspective at the International School of Comics in Milan.

THE PROJECT

DAF's urban landscapes are not mere geographical views but emotional cathedrals — fragments of a journey, real or imagined, where asphalt and neon reflections become mirrors of the soul. Skyscrapers loom like black monoliths, while rich, layered paint and the written word capture the raw vibration and solitude of contemporary space: an oscillation between the noise of myth and the monumental silence of the city.

*Ultimo Scalo in Texas, 2026*

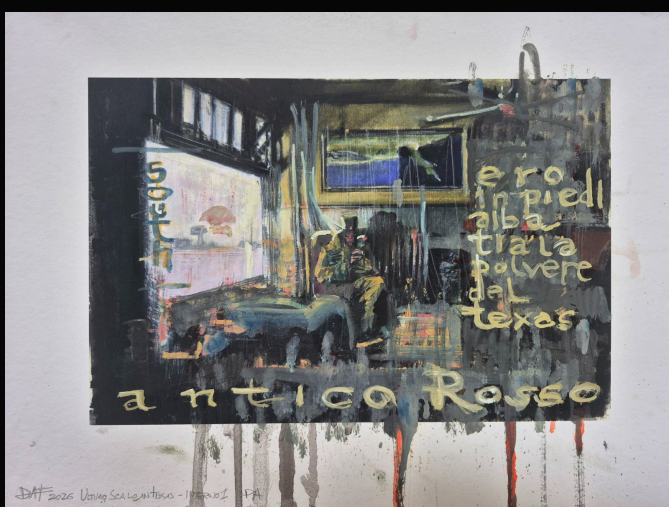
AUD 1,200

*L'Eclissi dell'Ameritania, 2026*

AUD 1,200

*Il Tempio dell'Acciaio, 2026*

AUD 1,200

*Ultimo Scalo in Texas - Interior 1, 2026*

AUD 1,200

*Ultimo Scalo in Texas - Interior 2, 2026*

AUD 1,200



Anna Aldighieri

SERIES

Flowers

ABOUT THE ARTIST

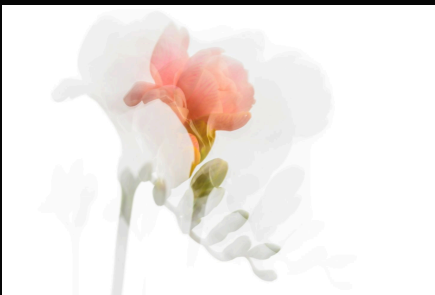
Anna Aldighieri is an Italian photographer and artist working across fine art, portraiture and conceptual, experimental photography. At the core of her work are the human figure, movement, nature and, above all, metamorphosis — explored through an essential, poetic and evocative visual language in which the subject becomes gesture, energy, memory and trace.

Since 2018 her work has been shown in Italy and abroad, including the Carrousel du Louvre in Paris, ArtePadova, the National Roman Museum – Palazzo Massimo in Rome, the Fotonostrium Biennale in Barcelona and the TIFA Winners Exhibition in Tokyo, with a 2024 solo exhibition at the Early Christian Basilicas of Cimitile. Her works have received more than 170 international awards, selections and mentions, including the London, Tokyo, Budapest, New York and Paris Photography Awards.

THE PROJECT

Flowers observes nature as something alive, fluid and in constant transformation. Developed entirely in the studio through Intentional Camera Movement, each image is built at the moment of capture: long exposures and deliberate gestures leave a trace of time and a movement that is difficult to repeat.

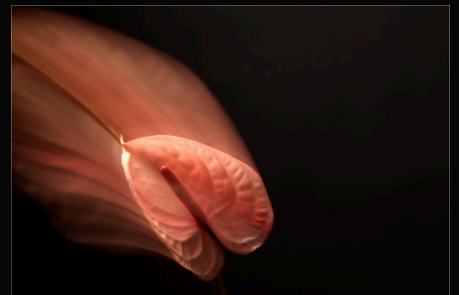
Flowers and stems move beyond description into a suspended space between reality and abstraction, where form expands, overlaps and multiplies. At the heart of the series lies metamorphosis — continuous becoming — and an invitation to slow down: a presence that suggests more than it describes.



Presenza, 2023
Photography, 65 × 48 cm
AUD 3,600



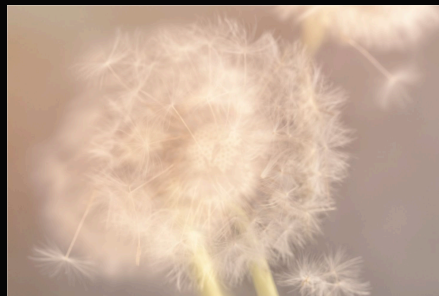
Apertura, 2023
Photography, 65 × 48 cm
AUD 3,600



Impulso vitale, 2023
Photography, 65 × 48 cm
AUD 3,600



Movimento in bronzo, 2023
Photography, 65 × 48 cm
AUD 3,600



Respiro sospeso, 2023
Photography, 65 × 48 cm
AUD 3,600



Ritmo della materia, 2023
Photography, 65 × 48 cm
AUD 3,600



Gianluca Carretta

SERIES

Lost Connection

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Gianluca Carretta is an Italian photographer whose background in hospitality allowed him to travel the world, nurturing his love for photography. He completed a Certificate IV and Diploma in Photography and Photo Imaging at RMIT University in Melbourne (2019–2021), and specialises in abstract architecture, abstract landscape and wildlife photography.

Wildlife holds a particularly deep meaning for him: he seeks to document the expression, feelings and individuality of wild animals. His work has received multiple Highly Commended awards in the Australian Photographic Prize, and recognition from the Society of International Nature and Wildlife Photographers, Capture Magazine's Australasia's Top Emerging Photographers, The Mono Awards, Australian Photography Magazine and the AIPP Silver Lining Awards.

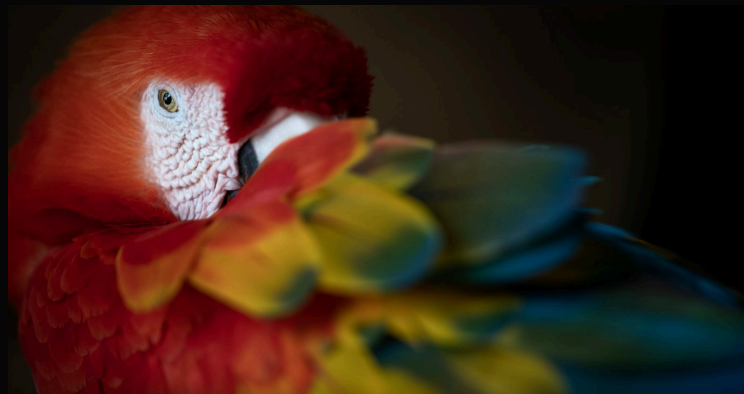
THE PROJECT

Lost Connection explores the increasingly fragile relationship between humans and the natural world, and the distance that continues to grow between us and the wildlife with which we share the planet. Habitat destruction, human expansion and exploitation place ever greater pressure on many species.

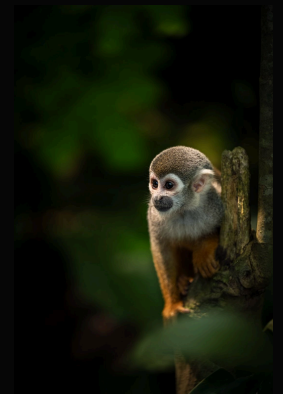
By bringing the viewer closer, these images reveal expressions, gestures and moments of vulnerability that feel familiar — a reminder that wildlife is not separate from us, and a reflection on what has already been lost, and what may still be possible to preserve.



*Resilience — Bornean
Orangutan*
2025 · 76 × 61 cm
Limited edition of 20
AUD 1,500



Elegance — Scarlet Macaw
2022 · Photograph on metallic cotton rag paper, 61 × 30 cm
Limited edition of 25
AUD 950



*Curiosity — Squirrel
Monkey*
2022 · 61 × 41 cm
Open edition
AUD 950



Maurizio Cigognetti

SERIES

An Upside Down Eye in Down Under

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Maurizio Cigognetti is an Italian-born photographer and filmmaker based in regional South Australia, working between Australia and Italy. He began his career as an art director in advertising, with agencies including Young & Rubicam, Ogilvy & Mather and Pirella Göttsche Lowe, before moving into photography and later directing national and international campaigns.

Alongside his commissioned work, he has maintained a personal practice centred on portraiture, place and the instability of perception, using light, framing and tonal relationships to turn ordinary subjects into more ambiguous encounters. In 2026 his solo exhibition *Bound in Light* was presented at The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre in Mount Gambier. His work continues through CigoCollection, an evolving group of projects produced across Europe and Australia.

THE PROJECT

An Upside Down Eye in Down Under brings together four black-and-white photographs selected from a much larger body of work made in Australia. Each image begins in the pleasure of looking, balancing formal clarity with the trace of a sensibility formed elsewhere.

For an eye shaped in Milan and the Po Valley, Australian light is never neutral: the air appears clearer, distances longer, skies more saturated and shadows harder. Black and white removes the familiarity of colour and brings structure, surface and tone forward — so that a cloud, an empty railway corridor, a bare foot on sand or the meeting of old and new architecture become both observation and transformation.



Forged into Art

AUD 1,020



Like Feathers in the Wind

AUD 1,020



Miami Maybe

AUD 1,020



Margaret and Her Shadow

AUD 1,020



Anna Coen

SERIES

Dream Hunt

ABOUT THE ARTIST

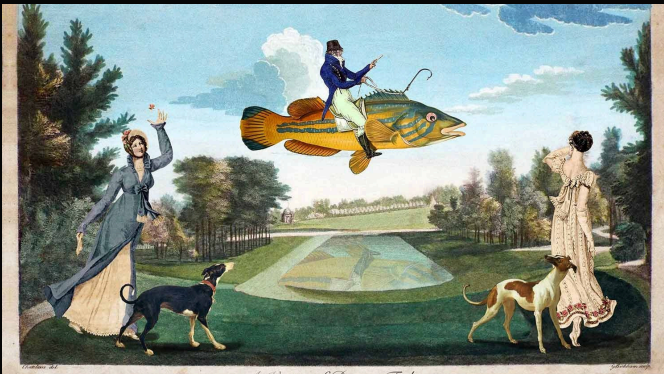
Anna Coen is a Milan-based illustrator, painter and art director with over 30 years of experience across advertising and visual communication. She is part of Studio Container, where she works as art director and illustrator, following a long career within leading international agencies including Ogilvy & Mather, Young & Rubicam, Saatchi & Saatchi and Publicis.

Alongside her work in advertising, she has continuously developed her painting practice, holding her first solo exhibition in Milan in 1997. Her work reflects a dialogue between applied image-making and a more intimate, painterly exploration.

THE PROJECT

After working extensively with acrylic painting, the artist has shifted towards collage — both physical and digital. Using exclusively antique prints, she reconfigures historical imagery into new compositions, transforming fragments of the past into surreal and unexpected narratives.

The works retain the visual language of their original sources while subtly altering their meaning, where reality and imagination begin to overlap. The series *Dream Hunt* draws from 19th-century English hunting scenes, reinterpreted through paired compositions that introduce new layers of irony, memory and fiction.



A Vision of Dream Fishing

AUD 700



A Vision of Dream Hunting

AUD 700



Une vision de chasse aux rêves

AUD 700



Une vision d'un Jeu de paume rêvé

AUD 700



Daniela Dierna

SERIES

The Shape of Self

ABOUT THE ARTIST

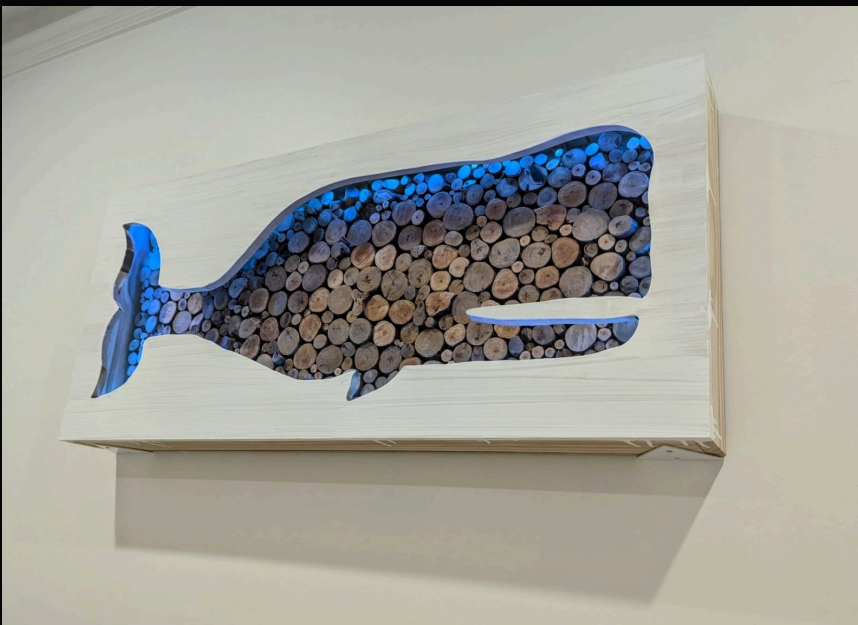
Daniela Dierna is an Italian-Australian artist and author based in Melbourne. Born in Sicily, she worked as a management engineer and project manager — a background that quietly shapes the precision and intention behind everything she makes — while developing a creative practice spanning illustration, writing and the visual arts.

She has written and illustrated *Mr. Arancino*, a bilingual children's book series on mindfulness, empathy and resilience, and painted a body of oils exploring ocean life and blue-themed rural landscapes. *The Shape of Self* is her first series of wood and light installations, and her most personal work to date.

THE PROJECT

A series of wood and light installations about hope, resilience and the quiet courage it takes to become who you truly are. Built around three diptychs inspired by Pinocchio, Alice in Wonderland and Mary Poppins, it traces an arc of Freedom, Clarity and Lightness. This exhibition presents the first chapter — *Pinocchio. Freedom.* — a journey from captivity to freedom: escaping the whale.

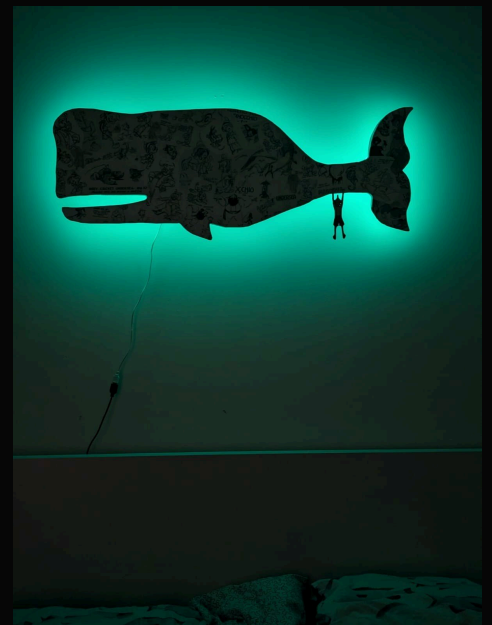
In *The Void*, the whale silhouette is hand-carved and removed entirely, and light pours through the empty space. In *The Solid*, the very wood extracted becomes the foundation of a new form, where a small hand-painted Pinocchio is caught in the act of emerging. The material removed to create the void builds the solid: nothing is wasted, it is only transformed.



The Shape of Self. I. — Inside the Whale · Swallowed

The Void · 2024 · Hand-carved wood, reclaimed timber rounds, LED lighting · 102.5 × 45 × 12 cm

AVAILABLE ON COMMISSION
AUD 2,040



The Shape of Self. I. — Breaking Free · Emerging

The Solid · 2025 · Hand-carved wood, decoupage, hand-painted figure, LED · 91 × 29 × 12 cm

AVAILABLE ON COMMISSION
AUD 1,800 · Diptych AUD 3,500



Mimmo Di Dio

SERIES

*Cosimo Starone:
Neapolitan
Sensitivity*

ABOUT THE ARTIST

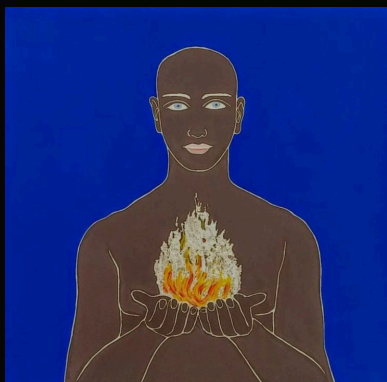
Mimmo Di Dio studied at the Art Institute of San Leucio and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Naples, graduating in Scenography in 1983. Active as an artist since the late 1980s, his practice is rooted in a deep engagement with classical and modern painting and with the cultural traditions of the Mediterranean.

His work explores ancient and universal symbols through a personal poetics of memory, placing past and present in continuous dialogue. Drawing from late medieval and Renaissance painting, he reinterprets historical references through a contemporary sensibility, balancing realism and symbolism with strong evocative intensity.

THE PROJECT

Elegant figurative lines meet vivid, saturated colour and precious materials such as gold and silver leaf, suggesting an intrinsic sense of sacredness and situating each subject in a suspended space between the sacred and the profane, past and present. Recurring natural elements and symbols reference alchemy, Eastern philosophy and a cosmic spirituality.

Cosimo Starone is a recurring figure and alter ego of the artist – a mediator between humanity and the natural world, between the visible and the invisible. Through this dialogue between Western tradition and contemporary sensibility, the works emerge as portals toward transcendence and inner reflection.



“...esta selva selvaggia e aspra e forte”

AUD 1,625



Che bel tessuto hai scelto

AUD 1,625



Francesco

AUD 1,625



Girolamo

AUD 1,625



Sabrina Gorla

COLLECTION

Transformation in Colour

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Sabrina Gorla is an Italo-Australian expressionist and abstract artist based in Melbourne. Originally from Asti, she completed a multidisciplinary degree in Milan spanning literature, art, cinema, philosophy and visual arts. After moving to Australia in 2007, she began painting in 2011, presenting her first exhibitions in South Yarra in 2019.

A 15-month road trip across Australia in 2022 deepened her appreciation of colour, light, movement and freedom. Her work is recognised for vivid colour, expressive surfaces and unconventional techniques — including everyday kitchen utensils used as painting tools.

THE PROJECT

Transformation in Colour explores the relationship between emotion, movement, colour and change. Each painting begins with an emotion or memory rather than a predetermined image, evolving through layers that are never completely erased: transformation is not about removing the past, but allowing it to become part of something new.

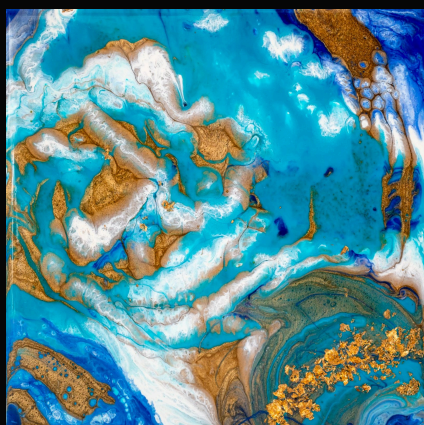
Spatulas, forks and ladles — carrying a connection to the Italian kitchen as a place of nourishment and memory — become instruments of expression. Gold holds particular significance, representing light, resilience and hope: what begins in darkness can move towards light.



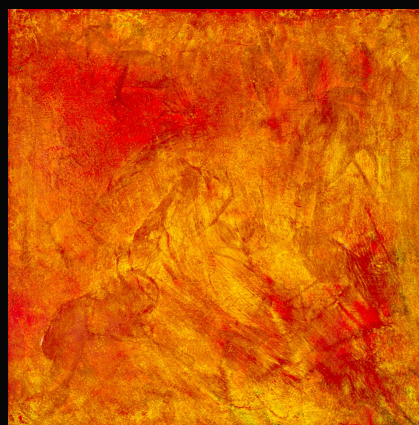
Smile, 2025 · 90 × 76 cm
AUD 1,500



Blue Lotus, 2025 · 40 × 40 cm
AUD 630



Turquoise Beach, 2021 · 30.5 × 30.5 cm
AUD 750



Aboriginal Sunset, 2026 · 30.5 × 30.5 cm
AUD 630



Giuseppina Graziano

MEDIUM

Acrylic on canvas

ABOUT THE ARTIST

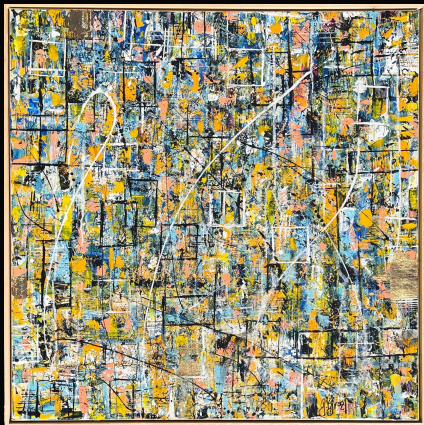
Giuseppina Graziano is a contemporary abstract painter, born in Italy and based in Melbourne. With a formal background in foreign languages, translation and teaching, she has developed a distinctive abstract style through a dedicated independent studio practice, guided by intuition, music and a balance between freedom and structure.

Her work has been exhibited across Australia — including Gallery Elysium, Red Gallery, SOL Gallery, Brunswick Street Gallery, The Camberwell Art Show, Creative Asia Art Centre and Inner West Art Fair — and internationally at the San Francisco Art Fair and Budapest ArtBIAS. She has received several international awards from Teravarna Art Gallery (LA).

THE PROJECT

Bold, all-over expressionist paintings built layer upon layer — adding, removing and reworking paint, predominantly with palette knives — so that physical texture carries authentic traces of each intuitive decision. Vibrant colour, dynamic lines, splatters and organic forms create work that feels energetic and alive.

The works selected for this exhibition are inspired by nature, reflecting personal associations between colours and natural elements or phenomena, and inviting viewers to immerse themselves and feel their own connection with the natural world.



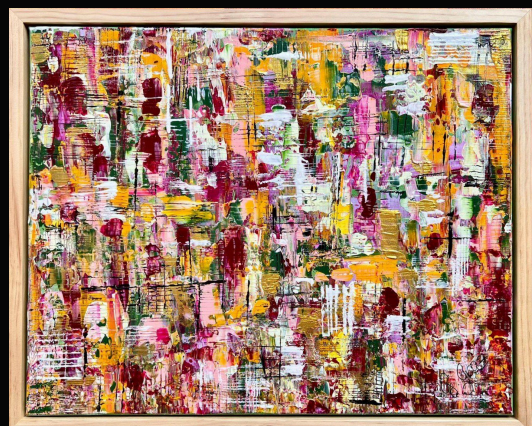
Almost Summer, 2024 · Acrylic & gold leaf, 93 × 93 cm
AUD 3,540



Clearing Frost, 2024 · Acrylic, 80 × 105 cm
AUD 3,780



Rose Petals, 2024 · Acrylic, 43 × 43 cm
AUD 1,320



The Flower Fields, 2024 · 45 × 55 cm
AUD 1,560



Giorgia Maselli

COLLECTION

Raw State

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in Rome and now based in Melbourne, Giorgia Maselli is a photographer whose practice explores beauty, memory and sensory experience. Her passion began in childhood through her father, who first taught her to use a camera.

Rooted in her Italian heritage, she is inspired by food, objects, textures, colour and the quiet details of everyday life. Through composition, styling, light and texture, she creates intimate, tactile still lifes that invite the viewer to slow down, look closely and connect with the senses.

THE PROJECT

Raw State — The Purity of the Natural World Through a Lens was born from a simple idea: to photograph vegetables in a completely unexpected way. Through light, shadow and composition, raw vegetables acquire a new soul — animated by movement, emotion and personality — while imperfection and the passing of time reveal rather than diminish their beauty.

These fine art prints celebrate the extraordinary within the ordinary, inviting us to slow down and discover beauty where we never imagined it could be found.



The Raw, 2017
The Hidden Colours of the Natural World
AUD 940



The Purity of Colour, 2026
Macro Ornamental Kale
AUD 420



Perfection in Imperfection, 2026
AUD 420



I. Desire
AUD 420



II. Protection
AUD 420



III. Care
AUD 420

From the triptych *The Forms of the Feminine*, 2026 · Set of three AUD 1,080



Marco Pennacchia

MEDIUM

Oil on canvas

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Marco Pennacchia is an Italian-born, Melbourne-based visual artist working across oil painting and large-scale murals. He studied sculpture at Liceo Artistico Statale di Treviso before developing a largely self-directed practice focused on figurative realism, and established his professional practice in Melbourne after moving to Australia in 2019.

His work explores identity, memory, vulnerability and human connection. Fabric and drapery recur throughout, used alongside controlled light, colour and texture to shape atmosphere and reinforce the emotional presence of the figure.

In painting, he received the Payinthe Pick Prize at the 13th Prospect Portrait Prize (2025) and has been a finalist in the Percival Portrait Painting Prize (2022, 2024), the Lethbridge Small Scale Art Award (2025, 2026), the Omnia Art Prize, the Brisbane Rotary Art Show and the Sunshine Coast National Art Prize (2026). His murals won the Rochester Mural Festival (2022, 2026) and Mural Fest Tasmania (2025). His 2025 solo exhibition *Velatura* was held at Off the Kerb Gallery, Melbourne.

THE PROJECT

This body of work explores the relationship between the human figure, fabric, concealment and perception. The body is partially or entirely obscured by drapery, shifting attention away from conventional portraiture toward gesture, posture, surface and presence.

Drapery functions almost as a second skin: it can wrap, shield, restrict or transform the figure. In some paintings the body is almost entirely hidden; in others, translucent surfaces let fragments of the face or body remain visible. This shifting boundary between visibility and concealment is central to the project.

By withholding certain visual information, the paintings create a sense of both closeness and separation — inviting a slower form of looking, and leaving space for interpretation, projection and emotional response.



Silken Boundaries

AUD 4,225



Where Light Remains

AUD 4,225



Hidden Reflection

AUD 4,225



The Other Side of Pink

AUD 4,225



Federica Pelizzari

MEDIUM

Red clay & terracotta

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Federica Pelizzari is a Melbourne-based ceramic artist, originally from Italy, whose practice explores the relationship between clay, landscape and human experience. Trained in Italy in Ceramic Decoration, with early work in maiolica influenced by Italian and Faentine traditions, she moved towards a more material-led, sculptural approach in which clay itself becomes the visual language.

In 2021 she founded Topopatu Terracotta Art, specialising in red clay. Her work has been shown at the Omnia Art Prize, Green Floor Gallery, Small Works Art Prize, Linden Gallery's Postcard Show and 26 Advantage Art Gallery. She also teaches hand-building and wheel throwing.

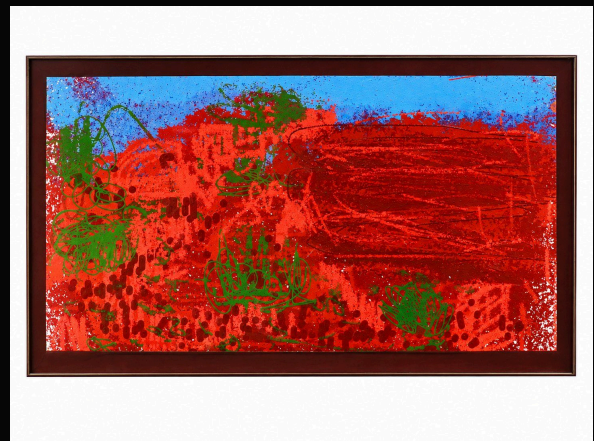
THE PROJECT

Seven terracotta sculptures, three sculptural figures and a printed digital drawing of the Australian landscape investigate red clay — its intrinsic colour, tactile qualities and ability to hold traces of place. The monochromatic sculptures express a quieter state of silence and introspection; the vibrant colours reflect her Italian identity, more energetic and instinctive.

Once seemingly in opposition, these two languages now coexist as a more complete expression of self: identity is not fixed but continually evolving. *We are. We express. We transform. We evolve.*



Red Rocks, 2023 · Terracotta
AUD 5,760



Vast Desert, 2025 · Printed digital drawing
AUD 2,880



Silence - Banksia

Large AUD 6,000

Small AUD 4,800



Silence - Eucalyptus
AUD 4,400



Chiara Perego- Meroni

STATEMENT

Elsewhere, Within

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Chiara Perego-Meroni studied Fine Arts before graduating in Textile Design from IED Milano in 2005. She worked as a textile designer for ten years, while continuing to paint and exhibit her work in Italy, before moving to Australia in 2013. Her background in art and textile design continues to inform her practice through a strong sensitivity to colour, composition, pattern and materiality.

Her work explores landscape through memory, translating places and recollections into abstract compositions viewed from an imagined aerial perspective — bringing her Italian cultural background and the vastness of the Australian landscape into dialogue.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Her paintings are minimal landscapes seen from above — recollections of places, colours and feelings distilled into abstract compositions. Rather than recreating a landscape as it was, she paints the way it is remembered: simplified, softened and transformed by time.

Working predominantly with controlled pouring, her process exists somewhere between intention and surrender. She chooses the palette and creates the conditions for the painting to exist; once the paint begins to move, she observes. The circle recurs throughout her work — a closed form without beginning or end, suggesting cycles, return and the passage of time.

Each work becomes the memory of a place, inviting the viewer to pause and, perhaps, to be transported elsewhere.



Enchantment

AUD 1,750



The quiet hearth

AUD 2,150



Where the water deepens

AUD 2,050



Somewhere I remember

AUD 2,150



Eva Perricone

SERIES

*Arrogance, Vanity,
Indifference*

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Eva Perricone (born 1974, Sicily) is a psychotherapist and entrepreneur. Her artistic research emerges from a deep observation of the human being and its inner states, with a constant focus on emotional complexity and its most subtle nuances.

Her Sicilian origins are a fundamental matrix of her visual imagination. She grew up and lives in Noto, a UNESCO World Heritage Baroque city, where historical layering, light and architectural theatricality shape a gaze attuned to beauty, memory and the contradictions of human experience.

Since 2022 her life has unfolded between Italy and Melbourne, together with her family. This dual belonging nourishes her practice: a constant dialogue between roots and distance, familiarity and disorientation, continuity and transformation.

THE PROJECT

Through avian figures with vivid colours and exuberant plumage, this series of three works explores attitudes deeply rooted in contemporary social and relational dynamics: arrogance, vanity and indifference.

Stripped of their purely naturalistic dimension, the birds become almost anthropomorphic presences – emotional masks and metaphors for human behaviour. Their plumage becomes ornament, armour and a language of identity; the gaze is the focal point of the relationship between artwork and viewer.

Conceived as a contemporary triptych, three autonomous works together construct a unified narrative, where the seduction of form coexists with a reflection on the ego, the desire for visibility and the forms of emotional distance in contemporary life.



Alterigia
Arrogance
AUD 1,440



Vanità
Vanity
AUD 1,800



Indifferenza
Indifference
AUD 1,440



Alessandra Scandella

SERIES

Madre Natura

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Alessandra Scandella is a Milan-based illustrator working across editorial, fashion and design. She co-founded Studio Container and works primarily with watercolour and ink on cotton paper, favouring natural pigments and handmade techniques.

Her work spans major Italian publications and international brands, including *Corriere della Sera*, *Domus*, *Il Sole 24 ORE*, *Tod's*, *Bulgari* and *San Pellegrino*, and has been exhibited at the Triennale di Milano, Gallerie d'Italia and Mudec Museum. She currently teaches at IED – Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan.

THE PROJECT

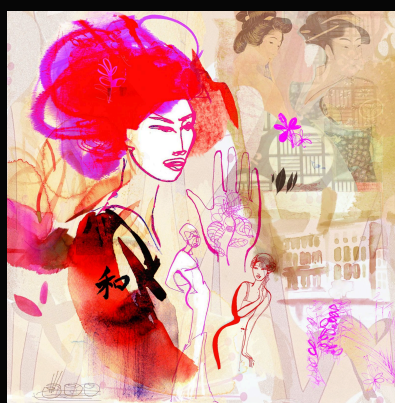
Alessandra Scandella's work begins with a search for balance between form and space, presence and absence. In *Madre Natura*, the image unfolds around a central subject, often surrounded by areas of white where colour can breathe and gain intensity; a restrained palette lets tones resonate through contrast rather than abundance.

Water and pigment move freely across the surface, echoing organic forms and natural rhythms, while fine ink lines enter with precision. Moving between gesture and stillness, the work is an invitation to pause – where nature is not described, but quietly evoked.



East

AUD 1,000



Japan Style

AUD 1,000



Mediterranean

AUD 1,000



La Dolce Vita

AUD 1,000



Viola Turchini

MEDIUM

*Oil & watercolour
pencil*

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in Australia and currently studying at The University of Melbourne, Viola Turchini grew up travelling frequently between Australia and Italy, where she has extended family. Visiting museums across Europe, she found inspiration in French Impressionism, Greek and Roman sculpture and traditional European artistic practices.

She studied art throughout her school years — drawing, painting, watercolour, charcoal, linocut, clay and woodwork — completing VCE Art Creative Practice in 2025 at Mater Christi College. Now a Bachelor of Science student, she continues her practice at home in her spare time.

THE PROJECT

La Sagrada Bellezza explores idealism in the feminine body image, drawing on Gaudí's Catalan Modernist architecture and Pradier's *Three Graces*: a façade of external beauty behind which imperfections hide, the contrast of blue and red hues emphasising the discord.

Her works in oil turn to identity and the sense of self. Two studies after Paul Cabet's sculpture at the Musée d'Orsay position the audience as the physical viewer, facing a reflection of their own inner turmoil. Lake Como, where she spent her childhood summers, is interpreted in a more Impressionist manner, with a hint of Peviat's divisionism — a delicate, light-based moment of memory.

Viola hopes to create an experience rather than a message: a feeling of joy or melancholy, nostalgia or a lived instant, left entirely to the viewer's perception.



La Sagrada Bellezza, 2024
Watercolour pencil on paper, 42 × 30 cm
Not for sale



Sogni del Musée d'Orsay, 2025
Oil on paper, 30 × 21 cm
Not for sale



Statua 1871, 2025
Oil on paper, 30 × 21 cm
Not for sale



Giorni anonimi, 2025
Oil on canvas, 60 × 50 cm
Not for sale