MICHELE VITALONI SCULPTURE



Un'idea dall'ombra prende forma nella materia cresce nelle mie mani e diventa reale si alloutana...
per arricchire coloro che la osservano ormai non più mia se non in uno squardo nostalgico creatura destinata al mondo







Michele Vitaloni

Was born in Milan in 1967, but he now lives in Barzanò in the hills of Lake Como.

The artistic sensibility of Vitaloni was evident since childhood. He has always been intrigued by the elegance of forms, the instinct of protection and procreation, so he started his investigative path: as a matter of fact he was fascinated especially by the deeper meanings behind these events that bind the human being to its wild side. He wanted to represent, with great skill in sculpture, the characteristics of the virtues and human values through the wild animal figure. He wants to show the elegance and refinement through an amazing animal like a zebra, or a horse with an incredible coat. The symbolism of motherhood with "The Queen of the forest", a woodcock which protectsher brood on a bed of newly fallen leaves. And yet, through his series of busts, he aims at condensing the essence of the symbol through a hymn of celebration. The thrill of a look, a simple posture, capturing the viewer's attention and opening the door of a journey to the pursuit of universal meanings which are very subjective at the same time.

The animal nature is in the nature of man: the deeper and the most unconscious. We all have to do with this instinctual part, especially when we talk about artistic inspiration: artists like Vitaloni capture and draw strength from what is unconventional and emotional and evoke energy, like fuel drawn from the deep core of the earth. The mind is "wild" as it is difficult to control it: it is like an untamed horse. Vitaloni is an artist who gives us the opportunity to tap this dimension which belongs to all human beings.

Poetry, music, literature, stage actions and performances: all the wild energy is then demonstrated by different artists in various disciplines in order to deal and fight against a sense of repression, inhibitions and fears. The goal was, and still is, freedom.

"Tyger, Tyger, burning bright in the forests of that night: what immortal hand or eye could frame thy fearful symmetry?" Blake wrote in the poem "The Tyger".

By hearing the roar of the tiger within us, we can escape, or find a place to make its voice being heard.

Today Vitaloni is the leading worldwide representative artist of the Wildlife Art and hyperrealistic sculpture. His approach to art is unique: both for the choice of subjects, as well as for the original technique through which he expresses himself. Vitaloni is an international artist who can boast more than 50 exhibitions, among which we remember the personal exhibition at the Royal Geographical Society in London in 2010, the Brown Castle in Portofino, the 45th Venice Biennale in 2011, and the most recent one at the prestigious Barclays Bank of Montecarlo with the illustrious presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco. Several publications have released reports about his art (Corriere della Sera, II Giornale, La Repubblica, Io donna, ARTE, Oasis, AD, Country Life, BBC Wildlife...) without forgetting the television interviews (RAI, BBC, ...).

Michele Vitaloni

Nato nel 1967 a Milano, oggi vive a Barzanò tra le colline del lago di Como.

La sensibilità artistica di Vitaloni era evidente fin da bambino. Da sempre affascinato dall'eleganza delle forme, incuriosito dalla procreazione, dall'istinto di protezione... Ha voluto rappresentare tutti questi eventi e valori, con sapiente maestria scultorea, attraverso la figura animale selvaggia. Raccontare l'eleganza e la raffinatezza attraverso un animale stupefacente come la zebra, un cavallo con un mantello incredibile. La simbologia della maternità con "La regina del bosco", una beccaccia che protegge la sua covata su un letto di foglie appena cadute. La natura animale quindi la natura dell'uomo, quella più profonda, più inconscia.

Tutti abbiamo a che fare con questa parte istintuale, specialmente quando parliamo di ispirazione artistica: gli artisti come lui catturano e traggono forza da ciò che è anticonvenzionale e emozionante ed evocano tale energia, attingendola come carburante dal profondo nucleo della terra.

La mente è "selvatica" in quanto è difficile tenerla sotto controllo, è come un cavallo pazzo o una scimmia.

Vitaloni come artista ci da l'opportunità di confrontarci con questa dimensione che d'altronde appartiene a tutti gli esseri umani.

Poesia, musica, letteratura, azioni sceniche e performances: tutta l'energia selvaggia si è poi manifestata attraverso gli artisti nelle diverse discipline, in modo da rifiutare il senso di repressione, le inibizioni e le paure. Lo scopo era ed è la libertà.

"Tigre, Tigre, che bruci luminosa nelle foreste della notte, quale immortale mano o occhio ha potuto forgiare la tua orribile simmetria?" scrisse Blake nella poesia "La Tigre"

Sentendo il ruggito della tigre dentro di noi possiamo scappare, oppure trovare un luogo dove far sentire la sua voce.

Oggi Vitaloni, è il rappresentante di spicco della Wildlife Art e dell'iperrealismo scultoreo a livello internazionale. Un modo di approciare l'arte unico sia per la scelta dei soggetti, che per la tecnica originale in cui si esprime.

Un artista internazionale con più di 50 mostre in attivo, fra le quali si ricordano quelle alla Royal Geographical Society di Londra del 2010, la 45° Biennale di Venezia del 2011 e l'ultima prestigiosa personale alla Barclays Bank di Montecarlo alla presenza illustre del Principe Alberto II di Monaco.

Diverse sono le testate che hanno dedicato servizi sulla sua arte (Corriere della sera, il Giornale, la Repubblica, lo donna, ARTE, Oasis, A.D., Country Life, BBC Wildlife...) senza dimenticare le interviste televisive che si sono interessate a Vitaloni (RAI, BBC, ..).

Inoltre gode dell'attenzione di critici d'arte del calibro di Giorgio Celli, Jean Blancheart e Vittorio Sgarbi.

A Londra da Christie's le sue raffinate opere iperrealiste vengono battute annualmente con risultati sempre in crescita insieme a quelle dei più importanti artisti mondiali di questo genere.

Ma il lavoro di Vitaloni non finisce qui. L'artista diventa anche naturalista è infatti impegnato attivamente nella salvaguardia degli animali che sono sua fonte d'ispirazione. Dare voce alla natura è il suo motto. Infatti molte delle sue mostre hanno come obbiettivo anche lo scopo benefico a favore e sostegno di progetti di conservazione, quali ad esempio il Leopard Conservation Project e Trust The Forest.





Sculptures









"MARZAIOLA"
Garganey
Bronze fusion
Oil Painted
Limited edition 9
32 x 23 cm



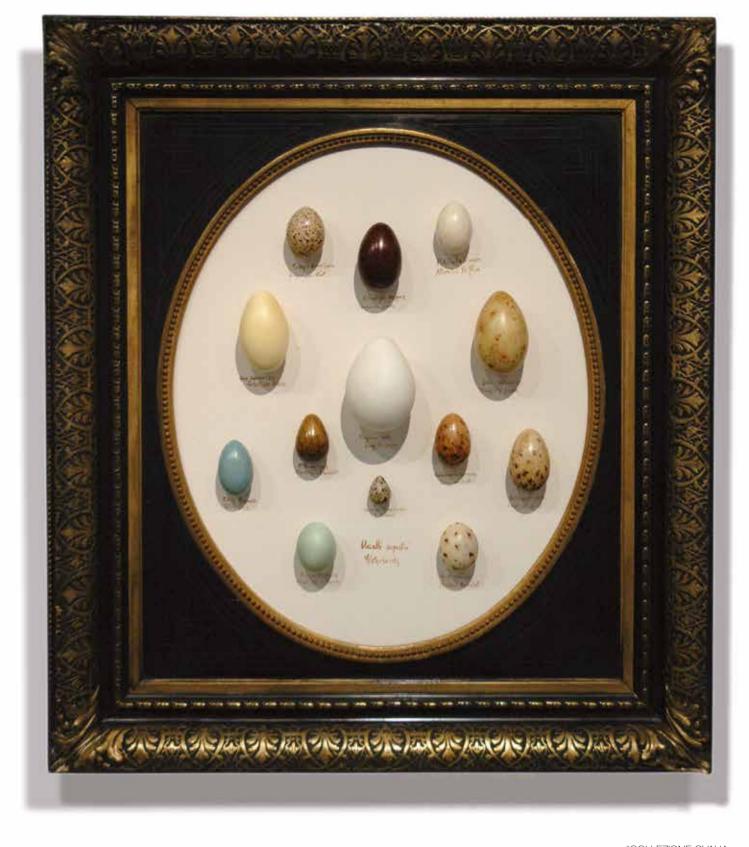
"LA REGINA DEL BOSCO" Woodcock on the nest Wood pulp, cantilevered copper Oil painted Original 80 x 100 cm











"COLLEZIONE OVALIA RAPACI AMERICANI" American birds eggs Linden wood Oil painted antique Italian frame 19° Century Original 65 X 55 cm "COLLEZIONE OVALIA UCCELLI ACQUATICI" Waterbirds eggs Linden wood Oil painted antique Italian frame 19° Century Original 90 X 88 cm



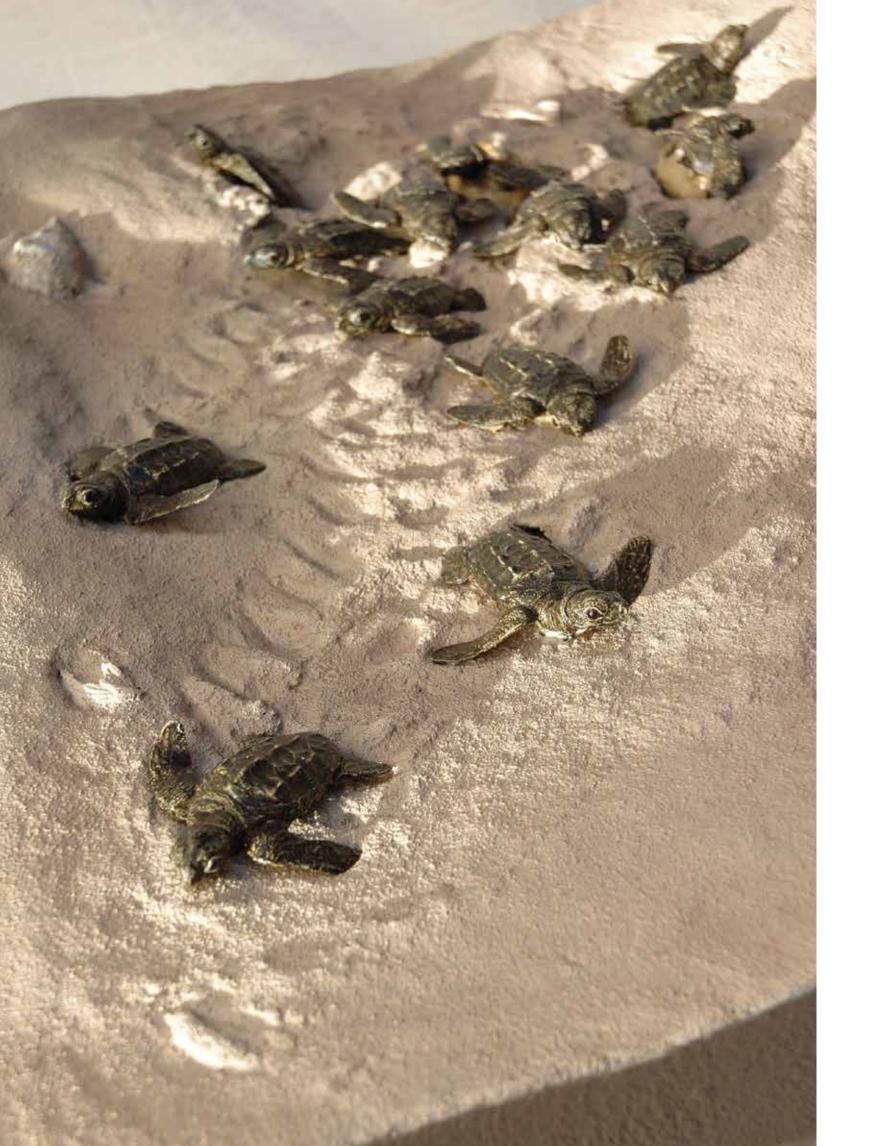


Red Coral chandelier, 2018
Copper and Wood pulp sculpture
8 led bulbs x 10
Oil painted on golden patina
Original - UNIQUE
ht. 59 cm
long. 32 cm
larg. 30 cm





"THE LAST DROPS"
Blues butterflies
Copper and bronze on wood pulp
Oil painting
32 x 30 x 12 cm









"LA GRANDE SCHIUSA"
2020
Sea Turtle hatching
Oil painted
Limited Edition 9
Various sizes
h.9 Bronze fusion
h.20 Bronze fusion
h.40 cm Resina Apoxie





"GRANCHIO" 2020 Bronze fusion articulated Oil painted Limited edition 9 long. 35 cm





"A PICCOLI PASSI" Bronze fusion Oil painted Limited edition 9 long. 19 cm

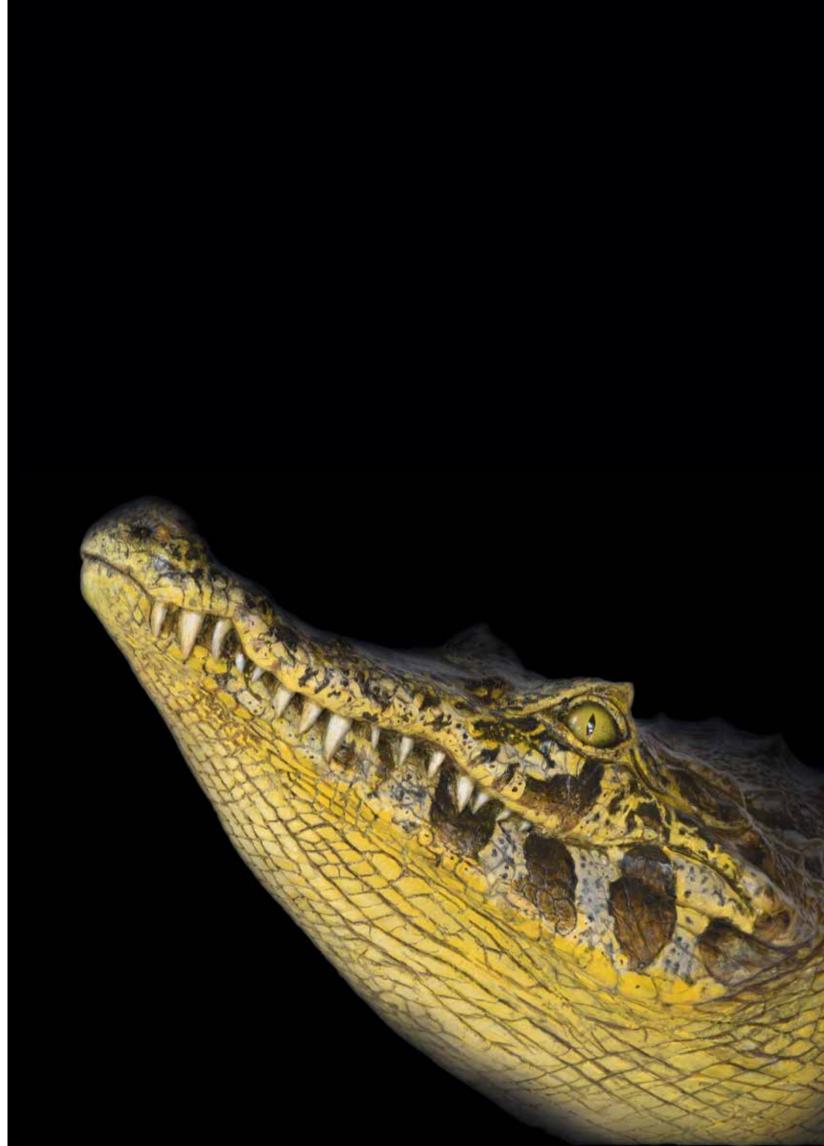




"RAMARRO" Bronze fusion Oil painted Limited edition 9 long. 42 cm



"JACARÈ" Crocodile 2020 Wood pulp Oil painted Limited edition 9 73 X 70 cm













"LOOKING BACK"
Cheetah
Wood pulp
Oil painted
Limited Edition 9
h. 87x170x40 cm











"IL PENSATORE" 2020 Orangutan Wood Oil painted Limited Edition 9 h. 120 cm









"IL PICCOLO GIACIGLIO" 2020 Indian rhinoceros cub Apoxie resin Oil painted Limited Edition 9 87x68 cm



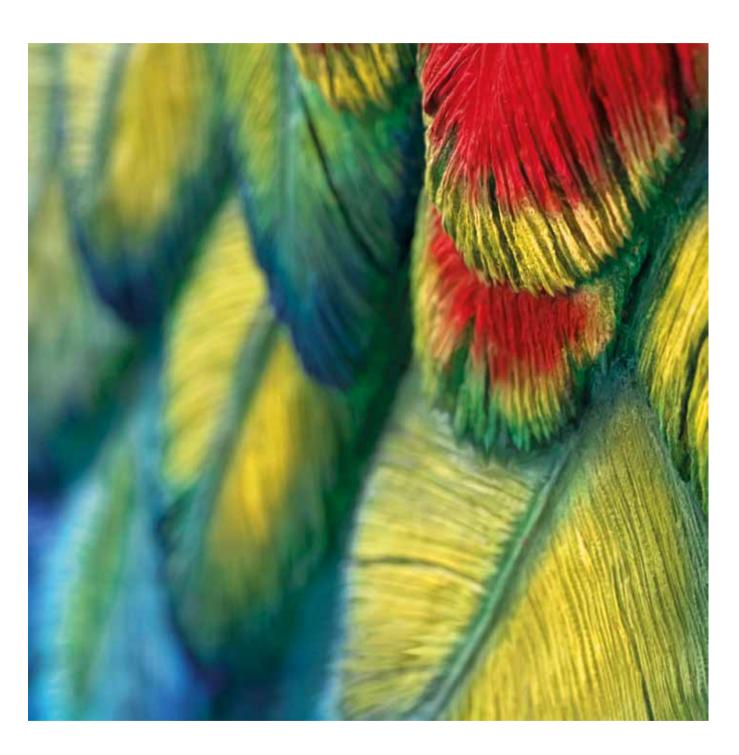








"TRAGOPAN SATYRA" Pectoral feathers detail Wood pulp on table Oil painting Limited Edition 9 Diameter 120cm



"ARA MACAO"
Scapulars and tertials flightl feathers detail
Wood pulp on table
Oil painting
Limited Edition 9
Diameter 120cm







"POLYPLECTRON SCHLEIERMACHERI" Secondary reminges feathers detail Wood pulp on table Oil painting Limited Edition 9 Diameter 120cm



"PAVO CRISTATUS"
Rump feathers detail
Wood pulp on table
Oil painting
Limited Edition 9
Diameter 120cm







"MELEAGRIS GALLOPAVO" Secondary coverts feathers detail Wood pulp on table Oil painting Limited Edition 9 Diameter 120 cm









My friendship with Michele goes back to when he was a boy, much earlier than the period of his debut as an Artist. Knowing his istinctive and irrepressible passion for nature, and above all for wild animals, I am not surprised today to find myself in front of the new, stunning and inimitable offered for our vision.

Since when he was a child, I was attracted by his knowledge and passion for nature, expressed and realized in the ability to breed wildfowl, even those breeds which are particularly difficult to reproduce. Not only that, but the breeding took place, not in the Park of his Residence in Brianza, but in a very small marshy area, complete with reeds, rushes and a pond that he created on the terrace of an apartment in the city center of Milan.

Later on, I followed him during his environmentalist evolution, both as Collaborator in the WWF Oasis at the lake of Burano, as well as a researcher at the Wildfowl Trust in Slimbridge, founded by Sir Peter Scott studying the reproduction of the White headed Duck, a small wild BIRD, unfortunately extinct in Italy, but which he planned to reintroduce,

Then I met him again when he became Chief Editor of the Magazine "L'Orsa", which for over thirty years has been the most representative Italian magazine for young people in terms of naturalistic education.

But Michele's passion for nature could not be prevented from expressing itself in the Arts. Therefore, escaping from artistic fashions that consider the Animals as subjects of breaking edge experiments, maybe immersed in formaldehyde or embalmed in ambigious frameworks, Vitaloni decided to express himself in the representation of wild animals in their full, marvellous Beauty. Life-size Rhinos, reliefs of muzzles, carapaces, beaks, tails, all in dynamic composition, insects during avid duels, lion heads with their magnificant, thick manes. The values of the work of this artist go beyond, the value based on aesthetic and faithfullness of reproduction - obtained through the use of the most refined techniques and materials - and achieves results that the artist has been aspiring to since his childhood.

Because Michele is not only an artist- naturalist, but a true Naturalist who became an Artist. The accomplishment of his works of art is to arouse, through the exhibition of their beauty, the love and consequently, the desire to protect those animal Species most in danger of extinction. It could be the agile cheetah of the African Savannah, or the rare beetles of the tropical jungles, the powerful Eagle Owl or the threatened marsican Bear.

Or better still the Tiger, during the year of the Chinese calendar dedicated to her. Michele wants to send, to those who admire and appreciate his works, a message of Love and Respect for Animals under threat, in the year dedicated by the United Nations to the protection of Biodiversity. And for this reason we all are grateful to him.

Fulco Pratesi Journalist - environmentalist Honorary President of WWF Italia

..But Vitaloni's exquisite eye for detail doesn't stop here piece by piece, not only does his extraordinary ability and his taste for telling detail increase, but also his desire to 'insert into nature' the sculpted objects, thanks to the addition of small, yet meaningful details oak leaves and leaves of ivy, acorns and pine cones which, being featherlight, are rendered in bronze or in copper...

Maria Alberta Rancati Chief Editor of "Gardenia" From "Scultore di natura", Vivere Country October 2000 - Ed. Giorgio Mondadori



Always passionate about nature, Vitaloni became a serious naturalist through his studies and experience in the field. From an early age he has expressed his knowlodge of and love for nature through drawing. After completing a diploma in Nature Illustration at the Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan, Vitaloni became the editor-in-chief and illustrator of L'Orsa magazine, the first Italian nature monthly for youngsters. He has worked with WWF-Italy on a project to reintroduce disappearing Mediterranean wildfowl species. Vitaloni 's works appear in collections around the world.

Lynn Burns
Christie's Wildlife Art Specialist
From Catalogue WLF-8965, Wildlife Art
November 2000 Christie's

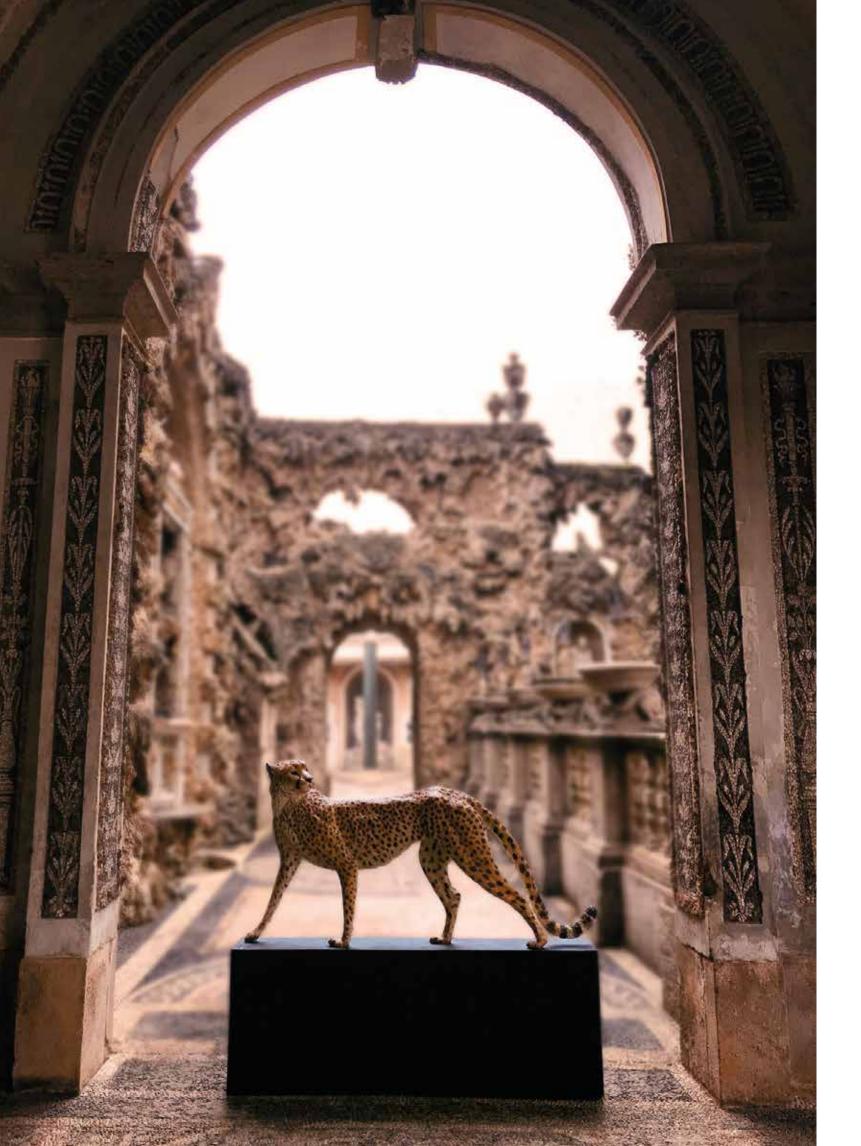
I mean that Michele Vitaloni, or rather, his works, have every right to be considered alongside the painters of the English countryside such as George Stubbs Sir Alfred Munnings or perhaps Maud Earl because, as well as an incomparable technique, his works strike the same emotional chords, and in some way, satisfy the same psychological need.

They are works, in some ways already dedicated to someone, who albeit unknowingly, is already waiting for them! The result is an elegant 'object of desire', which everyone would wish to own not only for itself, but to stop it falling into the hands of someone who would not be capable of appreciating it fully!

Stefano Vitale Brovarone Journalist - Art Critic From "Objects of Desire Diana May 2001 - Ed. Olimpia

In these early years of the 21st century, characterized as they are by a search for new modes of expression largely in photography, video and installations, there are artists like Michele Vitaloni with a deep and abiding love of nature, which they portray in their work. His sculptures possess an astounding realism: a return to a serene, reassuring portrayal.

Angelo Mistrangelo Art Critic From "La Stampa", 11 May 2002



If you immerse yourself in nature, you convince yourself to become part of it, and among the light, shade and colour, you learn that here is also a world of noise and silence to be interpreted. A love of nature means more than going to the woods; you need to recognize the trees and flowers, the different birdsongs; you need to know how to move quietly if you want to see the salamander or the horned owl. If you are capable of this, it doesn't come about by chance it means that from a young age, you were curious about all this, and you nurtured that curiosity and turned it into learning. There are those who describe nature with the pen, and those who do so through art. This latter describes Michele Vitaloni, whose gift is to love nature and to have become an artist the better to serve her. Michele's eye, at once profound and attentive, allows him to recreate the works oy, Mares transforming his materials of wood, and bronze, and refining them with oil paints.

Such combining of sculpture and painting recreate the natural world and the birds he knows so well in extraordinarily precise detail. One of these days he will even manage to make the birds sing. All praise must go to his love of nature and to nature itself which has accorded him the privilege of expressing that love through his art.

Xavier de Maistre Art Critic From exhibition catalogue, Galleria Dantesca Fogola 2-23 May 2002, Turin

Sculptor's real show of talent Unusually for an Italian born in Milan, the city of haute couture catwalks, Michele Vitaloni is much more at home trekking through the bush, and rather than brandishing a rifle, you will most likely find him carrying and sketch-book and pencil as he hunts his prey. Having worked extensively in Europe as well as across Africa, the dashing wildlife sculptor has brought an exhibition of his work to London, where it is being shown at Holland & Holland's fiagship store in Bruton Street, Mayfair from 25 May until 23 June.

It is not the first time that the store has played host to a distinguished artist of international reputation. In fact, Holland & Holland has built up a decent collection of its own, ranging from Anne-Marie Lacaze's exquisitely detailed paintings to Phllippe-Henri Ragot's pop-art depictions of African game in searingly bright colours. Vitaloni is a realist who works most often in bronze, which he then paints in lifelike colours, so visitors to the exhibition may catch themselves wondering whether his work is really man-made and not just a bird that has flown unexpectedly into the shop. A moment's reflection in front of one of the sculptures, however, and those same visitors will be in no doubt that they are examining the creation of a talented artist who demands an emotional response. Vitaloni has been sold at Christie's where, in 2005, his prized sculpture of a red grouse head, valued somewhere between £600 to £800, amazed experts by fetching £2,160. Such public success is not unusual: he has tripied estimated prices in Milan and more than doubled them on other occasions at Christie's. It's surprising, therefore, that he has not previously exhibited more widely in Britain. Indeed, Holland & Holland is the first non-auction space in the UK to exhibit his work, following enthusiastic receptions in Turin and the Netherlands as well as Milan an Paris. Such a prolific artist, you might think, would have little time for anything else. But Vitaloni proves such assumptions wrong. For well over a decade he has been working with the Italian branch of the WWF on a project close to his heart, reintroducing endangered wildfowl species into the country. This is good news, even for those of us who may never see such birds with our own eyes, because in doing so Vitaloni is providing himself with subjects for decades to come.

Beatrice Gray Art journalist - The Field - London



Recent Exhibitions and Auctions of Michele Vitaloni

2023

8 - 24 April - 51° Antibes Art Fair - Antibe - France

2021

28 April - 31 July - "Il Segno Geniale" - Collective Exhibition - Biffi Arte - P.zza Sant'Antonio - Piacenza - Italy 17 September 2020 - 30 May 2021 - "LIGABUE & VITALONI. Dare voce alla Natura" - Palazzo Tarasconi - Parma

2020

1 July - 31 August 2020 - Summer Exhibiton - GAUDIO GROUP SARL - 13, Boulevard Princesse Charlotte 98000 - Monaco (Monaco)

2019

24 May: Auction "Science & Natural History" - Christie's, London.

9 - 14 April: "The Big Cats of Michele Vitaloni" - Fuorisalone Milano Design Week - Lambrate District - Milano.

2018

17 - 22 April: The Wunderkammer of Michele Vitaloni - "Fuorisalone Milano Design Week" - Lambrate District - Milan

2017

4 - 9 April: "Fuorisalone Milano Design Week" - Collective Exhibition - Ventura Lambrate District - Milan.

2016

12 – 17 April: "Fuorisalone Milano Design Week" – Collective Exhibition - Design? Arte! – Ventura Lambrate District - Milan.

7 - 9 October: "Milano Scultura Step Art Fair" - Collective Exhibition - Fabbrica del vapore - Milan.

17 October: "8th International Social Commitment Awards" - Stella al merito sociale - Cultura & Solidarietà non-profit organization - Milan.

2015

3 December: Auction "Wildlife & Sporting Art" - Christie's, S.K. London.

10 June - 31 July: "Wildlife Art Italy" Collective Exhibition - Milan.

12 May: "Souvenir d'Italie" Collective Exhibition - Galleria Orsorama - Milan.

14 April - 4 May: "Visoes Brasileiras" Collective Exhibition - Fuori salone 2015 - Milan.

5 February - 30 March: "Style andd Spirit" Collective Exhibition - Milan.

2014

8 - 13 April: "Fuorisalone Milano Design Week" - "Crossing - quando l'Arte incontra il design" - Spazio Arte Tolomeo - Milan.

31 October: "ARTeNATURA" - Conference & Collective Exhibition - Michele Vitaloni Studio&Gallery - Milan.

10 December: Auction "Wildlife & Sporting Art" - Christie's, S.K. London.

2013

12 - 27 October: "Arteotto 2013" - quarta rassegna d'arte contemporanea - Cavallermaggiore.

19 October - 22 December 2013: Personal Exhibition - Museo Minguzzi - Milan.

4/5/6/ October 2013: "Orticolario" - Personal Exhibition . Villa Erba . Lake Como . Italy.

29 September 2013: Collective Exhibition - Villa Nava Conti della Porta - Lecco.

10 July - 27 September 2013: Personal Exhibition - Museum Hall Hotel Boscolo Exedra Nizza.

5 April - 5 May 2013: Personal Exhibition - Museum Hall Hotel B4 - Milan.

13 February: Personal Exhibition - Museum Hall Hotel Boscolo Exedra - Milan.

201

12 December - Auction "Wildlife & Sporting Art" - Christie's, S.K. London



22 April - 4 June 2012: Personal Exhibition - Barclays Wealth Bank - Montecarlo.

27-28 April 2012: Collective Exhibition - Villa Litta - Lainate - Milan.

20 May - 20 September 2012: "Summer Exhibition" - Collective Exhibition - Rarity Gallery, Mikonos - Grecce

2011

9 - 17 April: "MIFA Milan Fine Art"

7 - 9 May: Collective Exhibition - Monastero della Misericordia - Missaglia - Lecco.

19 June - 30 September: "WILD" - Personal Exhibition - Castello Brown- PORTOFINO.

11 October - 5 November: "Wildemess" - Personal Exhibition - Circolo della Pipa e Bioparco di Roma.

2010

3 November: Auction "Wildlife & Sporting Art" - Christie's, S.K. London.

25 October - 26 November: "SPECIES UK" Personal Exhibition - Royal Geographical Society - London.

24 September / 10 October: "SPECIES Italy" Personal Exhibition - Cannonica San Salvatore - Lecco.

22 - 30 May: Collective Exhibition - Fortezza spagnola a Porto S.Stefano (GR).

10 - 25 April: "Bestiario" Collective Exhibition - "Galleria Casa Dugnani", Robecco S.N. - Milan.

26 January - 28 March: "Wildlife": Personal Exhibition, C-ARTE a Cassago Brianza (Lecco).

2009

19 - 22 November: Salon de l'art Animalier, CHÂTEAU DE VONÈCHE - Belgium (Miessen Gallery).

25 - 29 November: Open Doors - Miessen Gallery - Bruxelles - Belgium.

2008

June - September: "Summer exhibition": Collective Exhibition, The house of Bruar Gallery, Scotland. 6 September - 31 October: Personal Exhibition - Galleria Dantesca Fogola, Turin.

2007

17 February -11 March: Personal Exhibition - Curator: Prof. Giorgio Celli - Modern Art Museum - Bologna.

25 May - 23 June: "Recent sculpture" Personal Exhibition - Holland and Holland - London.

7 November: Asta "Sporting Art" - Christie's, London.

2006

24 March - 4 April: Collective Exhibition - Palazzo Festi, Sala Medioevale - Sala Wolkenstein, Trento.

11 - 20 August: Collective Exhibition - Tabià Casa Jellici - Tesero, Trento.

2005

11 July - 11 September: Collective Exhibition - Fogola Galleria Dantesca - Turin.

20 - 27 August: Personal Exhibition - Maison della Grivola, for International Nature Film Festival di Cogne - AO.

22 November: Auction "Sporting Art" - Christie's, London.

2004

November - December: Personal Exhibition - Holland and Holland - Paris.

12 October: Collective Exhibition - musical "African Footprint" for 10th anniversary end of apartheid, Teatre Smeraldo of Milan.

2003

July: Palazzo della Ragione, piazza dei Mercanti - Milan - Promoted of Architectural Digest.

September: "International Antiquarian Exhibition" Artwenp - Belgium.

27-28-29 November: "Nocturne" Collective Exhibition - Sculpture Gallery - Bruxelles.

October: Arezzo - February: Roma - Collective Exhibition - Promoted of Architectural Digest.

2002

2/24 May: "Michele Vitaloni:acquarelli, oli, altorilievi, sculture" Personal Exhibition - Galleria Dantesca Fogola, Turin. 13 June: Auction - "Sporting Art", Christie 's, London.

18 September - 8 November: Personal Exhibition for "Progetto African Heritage" - Sheraton Diana Majestic - Milan.



