



ROMANTICA

SHAPE OF MY ART

CATALOGUE

Curated by Art Directors Carlo Greco and Alessandra Magni

Critical texts by Art Curators

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Cecilia Terenzoni	Martina Stagi
Chiara Rizzatti	Martina Viesti
Elisa Garosi	Roberta Laratro
Elisabetta Eliotropio	Sara Giannini
Elita Borgogelli	Silvia Grassi
Erika Gravante	test
Federica D'Avanzo	Trithida Trising
Francesca Brunello	Vanessa Viti
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“Whoever says Romanticism refers to Modern Art, that has the meaning of intimacy, spirituality, colour and aspiration towards the boundless world expressed with all the means that the arts offer.”

(Charles Baudelaire)

Nowadays, the term “romantic” refers to people or sentimental situations that evoke a particularly suggestive atmosphere typical of a loving relationship lived with an enchanted trepidation. In reality, historical, literary and artistic Romanticism embodies true passion, struggle, love of country, the “storm and the rush” (Sturm und Drang). A new way of seeing nature was born with it, no longer considered as an object to be studied and controlled, but as a creative force that escapes from all the rules. Closely related to this there is the concept of “genius”, as the one who creates free from rules, and therefore driven by his own feelings. This is how, from 1800 onwards, the adjective romantic has been used in literary genres as chivalric novels, to depict fantastic events in a given historical setting. Alongside this initial meaning, the meaning of “picturesque” was developed, referring not only to what was artistically depicted, but also to emphasize the feelings which could be taken from an artwork. In this way a different trend was enhanced based both on imagination, modernity and past values. In fact, philosophers like Schlegel and Nietzsche consider Romanticism to be one of the hinges on which the spirituality of the so-called romantic man revolves, embodying boldness, striving towards an unattainable utopia up to the point of merging himself with nature and history. An arduous task, but by no means impossible! His sensitivity to the infinite and to reality coincides with what surrounds him, and every material and immaterial element becomes the objective manifestation of his distress, where feelings are the engine of deep states of mind that stimulate the spirit to open up towards the Universe. The direct consequence of what man experiences refers to a feeling that afflicts the individual and pushes him to go beyond the limits of earthy reality, now become oppressive and suffocating, to take refuge in his own introspection or in a dimension that goes beyond space-time limits. A remarkable progress is made with the exploration of the irrational, including feelings, madness, dreams and visions which all take a crucial role to help both the artist and the viewer to escape from reality. Every feeling is even more emphasized within the art: artists like Caspar David Friedrich, with his natural landscapes which tell about the “sublime” better than a thousand words; or William Turner, who is defined as the “master of light”; John Constable with his poignant country landscapes; Eugène Delacroix, who embodies all the tension and melancholic sensuality of the romantic spirit in Freedom Leading the People; and finally Francesco Hayez, who recounts the past in a modern key, as in his work The Kiss, underlying the values of nation, freedom and courage. From the 19th century until today, artists have developed and promoted an artistic practice consisting of contemplation of the infinite and the symbolic power of the forces of nature. With “Romantica - Shape of my Art”, M.A.D.S. Art Gallery of Milan invites each artist to plunge into the heart of his or her own soul, with the aim of extrapolating and bringing out a new sensitivity, evoking passions and emotions, stimulating the mind and heart of the viewer, pushing them beyond the known limits up to the origin of memory and remembrance. Unity, vigour, instinct, individuality and the ability to perceive the surrounding environment are exalted in order to give ample space to a single great Love... that of Art! Because no one can stop the impetus and the storm of a romantic heart!

Concept edited by Art Curators

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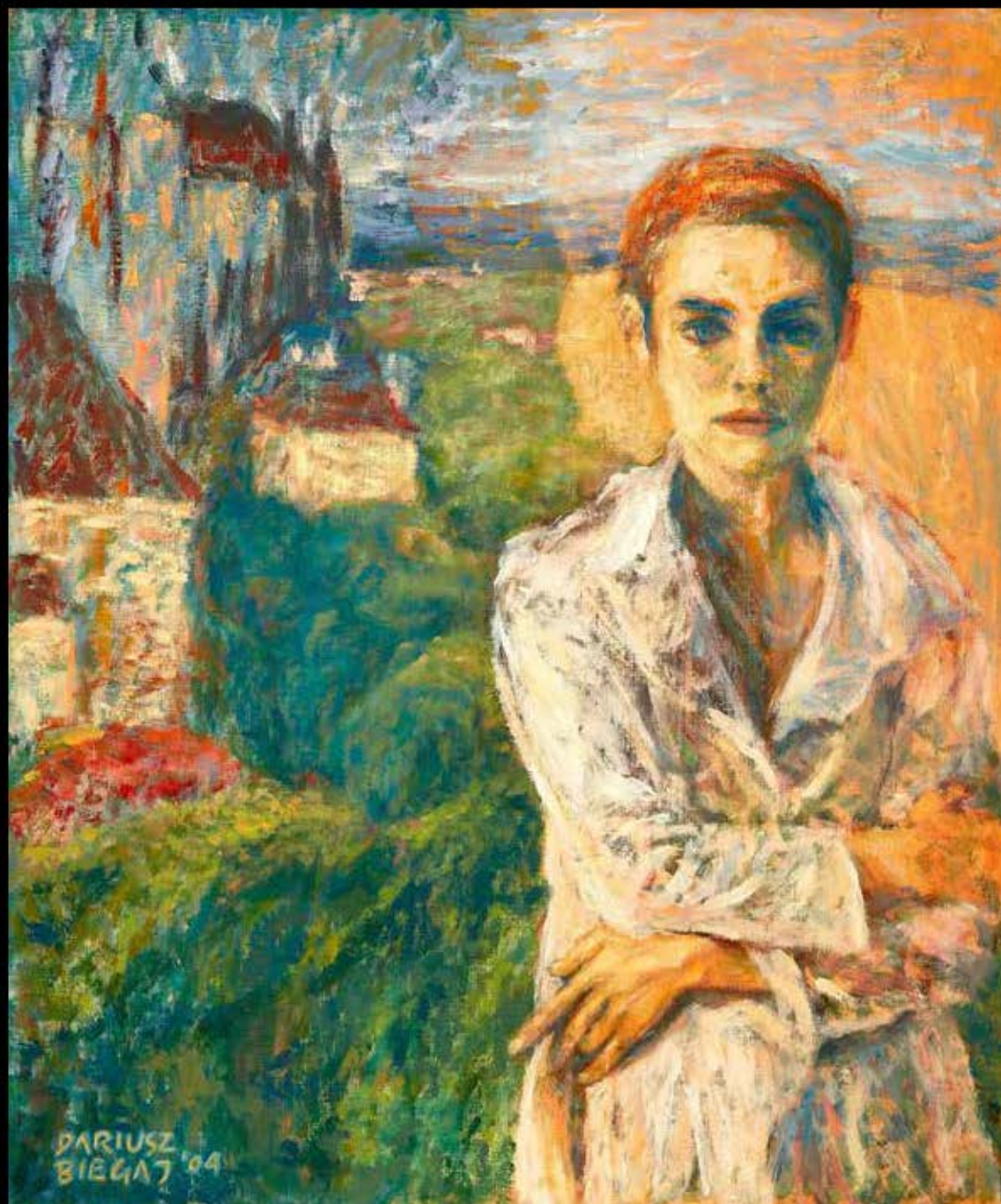
Dariusz Biegaj

“Our imagination flies, we are its shadow on the earth.” (Vladimir Nabokov)

Polish artist Dariusz Biegaj creates original works of which nature, the undisputed protagonist, is painted in all its beauty and delicacy. Thanks to careful observation and deep analysis of the world around him, Dariusz represents nature in a real way, leaving space, at the same time, for personal interpretation. Man, and landscape meet and merge, creating an indissoluble, magical, and eternal union. Man seeks answers from nature, he thinks of it as a haven of safety in which to take refuge from the daily confusion, an earthly paradise where peace and serenity reign. “Angel 03” was created with the acrylic on linen technique in 2004. The protagonist of the painting, represented in the foreground, is with folded arms and looks straight at the viewer. The fair skin and white shirt create a nice contrast with the orange hair. In the background we see a countryside landscape, characterized by houses, meadows, and large fields. The work is endowed with a great evocative power: the boy seems to want to communicate something to us, but it is up to the viewer to set his imagination in motion and set off on a journey to discover the meaning of the painting. In “Eva 03” and “Eva 08” female legs are completely immersed in the flowers depicted in the smallest details. In the first work mentioned, the woman is in a standing position and her legs are painted with brushstrokes which, placed side by side, form stylized flowers. In this way, the protagonist becomes part of nature itself painted in the background: infinite pink and purple petals create a magical carpet of flowers. The work “Eva 08” is divided into two parts: on the left, we find flowers with large pink petals painted on a green lawn. On the right, the legs of the woman half lying down gracefully stand out against the blue background. Delicacy and harmony characterize the works of Dariusz, an artist capable of creating works as beautiful as they are exciting.

Art Curator Camilla Gilardi

Dariusz Biegaj



Angel 03

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Eva 03

Dariusz Biegaj



Eva 08