



## PAOLO BATTISTUTTA



He lives and works in Villotta di Chions (PN), Italy.

Paolo Battistutta was born in San Vito al Tagliamento, Italy, on 11 September 1985. In 2004 he completed his studies at the State Institute of Art in Cordenons (PN) and graduated in advertising graphics, photography and engraving. He began painting in the early 2000s, discovering in painting an authentic and strong creative and expressive urge.

In 2013, his first solo exhibition *'Il Sole nudo'* (The Naked Sun) at the Foresteria Abbaziale hall in Sesto Al Reghena (PN) curated by Eva Comuzzi and in 2014 *'Un'assurdità non viene mai da sola'* (An absurdity never comes alone) at the Arte Fuori Centro gallery in Rome curated by Anna Soricaro.

He has also taken part in numerous group exhibitions, recording notable critical successes, such as *'Braccia rubate'* (Stolen arms) at Spazio Bevacqua Panigai in Treviso (2009) and *'L'arte che ti interroga'* (Art that interrogates you) at Spazio espositivo Linea d'Arte in Trieste (2011).

Between 2016 and 2017, he produced pictorial portraits for Mario Balotelli, Bob Sinclar and Javier Zanetti, gaining wide acclaim and certificates of merit.

*Sometimes grandiloquent, sometimes reserved. At times, he bursts into a clumsy dance of confused emotions, or, on the contrary, he occupies space through silence: in such cases, his gaze detaches from everything; it scrutinizes, analyses, processes—with the self-ironic detachment of someone who knows the weight and value of every single emotion. His smiles conceal an inner story he has never told anyone—the kind of story no one usually knows about themselves. Obsessions and hallucinations, imagination and serenity; a cauldron of impulses ready to erupt: a simple process for the observer, heart-breaking for the one who lives it. There's no use trying to reach clear stability when the mud itself is born from ruthless self-criticism: the artist is the first to know that escaping this prefab life, this prison, requires a violent act. Carbide meeting water.*

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*A conscious journey or an ungovernable flood? Paolo finds his answer in the unreasonable nature of painting. His search is firmly rooted in the underground of family archetypes: it is from here that feelings naturally draw their sap. To deny them would mean losing them forever. On the contrary, Paolo chooses to express them, remaining anchored to reality, to the earth that has always nourished him.*

*Before stepping into the light, however, he needs to look at himself from the outside. And what faster way is there than the imaginary selfie? Distorted faces; twisted bodies; spasmodic hands; decisive gestures. Colors that, without mimicking reality, give forms an irrevocable concreteness—while at the same time evoking mystery. Flesh, brain, and spirit united and intoxicated in front of a label-less bottle of red wine. Smoke rising and burning the eyes, already heavy from the night. A mixture of form and matter, of subjects and tools: tempera, burned guitars, decapitated dolls, springless sofas, chinks, pastels, wine, cigarettes. Vows uttered at dawn before a green Madonna, no longer able to believe in anything earthly. Trees, animals, stones, labor. At times, when the perception of his guilty conscience becomes clearer, the need to retreat from the world, to flee from himself—but only until the next explosion of rage to spit onto the canvas.*

*It is the nocturnal atmosphere that becomes the stage for his inner beast. When the clarity of day retreats and the alarming, incomprehensible images of the night begin to take shape, the artist responds with spirit and body, halting his fears on the motionless plane of the canvas. Beast-men, chimeras, monstrosities, caught in the moment of cathartic metamorphosis; piercing gazes expressing death sentences or love's allure; dissolution and transformation. One can almost feel the touch of dust settling on the paintings, the creaking of floorboards crossed in the dark by the rats of imagination—silent and ferocious.*

*And again, the artist's smile, mocking himself. This is Paolo: amused drama.*



## ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY

## SELECTED SOLO AND GROUP EXHIBITIONS

### 2014

*"Un'assurdità non viene mai da sola"*, curated by Anna Soricaro, Arte Fuori Centro gallery, Rome

### 2013

*"Il Sole nudo"* curated by Eva Comuzzi, salone della Foresteria Abbaziale hall, Sesto Al Reghena (PN), Italy

*"Dieci minuti di silenzio"*, 01 Barletta cultural centre, Italy

*"Orchestrazione"*, Russolo theatre, Portogruaro (VE), Italy

### 2011

Galleria Civica d'Arte Celso e Giovanni Costantini, Zoppola (PN), Italy

*"L'arte che ti interroga"*, Spazio espositivo Linea d'Arte, Trieste, Italy

### 2010

Galleria Comunale, Auronzo di Cadore (BL), Italy

### 2009

*"Arti nel bosco"*, Torrate (PN), Italy

*"Braccia rubate"*, Spazio Bevacqua Panigai, Treviso, Italy