



## THE SECRETS OF MEDIVAL PAINTING

VERONICA BALZANI  
FIRENZE



### EGG TEMPERA ON 23,3/4K GOLD LEAF

MEDIEVAL MASTERS DISCOVERED LONG AGO THAT EGG YOLK WAS THE PERFECT BINDER FOR GLOSSY AND GLAZED PAINTINGS. THIS WORKSHOP, HELD IN AN HISTORICAL PALACE IN THE HEART OF FLORENCE WILL ALLOW YOU TO FEEL LIKE ONE OF GIOTTO'S APPRENTICES WHEN HE FIRST ENTERED THE GREAT MASTER'S "BOTTEGA".

YOU WILL SEE AND HANDLE A WIDE SELECTION OF MATERIAL USED AT THE TIME: ANCIENT AND PRECIOUS COLORS LIKE LAPIS LAZULI (LAPIS) OR AZURITE; LACQUERS SUCH AS COCHINEAL, AND MANY OTHER PIGMENTS. YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT THEIR HISTORY AND USE THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES, AND HOW GIOTTO USED THEM.

YOU WILL TRY YOUR HAND WITH EGG TEMPERA BY PAINTING A "MINIATURA" (MINIATURE) OF FLORENCE'S DOME ON A 23.3/4K GOLD LEAF MOUNTED ON PAPER WHICH YOU WILL TAKE HOME WITH YOU AS A KEEPSAKE OF THIS INCREDIBLE AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCE.

THE WORKSHOP LASTS BETWEEN 1.5 / 2 HOURS



## HIGHLIGHTS

### EGG TEMPERA:

- HOW TO MAKE IT, HOW TO USE IT

### HOW GIOTTO PAINTED:

- HIS GILDING TECHNIQUE

### ANCIENT PIGMENTS:

- PRECIOUS PIGMENTS (LAPIS AND AZURITE)
- PIGMENTS LINKED TO THE HISTORY OF FOOD (ZAFFRON AND KERMES LACQUER)
- PIGMENTS LINKED TO WINE (WHITE, GREEN AND BLACK)

### PRACTICE

- MIXING AND MAKING OF EGG TEMPERA
- "CORNICE" (FRAME) TRIPARTITE LAYOUT TECHNIQUE
- DRAWING BORDERS AND PAINTED BACKGROUNDS ("CAMPITURE")
- VARNISHING

MOUNT YOUR OWN "MINIATURA"  
AND TAKE IT HOME WITH YOU!

# L'UOVO FATTO AD ARTE!

DIPINTO A MANO A FIRENZE - VERONICABALZANI.EU



THANKS!

MY NAME IS VERONICA BALZANI. I WAS BORN IN PAVIA, A THRIVING MEDIEVAL TOWN NEAR MILAN.

WHEN I WAS 18 I MOVED TO FLORENCE TO STUDY RESTORATION, A PROFESSION THAT I CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT TODAY. BEING ABLE TO WORK IN THE WORLD'S ART CAPITAL HAS GIVEN ME A DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF ANCIENT PAINTING TECHNIQUES AND ALLOWED ME TO ACQUIRE A UNIQUE SENSITIVITY, ONLY AVAILABLE TO RESTORERS WHO HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH ANCIENT ART.

I PAINT WITH THE MEDIEVAL TECHNIQUE ON 23 3/4 K GOLD LEAF, RE-PROPOSING THE ANCIENT IN A MODERN KEY. I LOVE PAINTING ON PAPER, MEDIEVAL "PASTIGLIA" AND THE RECLAIMED ANCIENT WOOD.

I ENJOY SHARING MY KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE: FOR THIS REASON I HOLD COURSES WHERE, IN ADDITION TO TEACHING HOW TO PAINT WITH THE EGG TEMPERA USED BY GIOTTO, I TELL THE STORY OF MEDIEVAL PIGMENTS THAT WERE EXTRACTED, GROUND OR PRODUCED WITH "ARTIFICIO" ("WORKMANSHIP").

IN 1994, WHEN I WAS ONLY 16, I WON THE FIRST AND SECOND PRIZE OF THE NATIONAL EVENT "100 IDEAS," PROMOTED BY THE ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA FASHION HOUSE.

IN 2010, I WAS AWARDED BY SALVATORE FERRAGAMO LTD. THE "BEST YOUNG ARTISAN OF THE YEAR" AWARD AND I PARTICIPATED IN THE "A REGOLA D'ARTE" EXHIBITION IN THE SPINI FERRONI BUILDING.

IN FLORENCE, IN 2016, I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF EXHIBITING MY MINIATURES IN THE CRYPT OF THE BASILICA OF SAN LORENZO AND IN 2021 IN THE SALA DELLA MUSICA OF THE ZEFFIRELLI FOUNDATION.

IN 2017, I MADE THE ALTARPIECE FOR THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART OF TEMPIO PAUSANIA (SASSARI), A WORK PAINTED ON AN ANCIENT PANEL 4 METERS LONG.

I FREQUENTLY WORK ON COMMISSION, WITH ART SHOPS AND BOOKSHOPS FOR WHICH I CAN ALSO DEVELOP TAILOR-MADE PROJECTS, SUCH AS THE MINIATURE THAT IN 2019, AT THE REQUEST OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF ITALIAN CONFCOOPERATIVE, I HAD THE HONOR OF DONATING TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, SERGIO MATTARELLA.



THE ATELIER IS IN  
 VIA DEI PANDOLFINI 18 NERO  
 IN FLORENCE

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NEAR THE BARGELLO MUSEUM

[HTTPS://WWW.VERONICABALZANI.EU/](https://www.veronicabalzani.eu/)  
 BALZANI.VERONICA  
 TEXT ME: +39 3474184905

