



Title: ***Amati sempre***

Exhibited at: ***AB – Il Lusso della
Semplicità, Milano***

Date: January 2024 (New Year's
Special Exhibition)



FELICE BATTILORO

Contemporary visual artist exploring matter, gesture, and absence

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PORTFOLIO

Artist Statement

Felice Battiloro's work spans painting, installation, and live performance, exploring the boundaries between visibility and silence. He often depicts fragmented figures, hidden eyes, or blurred faces—not to erase identity, but to open a space for resonance.



Artist Statement

Materiality and Artistic Approach

Battiloro treats matter as memory, using textures and surfaces to evoke traces of gestures and emotions. His work explores fracture, absence, and resonance, seeking a presence beyond mere appearance one defined by vibration and silence. Fracture, repetition, and emotional resonance form the core of his practice. Each work resists passive viewing and instead provokes an intimate, physical response. His technique is layered and process-driven, often bordering on the performative: paint is applied and scraped, meaning is built and then questioned. This process-oriented approach emphasizes not just what is seen, but what is felt — echoing themes of identity, vulnerability, and human complexity. Battiloro's art is not only to be exhibited — it is to be inhabited, engaged, and remembered.



Artist Statement

Live Performances

His live performances painting before an audience are rituals of vulnerability, where the artwork becomes a body exposed in its becoming. A distinctive element of Felice Battiloro's practice is live painting — an act that transforms the solitary gesture of creation into a shared, emotional experience. Whether on stage, during exhibitions, Battiloro paints in real time, allowing the audience to witness the emergence of the image and the flow of words that accompany it. This performative dimension bridges the gap between artist and viewer, turning the act of painting into a living dialogue. Each live session becomes an encounter — raw, ephemeral, and unfiltered — where the canvas absorbs not just pigment, but the atmosphere, energy, and presence of those around it. For galleries, this offers a unique opportunity: to host not just an artwork, but an event, a moment of transformation, where **art happens here and now.**



ABOUT THE ARTIST



Felice Battiloro (b. 1984, Saronno, Italy) is a contemporary artist based in Monza whose work spans painting, installation, and live performance. His practice explores existential themes through essential forms and raw matter, creating spaces of resonance that invite reflection on presence, absence, and identity.

Battiloro continues to explore the role of the vulnerable subject in an image saturated, hyperconnected society turning painting into an act of quiet defiance and symbolic openness.



Battiloro's work has been exhibited widely across Italy, including solo shows such as *"La gabbia di Faraday"* (2024, Spazio Manzoni 16, Monza), and participatory events like his live painting performances during the opera *Turandot* and at venues such as *Arti<>sta*. In 2023, his project *"Incontri ravvicinati tra Classicismo e Pop Art"* merged classical iconography with contemporary gesture and debuted with a live painting performance. That same year, he was invited to exhibit at the *MiMuMo – Micro Museo Monza*, one of the most symbolically charged exhibition spaces in Italy. His paintings have also been featured at prestigious locations including *Villa Reale di Monza*, *PUBLIKART* (2021), and the New Year's Eve exhibition at *AB – Il Lusso della Semplicità*, the Milan restaurant of celebrity chef Alessandro Borghese, where his work *"Amati sempre"* is now on permanent display.

In 2024, Battiloro created an exclusive artwork titled *"Rallenta e amati"* for the *Reale Mutua Monza Montevicchia Eco Trail*, showcasing his dedication to integrating art with nature and promoting well-being. He also participated in the *Paris Expo* in 2023, showcasing his work at one of the most prestigious international events in contemporary art. This experience marked an important milestone in his career, expanding his artistic presence beyond Italy and solidifying his position on the international stage.

Battiloro continues to explore the performative dimension of painting through live actions and site-specific interventions, reinforcing his belief in the artwork as a living, shared experience.

Art critic Alberto Moioli describes his painting as **"a poetic act of resistance against indifference."**



Hidden Eyes, Silent Dialogues

A series of portraits where the eyes vanish to reveal something deeper.

Each face, stripped of its gaze, opens a space of emotional resonance— where texture speaks louder than expression, and the silence of the unseen becomes a force of presence.



Tutto scorre, 2025, 180x100, oil and mixed

For Felice Battiloro, this is not just a series—it is his true voice. Among the many expressive paths he has explored, it is in these portraits, where the eyes are veiled or obscured, that he recognizes his most authentic language. Here, painting becomes necessity, and necessity becomes identity. These works are not crafted for effect—they are inhabited. They emerge from a profound impulse to tell the truth of the human condition without spectacle, without intrusion. In this portrait series, Battiloro adopts a symbolic gesture: the eyes do not appear, left in shadow or deliberately concealed.

It is not an absence, but an invitation—the power of the gaze shifts elsewhere: into the features of the face, the narrative details, the rhythm of the composition. His deliberate visual code transforms each portrait into a threshold space between vulnerability and renewal.



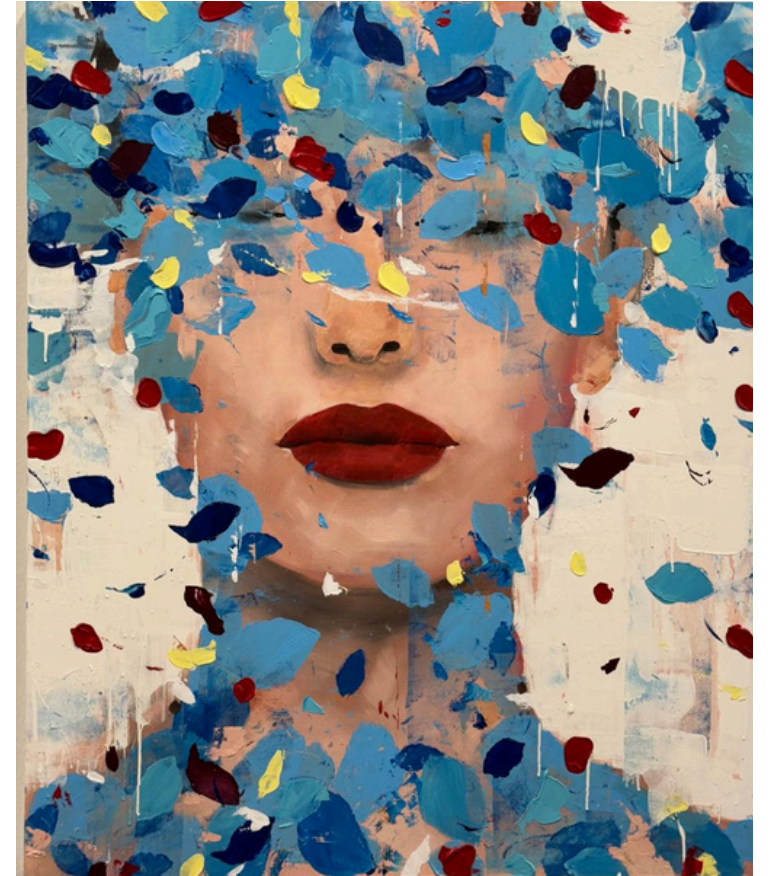
These works speak a refined emotional language: the painted skin, the rawness of the features, the textured surface, and the stark contrast of brushstrokes guide the viewer toward a beauty that is both “wounded” and authentic. The result is an experience that transcends observation—it becomes an intimate listening, a silent dialogue with a hidden interiority. As Battiloro himself explains, this gesture arises from an “inner necessity” to narrate without voyeurism: these faces speak without revealing their gaze, allowing presence and meaning to emerge through the evocative tension of the pictorial rhythm.

Presence, 2025, 180x180, oil and acrylic



Bipolarità, 2024, 120x100, oil and acrylic

In this striking diptych, Felice Battiloro stages a dual meditation on presence and transformation. The first portrait, drenched in warm, autumnal tones, evokes a sense of quiet dissolution — the figure becomes one with the falling leaves, her identity both concealed and revealed by the vibrant surface. The second canvas, rendered in cool blues and punctuated by fragments of red and yellow, offers a contemplative counterpoint. Here, the face floats in a sea of memory, as if suspended in an emotional current. The closed eyes and expressive lips suggest a state of interiority, while the brushwork disrupts and intensifies the rhythm of the gaze. Together, the two paintings articulate a poetics of becoming: identity as something in motion, layered, weathered, and tenderly unresolved.

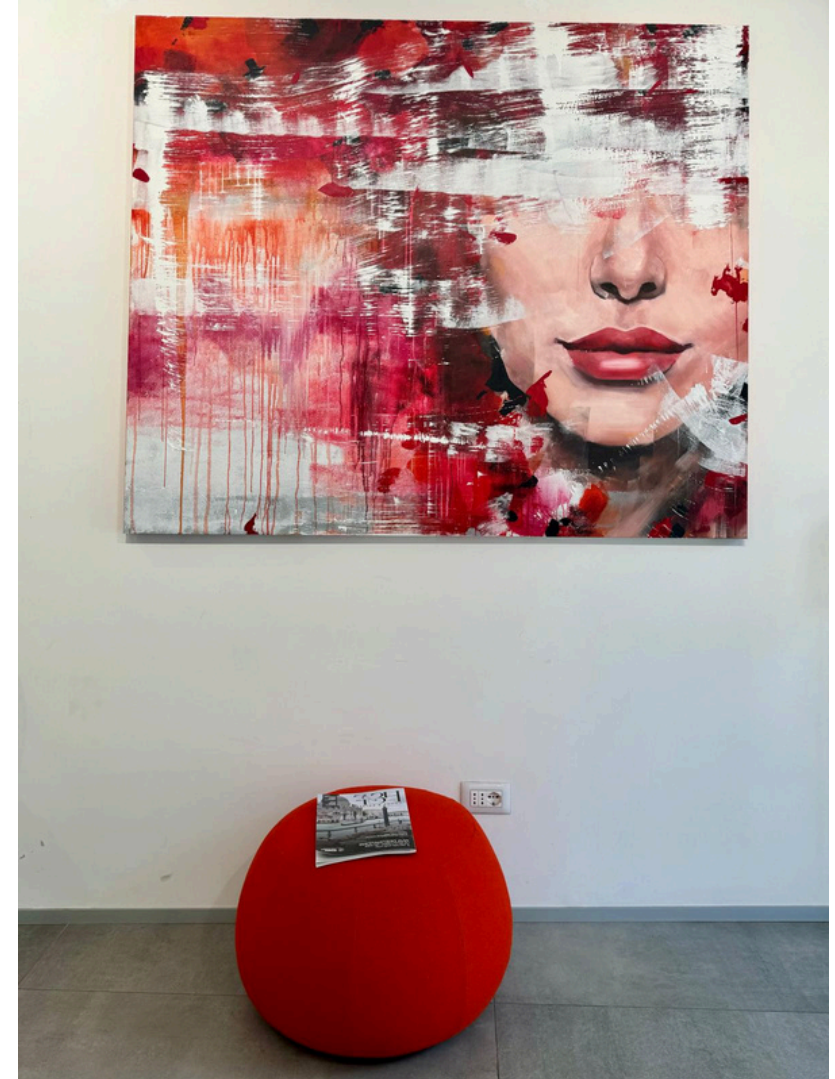


Bipolarità, 2024, 120x100, oil and acrylic



In "*Unspoken storm*", the motif of the hidden eyes becomes a visceral gesture of self-containment. The woman's face emerges through a veil of textured whites and flaming reds, her lips parted in a fragile whisper, her hands pressing against her own cheeks as if bracing an unspoken storm. Battiloro's signature use of impasto and raw brush marks creates a palpable tension between concealment and exposure. This is not a portrait of absence, but of intimate resistance — a moment where the act of covering becomes an act of declaring. The viewer is invited into a space where emotion pulses beneath the skin, and the silence speaks louder than sight.

Unspoken storm, 2025, 120x100, oil and mixed



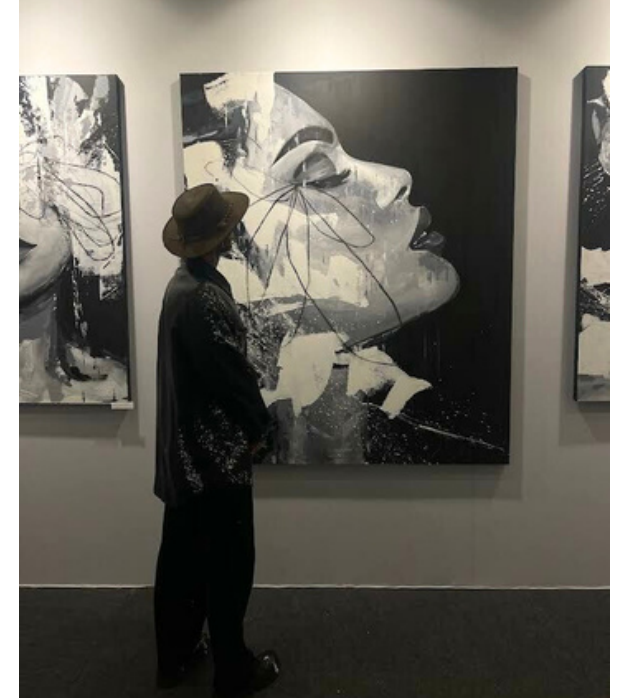
Insolvenza, 2024, 180x150, oil and mixed

In “*Eco*”, Battiloro amplifies the echo of inner resonance into visual form. The composition’s scale (100 × 100 cm) creates an immersive field, where every brushstroke—layered, resonant, reverberating—seems to answer back to itself.

Here, the self becomes a sound that repeats, a voice discovering itself in the vastness of pigment and gesture. The interplay of color intensity and compositional rhythm evokes reverberations of thought and emotion—an echo chamber painted, not heard. It’s a meditation on presence: the artwork listens as much as it speaks, inviting the viewer into its echoing space of self-reflection and poetic introspection.

Eco, 2025, 100x100, oil, acrylic and mixed

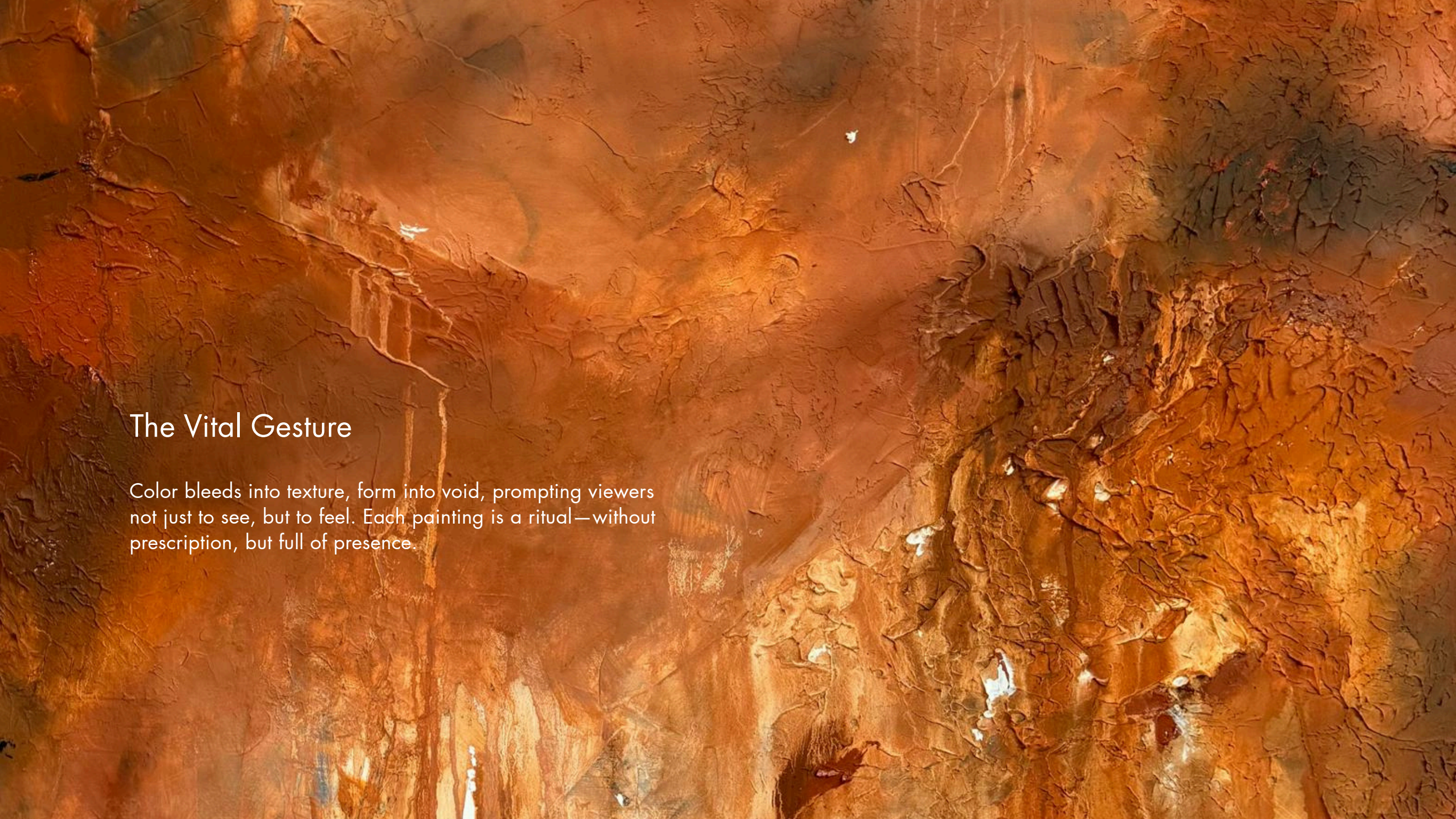




Snowdrop, Bucaneve, 2024, 180x150, oil acrylic and mixed

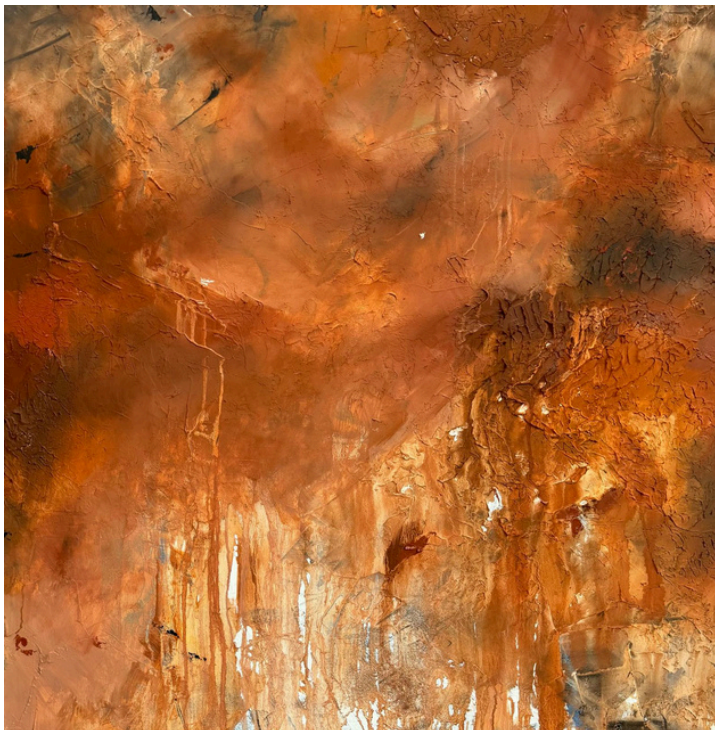
Named after the resilient snowdrop that blossoms by piercing the snow, this work speaks of emergence from adversity. In momentary fragments and delicate textures, Battiloro captures the essence of perseverance—**“the only flower able to break through snow at over 1,500 meters”**.

The piece resonates with quiet strength: each painted fragment, like a petal under ice, evokes the determination to bloom amidst harshness. It’s a visual metaphor for personal redemption — a testament to beauty born of struggle, fragile yet unbreakable.

An abstract painting with a rich, textured surface. The color palette is dominated by warm, earthy tones: various shades of orange, from light peach to deep, dark burnt orange and near-black browns. The texture is highly irregular, with visible brushstrokes, ridges, and valleys, suggesting a thick application of paint. The overall effect is one of organic, almost geological complexity. The lighting appears to come from the upper left, creating subtle gradients and highlighting the physical texture of the paint.

The Vital Gesture

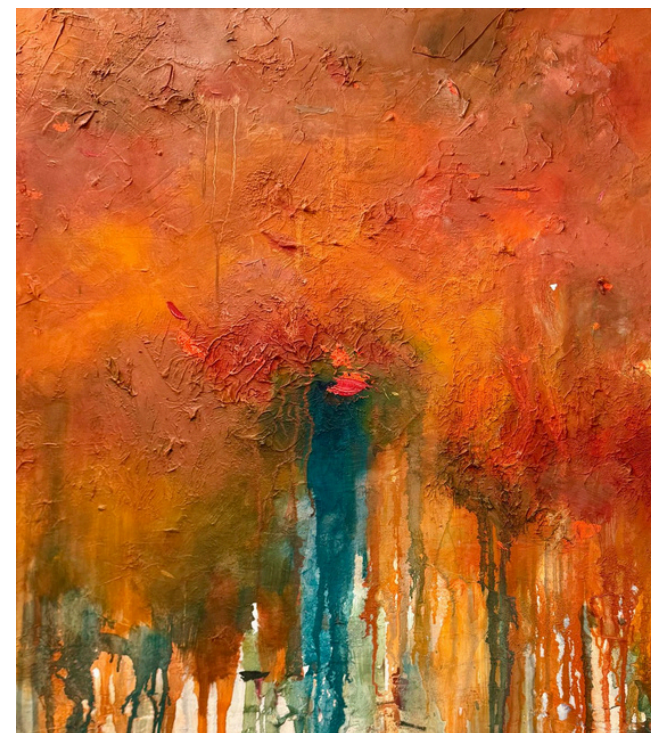
Color bleeds into texture, form into void, prompting viewers not just to see, but to feel. Each painting is a ritual—without prescription, but full of presence.



Acqua e ossigeno, 2024, 100x100,
oil, stucco and mixed

In Felice Battiloro's abstract series, painting transcends representation to become an intimate field of emotion and memory. As noted by critic Alberto Moiola, abstraction is not a mere stylistic choice but an **"expressive alphabet born of inner necessity."** These canvases reveal depth through materiality, gesture, and silence—each one a threshold of perception, not a narrative.

Moioli's words underscore how Battiloro's abstractions transform personal turmoil into a form of affirmation, creating a visual dialogue between chaos and clarity.



Rinascere terra, 2025, 100x100, oil, stucco and mixed



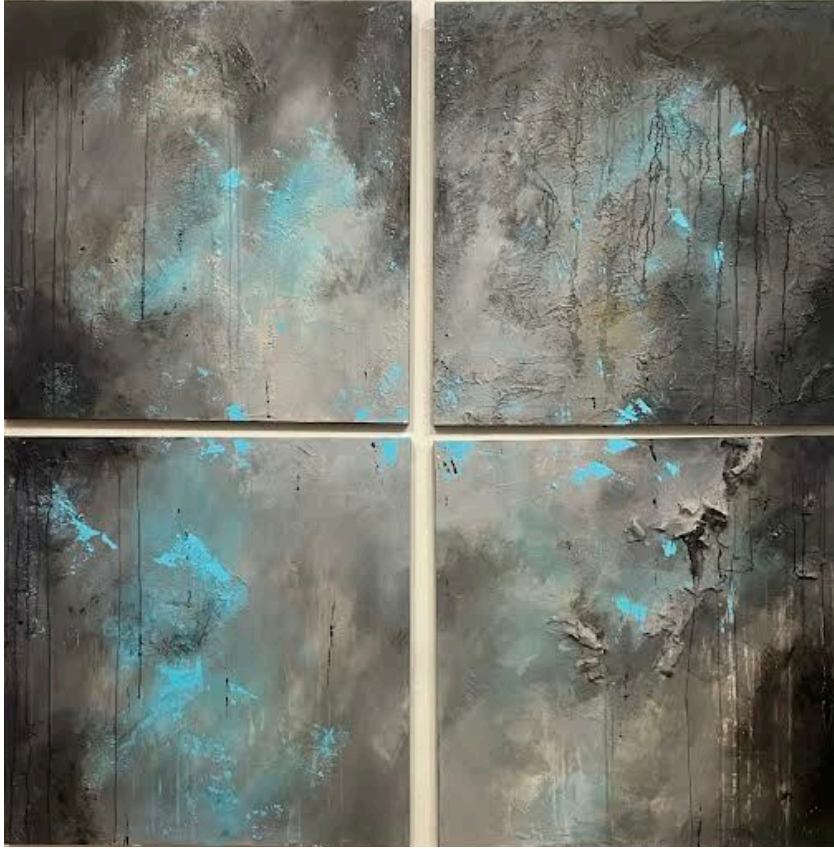
A vibrant balance between form and dissolution characterizes this painting, where burnt copper and ochre tones merge with deep blacks and cold veils. The surface bears the traces of the gesture—scratches and drips that speak of a controlled urgency. The work seems to emerge from an inner combustion, a fire extinguished, leaving scars and light. It evokes a mental landscape, an energetic field shaped by the tension between darkness and openness.

Croste d'infanzia, 2023, 100x100, oil, stucco and mixed



In this nearly monochrome composition, blue reigns supreme—but not as a static presence. It is a living blue, layered and traversed by veins, transparencies, and sudden flashes of light. The eye is invited to lose itself in a depth that feels almost liquid, like a meditative plunge. Small orange and white marks float like fragments, points of resistance within calm. The work evokes a sense of suspension and introspection—a visual silence that breathes.

L'incontro, 2025, 100x100, oil, stucco and mixed



In this highly material work, painting becomes sculpture: the surface warps, tears, ripples—like skin holding the memory of time. Chromatic intervention is minimal yet incisive: the contrast between dark fissures and flashes of pure turquoise suggests a tension between ruin and rebirth. The gesture becomes a form of visual archaeology, and the matter stands as silent witness to a deep, almost geological emotional process.

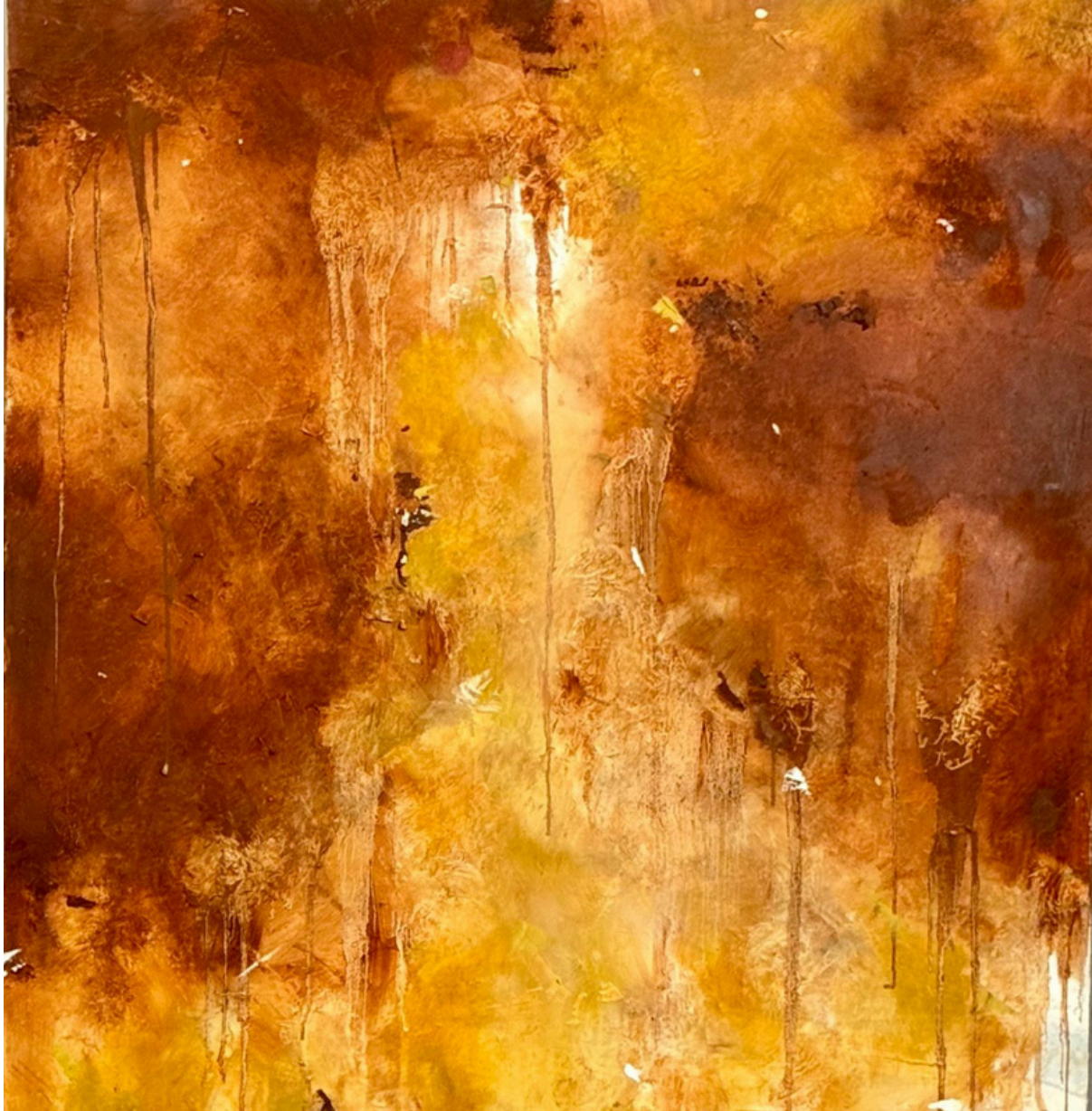
Nuvole in me, 2024, 250x250, oil, stucco and mixed



A visceral encounter between matter and emotion, *"Fuoco e Poesia"* unfolds through bold red surfaces lacerated by decisive black strokes. The painting exudes tension—an almost physical vibration that emanates from the layered, textured body of the canvas. Both fierce and lyrical, the work embodies a duality: it is flesh and flame, but also resilience and verse. Battiloro captures a moment of personal rebirth, translating it into visual language with raw energy and poetic precision.



Fuoco e Poesia, 2024, 300x200, acrylic and stucco



In this abstract composition, Felice Battiloro blurs the boundary between form and formlessness to evoke a deeply intimate presence. Layers of warm ochres and earthy reds flow and bleed into each other like sedimented memories, creating a visceral terrain of emotional intensity. While the surface appears elusive and textured, the painting conceals a hidden self-portrait — a subtle apparition that resists being fully seen. Rather than depicting himself directly, the artist chooses to dissolve his figure into the atmospheric field, suggesting that identity is not a fixed shape but a trace, a resonance. This work invites viewers to slow down and search, not only through the paint, but within themselves — where the self, too, flickers between clarity and disappearance.

Disappearance, 2025, 100x100, acrylic and stucco





The Skin of Words

Drawing on the aesthetic codes of Pop Art — its immediacy, repetition, and symbolic economy — Battiloro reinvents the portrait as a space of linguistic inscription. He reclaims the immediacy of street aesthetics and merges it with a raw emotional vocabulary, inviting the viewer to read and to feel simultaneously.

In this evocative series, Battiloro intertwines image and language. Faces emerge from the canvas, not only through the texture of paint, but through carefully handwritten words—poems, confessions, truths he inscribes directly into the visual field. For Battiloro, this is a conscious fusion of painting and text, a way to amplify emotion and meaning by layering his inner voice over the physical presence of the face. These inscriptions are not mere embellishments, but integral gestures: they interrupt, they resonate, they speak. Carried in this union of sign and surface, each portrait becomes a hybrid territory where the viewer reads both pigment and psyche. Critic Alberto Moioli underscores how Battiloro “celebrates beauty through the hidden codes of his expressive alphabet”



This painting unfolds as a bold pop collage, where classical anatomy meets the vibrant codes of contemporary visual culture. The fragmented torso — painted in stark chiaroscuro — collides with saturated splashes of red, graffiti-style typography, and the unmistakable symbol of the apple: a nod to temptation, consumption, and the original act of disobedience. The repetition of the word LOVE, layered almost obsessively, transforms desire into slogan. Here, Battiloro reclaims the visual language of advertising, reworking it into an emotional palimpsest where intimacy, consumerism, and identity cohabit in tension. The result is an image that feels both seductive and destabilizing — pop, yes, but never superficial.

In-perfetta, 2024, 100x100, oil, acrylic



A manifesto of self-reclamation, this painting merges the urgency of dreams with the softness of rebirth. The golden band slicing across the eyes is both veil and halo — concealing yet illuminating. "Amati" ("Love yourself") shouts from the top corner, while "Rinascita" ("Rebirth") runs vertically, anchoring the viewer in a personal and collective awakening. The dream is not romanticized; it's handwritten, interrupted, imperfect. Battiloro constructs a face that is more than just a face: it is a place of transformation, where language and identity blur and renew.

Amati, 2024, 150x150, acrylic



This work merges the immediacy of pop aesthetics with an intimate call to self-love. The phrase “AMATI SEMPRE” (“Always love yourself”) emerges vertically, almost like a backbone, while LIFE dominates the upper corner — bold, direct, universal. The grayscale portrait, sensually rendered, is partially veiled by raw gestures of red and white, evoking both emotional wounds and acts of protection. Battiloro’s use of text is never decorative: it’s a voice, urgent and personal, inscribed directly onto the skin of the painting. In this visual manifesto, the body becomes a billboard of inner truths, and the act of self-love turns into resistance — tender, radical, and necessary.

Amati sempre, 2024, 100x100, acrylic



Ekphrastic Faces

A conscious fusion of painting and text, a way to amplify emotion and meaning by layering his inner voice over the physical presence of the face.



Ekphrastic Faces is a series of works where the human face becomes a narrative surface, crossed by words that don't just decorate — they reveal. Each portrait stands at the threshold between what we see and what we feel, between visible identity and the one shaped through sentences, verses, and quiet reflections. The title plays on **ekphrasis** — the ancient art of giving voice to an image through language — because in these pieces, painting is never silent. Every face carries a message, a memory, a call to the self. These are portraits to be looked at and read, because sometimes the deepest meaning of a gaze is hidden in the words that inhabit it.

Lettera di un defunto, 2025, 100x100, acrylic



"There's the sun thanks to rain" (180 x 100 cm) by Felice Battiloro captures a profound truth: every challenge we face enriches the brightness that follows. Through spherical brush strokes and a large canvas, the work displays the artist's mantra - "**Asseconda ciò che ti accade e rendilo parte integrante della tua vita**"- ("Go with what happens to you and make it an integral part of your life"). The painting reminds us that adversity is not an obstacle but a catalyst for growth and beauty. This piece invites the viewer to embrace the storms of life, trusting that in every drop of rain is the promise of light.

There is the sun thanks to rain, 2023, 180x120, acrylic



In “Frida”, Felice Battiloro merges text with a poised visage to deliver a stark, poetic imperative. The painting confronts us with a human face—its features part-hidden—and over it the words resonate like a mantra, urging inner bravery. Far from mere decoration, the phrase functions as a catalyst: it challenges us to question the life we lead, to step beyond comfort, to embrace vulnerability as a necessity for genuine existence. Without courage, life is lived halfway. It’s a visual wake-up call—an invitation to live fully or risk fading into silence long before our time.

Frida, 2023, 180x150, acrylic



In the striking “Amati”, Felice Battiloro invites viewers into a visual dialogue of self-love and internal emancipation. Painted in 2023 (180 × 150 cm, acrylic on canvas), the piece presents a fragmented yet captivating visage with a direct call to honor and cherish one’s own identity. Through the deliberate concealment of the eyes, Battiloro shifts our attention from mere outward appearances to the inner dimensions of emotional resilience and introspection . The juxtaposition of vibrant hues with monochrome accents reinforces the tension between passion and introspection — a visual metaphor echoed in the artist’s reflection: **“the eyes see what the mind imposes; it’s not what happens, but how you react.”** This work resonates with themes of courage, rebirth, and transformation found across the “Amati” series, where each face becomes both a portrait and a mantra. As the eyes remain obscured, the symbolic details—brushstrokes, contrasts, and text—engage us to reinterpret beauty beyond the visible. It is an invitation to embrace our own fragmented depths, to find poetry in our wounds, and to react to life’s provocations with self-compassion and creative strength.

Il coraggio ti rende vivo, 2023, 180x150, acrylic

“Ambition
persistence
vulnerability
— the silent
choreography of
becoming.”





My Self-Portrait. These Are Not Horses

A trio of intimate confrontations between artist and alter-ego, rendered through the visceral shape of the horse.



“Who said this is a horse? Certainly not me. This is my artistic expression, my essence, my fire and my poetry — because we are much more than what we appear to be.”

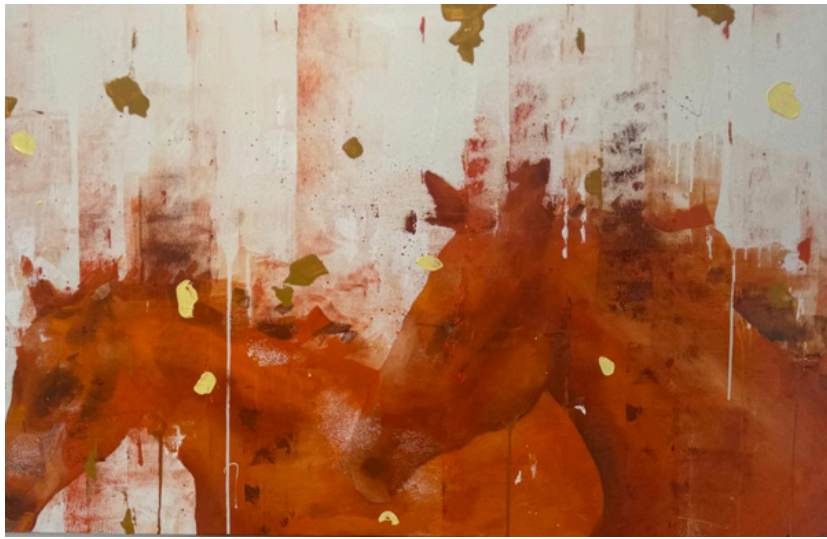
In this series, the horse becomes a projection of the artist’s hidden self — a symbolic, emotional, and visceral figure through which identity is refracted. Not a literal depiction, but a poetic transposition of the self into form.

Its strength, vulnerability, and instinctual presence reflect the most secret part of the artist’s inner life. Through matter, gesture, and rupture, these works channel something both ancient and intimate — a fire that speaks in silence.

In Self-Portrait I, the horse serves as an extension of the artist’s inner gaze. The material density intensifies as color seems to erupt, intertwining the beautiful with the grotesque. Through this paradoxical fusion, the work embodies an emotional crescendo—an internal tension rendered in visual combustion.

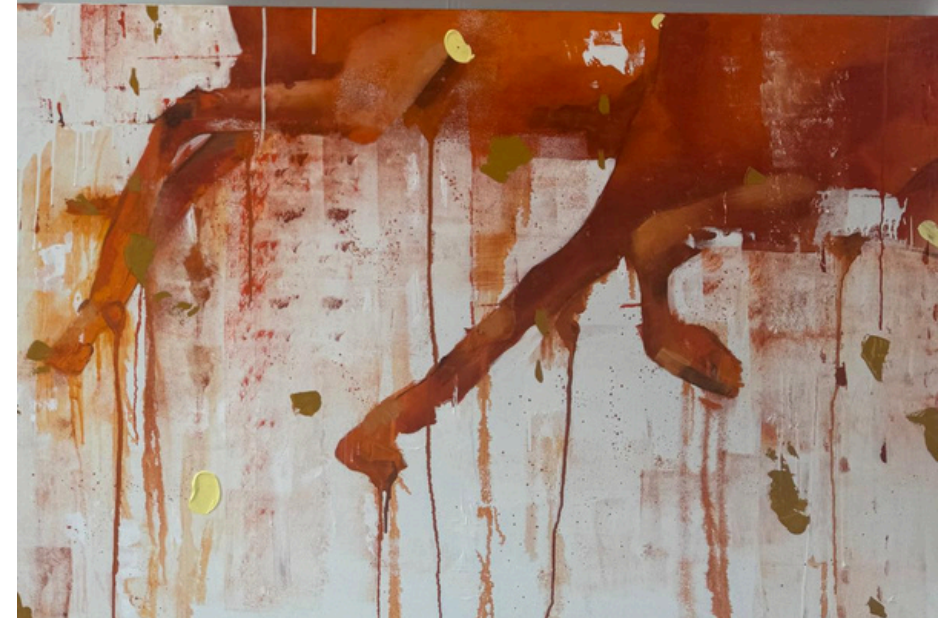
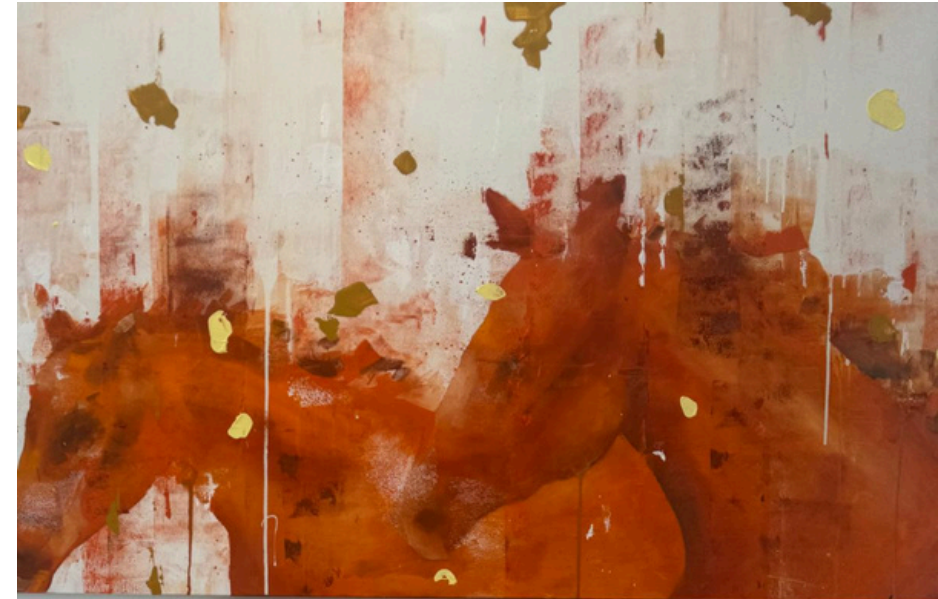
Conceptual Impact: Beauty and distortion coexist in tension, reflecting the complexity of self-perception under pressure.

Autoritratto I, 2024, 100x100, oil and mixed



Self-Portrait II plays with fragmentation. The horse appears only partially —an image reduced to a splinter of form, a fragment of the self. The rupture of representation invites viewers into a space of absence and reconstruction.

Conceptual Impact: The fragmented form becomes a metaphor for identity disruption and reconstitution, speaking to art's ability to preserve and reframe memory.



Autoritratto II, 2024, 100x100, oil and mixed

In Self-Portrait III, textural impasto and visible grain create a dialogue between power and fragility, translating psychological introspection into a visceral encounter with the equine form.

Conceptual Impact: The powerful silhouette of the horse becomes a mirror of self-examination, where vulnerability emerges through the interplay of structure and dissolution.



Autoritratto III, 2024, 100x100, oil and mixed





Felice Battiloro, featured in Enciclopedia d'Arte Italiana, Catalogo Generale Artisti dal Novecento ad Oggi, p.126-128, 2025

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