



VERONICA
BALZANI

medieval, made modern



Egg tempera on gold leaf workshop

Discover the secrets of medieval painting
and feel like you are in Giotto's bottega

A medieval experience designed just for you

My studio is located in a historic building in the heart of Florence, behind a large door protected by thick walls: an exclusive island of quiet in the heart of the city. Here, I will guide you through the alchemy of colors and materials used by Giotto and his apprentices.

You will create with your own hands a personalized miniature using ancient techniques: egg yolk tempera, precious pigments like lapis lazuli, and the brilliance of gold leaf.

You will learn to look at medieval art through new eyes and gain a profound understanding of the secrets and techniques behind the radiant beauty of the Uffizi's masterpieces.

In my studio, tradition comes to life, transmitted by word of mouth through centuries: through legends, materials, scents, and flavors that make this an unforgettable journey—an experience to try at least once in a lifetime and to cherish forever.



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If you're interested in a fun, interactive, and educational night, I couldn't recommend Veronica's workshop more. The workshop was created in such a way that you can choose your own adventure. If you're new to painting and not feeling adventurous, there is an outline you can follow to create a beautiful picture of Brunelleschi's Dome without having to worry about being artistically gifted.

On the other hand, if you want to challenge yourself a little, you're free to decorate the Dome painting and make it more intricate or detailed, making this class truly accessible and enjoyable to all.”
(Austin)





Breathe in and dive into my medieval painting workshop

Stories of techniques, materials, and tools

In the Middle Ages, Nature was considered perfect.
Everything it provided could be used to one's advantage.

By observing, handling, and using your sense of smell, you will discover:

- * the history of materials, their origins, and traditional uses
- * the pigments used in ancient times, their production, and their modern substitutes
- * the story of pigments derived from semi-precious stones, their connection to the history of food, and their production in wineries
- * unexpected tools from nature: skins, quills, and brushes
- * the technique of egg tempera painting: how it is made and how it is used
- * how Giotto and other painters gilded their wooden panel

Hands-on activities:

- * preparing egg yolk tempera
- * completing a tripartite frame using a fine brush and ruler
- * creating your own Dome: choose from beginner, intermediate, or advanced models
- * varnishing your artwork



A large, ornate metal compass or divider, likely a surveyor's instrument. It features two long, pointed legs and a curved handle with a circular knob at the top. The metal is dark and shows signs of wear and patina.

During this time, dedicated to learning and hands-on practice, you will have my devoted attention—because every experience deserves to be lived fully.

Join me for an experience that engages all your senses,
unveiling the wonders and mysteries of medieval art.





Once upon a time... a dreamer

Once upon a time, there was a dreamer who discovered the secret to creating art using egg yolk and the gifts of Nature.

With the same respectful approach, I strive to follow the invaluable teachings of the masters of the past, keeping their tradition alive in a contemporary way.

From the flourishing medieval city of Pavia, I ventured to Florence with a desire to learn the secrets of restoration techniques. This journey continues to inspire me.

I am a professional restorer and a lecturer in the History of Ancient Techniques and New Methods for Cleaning Artworks on Canvas and Wood.



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To ensure a unique experience,
I organize workshops by appointment only.

Veronica Balzani
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