



PORTFOLIO

L A P O G A R G A N I





Lapo Gargani was born in Florence in 1972. Always in love with the arts and painting, ever since he was very young, he worked in the field of decoration and restoration of paintings, beginning at the same time -in 1995- a career as artist.

During the years, he received important awards, for example the *XXIV Premio Firenze* in 2006, *Premio Italia* in 2007, and a notice as “*Artist worth following*” in the magazine *Exibart* in 2009.

He works with writers and musicians. In 2013, he designed the setting in Palazzo Pitti for the concert by the Danish jazz musician Jesper Bodilsen, also designing the cover of his album, “*Acouspace Plus*”, which came out in 2016. In 2015, Lapo Gargani made an important work which kept him busy for nearly a year, dedicated to Vinicio Capossela, published in the book by Laura Rizzo, “*Canzoni a Manovella*”.

An important moment was when he met art curator and event organiser Gisella Guarducci in 2016, who currently follows him in his artistic career.

Works by Lapo Gargani can be found in public and private collections in Italy and abroad.

POSSIBLE PERSPECTIVES



FEMME



FORESTA ROSSA



ALTROVE

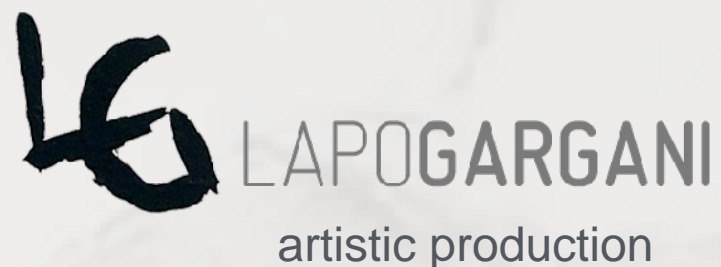


DRAWINGS



COLLABORATIONS





The roots of Lapo Gargani's work lie in drawing, and in a careful and painstaking study of images, photos and texts, which the artist explores, investigates, selects and reworks.

Transparencies, graffiti, scratches in matter, collages and accurate touches of colour are all recognisable features of the artist's hand, always carefully intent on making works with an impeccable balance in composition, where cerulean hues prevail, ranging from deep blue to blue-grey.

The foundations of Lapo Gargani's work therefore lie in drawing (*Disegni*): with flowing and uninhibited skill, he delineates figures, objects, essential details of a landscape on paper - using ink, red chalk, pencil or charcoal - and then transfers them onto canvas, enveloping them in colour and matter (*Prospettive possibili, Altrove, Foresta Rossa*).

Combinations of colour are played on masterfully, bringing out areas of light and marking shaded ones. At times, white - used pure or mixed with paint - seems to dazzle the observer, while black mixed with blue sucks it into the depths of a swirling abyss.

Lapo Gargani's works evoke projections going beyond the boundaries of reality, but also immersions in the abyss of the past and of memory. Lapo Gargani's production is a voyage where one can get lost and then find oneself once again. A quest for truth, steeped in charm and mystery.



PROSPETTIVE POSSIBILI (Possible Perspectives)

Representations of deserted beaches, unreal scenarios, abandoned piers suspended between reality and imagination. Possible perspectives: images charged with refined fascination, ancestral beauty and evocative silence.

Visions of landscapes which merely await a hero to welcome. Not Achilles, Ulysses or Aeneas - rather the man himself, the artist who, abandoning certainties and a warm and reassuring domestic hearth, has decided to engage on a journey to explore new territories and unusual horizons, guided only by his instinct and the will to find himself and a truth going beyond what is contingent.

Darkness seems too intense to afford a glimpse of a landscape beyond the path (*Passaggio nella notte*), fog appears thick and dense allowing one to imagine what lies beyond the horizon (*Viaggio infinito*), but the direction of the voyage is indicated, shown by perspective lines of composition which define space and call on the observer to continue with determination a journey which will certainly lead to transformation and rebirth of the hero.

Artist and observer need only cross the threshold (*Il Passaggio*) and walk towards an unknown becoming, breaking the evocative silence with the sound of their footsteps on the creaking wood.

The background of the entire page is a painting of a woman from the chest up, wearing a vibrant blue dress. Her face is partially visible at the top, with dark hair. The background of the painting is dark and heavily textured with visible brushstrokes.

FEMME

Female figures portrayed in a single, unrepeatable instant of sweet melancholy, delicately wicked gestures, intimate concentration. An audacious composition of cuts. Silhouettes which emerge through a sharp contrast of colours from a background which at times appear to be a symbol of uncontaminated and cocoon-like atmospheres (*La ragazza del cotone/Blu Tango*), at other times they are the metaphor of nightmares and disquieting memories (*Lontananza/Pensieri*). Using measured, composed strokes which are the same time dense with pictorial matter, the artist crystallises femininity in portraits lacking however in recognisable faces, but possessing a universal identity in which every woman can recognise herself.

Many of the works of the “Femme” series have been bought by private collectors.

The background of the entire page is an abstract painting. It features several vertical, textured strokes of vibrant red and orange paint applied over a base of light blue and grey. The brushwork is visible, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is reminiscent of a forest scene where the foliage is rendered in fiery, ethereal colors.

FORESTAROSSA (Red Forest)

Gifted with an innate sensitivity for colour and acknowledged technical skill, developed through time also thanks to his work as a craftsman in the field of decoration and restoration, Lapo Gargani paints unreal forests, bushes with fiery foliage immersed in polar landscapes, which stun the observer from the first glimpse.

Overlapping layers of colour allow scratches on the material fabric defining silhouettes of faraway bushes (*Le ultime foglie*).

Nature becomes the mirror of the artist's soul, which lets itself be entirely embraced by the fire, the inebriating and overwhelming creative energy which creates everything and destroys nothing, transforming only (*Red Forest*).

The background of the entire page is a painting. It depicts a wooden ladder leaning against a wall. The wall is covered in a dense, textured pattern of light blue and white, resembling a woven fabric or a rough plaster. The ladder is made of dark wood and is positioned vertically, with its rungs clearly visible. The overall mood is contemplative and artistic.

ALTROVE (Elsewhere)

Representations of sceneries where we often find as an element of reality, a narrow ladder pointing elsewhere, towards a place beyond everyday life which seems to indicate a way out of the miry present.

A ladder of rungs rising up and calling on the individual to go ever further, beyond his own limits, challenging darkness, night, the unknown.

In these paintings, we again find Lapo Gargani's favourite hues, which range from dove-grey to blue, from the most delicate azure to brilliant white. A masterful play with colour combinations bringing out areas of light and shade.

Sink into the depths, or let oneself be projected beyond the boundaries of reality?



DRAWINGS

All of Lapo Gargani's work is rooted in drawing and in a flowing and uninhibited capacity for outlining figures, shapes, seizing fleeting moments through pencil, ink or charcoal pen.

So Lapo Gargani's research starts out from careful and meticulous study, which takes shape first of all in drawing, and then explodes and becomes physical with colour, matter, adding, removing, working with a spatula, with graffiti, scratches, precise and surgical touches of colour.



COLLABORATIONS

The artist explores, investigates, selects, reworks images and photos and then places them against the pictorial film. Gargani is a master of the technique of collage, which allows him to create bonds, dissonances, juxtapositions, unexpected patterns.

Lapo Gargani works with writers and musicians. In 2013, he designed the setting in Palazzo Pitti for the concert by the Danish jazz musician Jesper Bodilsen, also designing the cover of his album, "Acouspace Plus", which came out in 2016.

In 2008, Lapo Gargani made an important work consisting of fifteen paintings dedicated to Vinicio Capossela, using the collage technique. The work was published in 2015 in the book by Laura Rizzo, "Canzoni a Manovella".



exhibitions

2005

International award "SS 325 associazione estrarte"

2006

XXIV Personal

Florence Award "Arte

Sicelle" 2007

Percorsi Paralleli at Galleria del Candelaio Firenze won the Premio Italia of Certaldo for Visual Arts with an article in the magazine "Eco d'Arte Moderna"

Winner of "Premio Comune di Capraia" with purchase of his painting for the public collection within "Premio Italia" of Capraia and monographic article by Roberta Fiorini

2009

Personal show at Fornace Pasquinucci (Capraia)

2010

Personal show "Le ballerine" curated by Cora Breckenridge for Associazione Arte a Colori, Montaione (Florence)

2011

Personal show "Dissacrazioni" at Palazzo de Podestà del Galluzzo (Florence)

2012

Personal show "Senza Titolo" at Palazzo de Podestà del Galluzzo (Florence)

2013

Pictorial setting for the Concert by Jesper Bodilsen "Scenografie" in Palazzo Pitti

2014

Personal show "In equilibrio" curated by Cora Breckenridge for Associazione Arte a Colori. Montaione (Florence)

Personal show "Dalla terra al cielo" curated by Cora Breckenridge and Emanuela Sensi c/o Libero Spazio for Associazione "Arte a Colori". Colle val d'elsa (Siena)

2015

Work for the book "Canzoni a Manovella" by Laura Rizzo about song writer and singer Vinicio Capossela – Arcana Editore

2016

Personal show "Upside down" curated by Gisella Guarducci at Borghese Palace Art Hotel, Florence

Permanent personal show at the event "Sens' Arte" curated by Cora Breckenridge at Art Gallery in Fi)

Artwork chosen as the cover for the new cd by musician Jesper Bodilsen

2017

Personal show during the event "Sens' Arte II Firenze" curated by Cora Breckenridge at Art Gallery in Tuscany 2. Montaione (Florence) and Gisella Guarducci Art Coordinator Borghese Palace Art Hotel

PROSPETTIVE POSSIBILI (Possible Perspectives)

2017-2018

Spiaggia (Beach)

mixed technique on canvas,
100x130 cm
2018



Abandoned

mixed technique on
canvas, 100x130 cm
2017



Paesaggio (Landscape)

mixed technique on canvas,
100x150 cm
2017



Viaggio infinito (Neverending journey)

mixed technique on
canvas, 60x80 cm
2017



Minimal beach

mixed technique on
canvas, 60x80 cm
2017



Paesaggio nella notte (Night time landscape)

mixed technique on
canvas, 80x100 cm
2018



FORESTA ROSSA (Red Forest)

2017-2018

<http://www.lapogargani.com/works-categories/foresta-rossa/>



Red Forest

mixed technique on
canvas, 120x60 cm
2018



Primi luci autunnali (First lights of autumn)

mixed technique on
canvas, 120x30 cm
2018



Ultime foglie (Last leaves)

mixed technique on
canvas, 50x40 cm
2017

ALTROVE (Elsewhere)

2017-2018

No title

mixed technique on
canvas, 80x100 cm
2016



No title

mixed technique on
canvas, 80x100 cm
2016



COLLABORATIONS

2016-2018



Cover Art

mixed technique on
canvas, 100x130 cm
2016
private collection



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