

**AGRON HOTI** 

Born in Albania on May 27, 1970.



"In parallel to the magmatic impulses of his instinctive jets of color and matter, he places with order a series of portraits, symbols of human memory. [...] Is he therefore an abstract or figurative painter? The question is totally uninteresting because Agron Hoti puts the subject in a very different dimension, and he is actually the director of a renewed edition of the Comédie Humaine"

Philippe Daverio

Agron Hoti began his artistic career while studying at the classical high school. At the age of 14 he already participated in his first exhibition, receiving two awards (sculpture and oil on canvas). Despite having won the competition to enter the Tirana art school, he was then disqualified for political reasons due to the communist period that his native country was going through.

After the fall of the Berlin wall, like so many of his compatriots, Agron Hoti, in five days and amidst numerous difficulties, crossed the Greek border and arrived in Athens in January 1992. in the Hellenic capital, the artist opened his first studio and for ten years he worked on byzantine sculptures and icons.

In 2001 he crossed the Otranto canal with a clandestine motorboat and arrived in Italy, settling in Verona, where he can still boast an art studio and a gallery in one of the most beautiful areas of the city.

Over the years Agron Hoti has exhibited his works in Turin, Milan and Venice, also establishing himself internationally with a series of exhibitions in New York, Paris, Shanghai, Casablanca and Tel Aviv. He worked with Philippe Daverio in Milan before the art critic's death and received the homage in his homeland from the national gallery in Tirana, as well as being the only foreign artist who exhibits a work in the German parliament.



There are three colossal installations that have confirmed Agron Hoti's success nationally and internationally: Eclissi (Verona, 2020), Exxtra (Rome, 2019) and Velocità (Dubai, 2021).

In 2019 the central court of the Foro Italico in Rome became a gigantic canvas for the first time thanks to the "EXXTRA" project on the occasion of the "Night of the Kings" match. Agron Hoti created a work of art of 800 square meters and, immediately after the game, the canvas was divided into individual paintings which were sold during a special VIP event organized by Christie's, and the proceeds were donated to charity.

In June 2020, in the splendid setting of the Verona arena, the 'Eclissi' artistic event took place. in this metaphorical lockdown represented precisely by the eclipse, cinema, painting and music were combined with a live performance by the Albanian artist who was the backdrop to Benny Benassi's djset. Agron Hoti spread a huge white square canvas on the sand of the arena, which was then covered in black to obtain a sphere in the centre that acted as a contrast, a clear reference to the eclipse. The artist then intervened with the energy of his gestures and the power of colour, creating an artistic work of a total size of about 400 square meters, from which about 140 individual pieces were subsequently obtained.

The latest effort is Velocità, a work that made its debut in March 2021 during Art Dubai, in collaboration with Skydive Dubai and XDubai. The gigantic skydiving-inspired work of around 14 pieces was on display inside The Lodge, a new lifestyle-focused café in the heart of Dubai and designed to be a home for art and collectibles lovers niche. Hoti himself tried the experience of skydiving and wanted to represent the adrenaline rush, the emotions and the perception of speed in the eyes of an artist in Velocità.



# **ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY**

## **EXHIBITIONS AND PERFORMANCES**

#### 2023

*Mani Mani Mani,* personal exhibition, curated by Cris Contini Contemporary, il Salotto di Milano, Milan

#### 2021

*Velocità*, in collaboration with Skydive Dubai and XDubai, Art Dubai 2021 20 anni di arte a Verona, curated by Cris Contini Contemporary, Palazzo Carlotti, Verona, Italy

#### 2020

Eclissi Project, performance of action panting, Arena di Verona, Italy

## 2019

'EXXTRA', "The night of the Kings" match, Foro Italico, Rome

#### 2018

Pop Art Comics 2018, Notte Arti Contemporanee 2018, Little Nemo Art Gallery, Turin Villa Farsetti in Santa Maria di Sala, Venice *Mani Mani, Agron Hoti - Ritratti milanesi,* presentation by Philippe Daverio, Biblioteca del Daverio, Milan Cartoomics, stand Little Nemo, Rho, Milan Ospedale della Donna e del Bambino/Polo Confortini, Verona, Italy

#### 2017

Pensiamoci, curated by Philippe Daverio, Villa Verità Poeta, Verona, Italy

#### 2016

Exhibition curated by Philippe Daverio, Galleria Hoti, Verona, Italy Shanghai Art Fair 2016, Shangai, China Inauguration of the permanent personal gallery, Galleria Hoti, Verona, Italy New York, USA Parigi, France

#### 2015

The Albanian November. The Albanian route: collection of the National Gallery and contemporary artists, group exhibition, Parliament, Düsseldorf, Germany Liberi di sognare, personal exhibition, inJob, Verona, Italy Cocktail Hoti Agron, Due Torri Hotel, Verona, Italy Astratto e collage, personal exhibition, Galleria Nazionale, Tirana, Albania Boston, USA

**2014** Personal exhibition, Alexander Museum, Pesaro, Italy

Cris Contini Contemporary



## 2013

Group exhibition, Little Nemo Art Gallery, Turin Giardino Giusti, Verona, Italy Piazza Bra, Verona, Italy *"Solarità del colore"*, personal exhibition, Galleria C4, Caldogno, Vicenza, Italy

## 2012

Pagani-Zonda, San Cesario sul Panaro, Modena, Italy

#### 2010

*Joie de Vivre*, work created for Polo Confortini, Verona, Italy Casablanca, Morocco