

SERGIO PADOVANI

Sergio Padovani focuses his pictorial work on visions that are often dramatic, with generally dark tones, but with sudden flashes of bright and violent colour, which seem to come from the great Fifteenth Century pictorial tradition, with particular reference to Flemish painting, from Bosch to Bruegel. His images seem to sink in his hands, to the bowels, the soul and into the heart of the mystery. In his paintings different and apparently unrelated elements appear: macabre dances, temporal journeys, crossings of fairy lakes in the company of never seen birds, flying fish, fiery winds, self-combusting trees and men, dreams, mirages, hallucinations and metamorphoses. A mad and perfectly coherent remixing of traditions, mysteries, ancient practices and secret past liturgies, which seem to conceal an unresolved enigma, of which it is impossible to understand the final meaning, but which leaves the viewer speechless with astonishment and wonder.

Sergio Padovani was born in Modena in 1972, where he still lives. For several years a musician working in experimentation and research, since 2006 he has worked mainly on painting. He has won several art awards, including the *Arte Laguna Prize*, the Wannabee Award and the Yicca Prize. He was a finalist for the Celeste Prize, the Combat Prize and the Arte Prize. His works are in important collections both in Italy and in Europe. He has participated in numerous exhibitions in galleries and public institutions. These include participation at the 54th Venice Biennial at the Italian Pavilion and the inauguration exhibition of The Bank Collection in Bassano del Grappa.