


Milena





To my parents Elvira and Daniele, for their tireless support, and to my friend Claudia, so sweet and tenacious. I want to thank them for giving me self-esteem and courage and I dedicate them my verses of art.



## Milena, conquering freedom

At first sight her art offers a vibrant intensity choc, just like a symphony's thunder in a new world.

Her art, classical, modern, pure, sensual, conquering freedom. Her characters, the fabrics, live and move thanks to her mastery, difficult and original.

Her characters' bodies, carved with realistic details, carry us away with purple waves, with emotional and melodious images, where beauty isn't static.

It's difficult to believe that the artist isn't a man.

Her paintings are strong moving frescos.

Milena discovers her freedom conquest, she offers it in purple falls, in warrior musculature or in thin hair, seen with the clear gaze of a child. Harmony of sweetness and strength, under a ray of fire-light.

The artist is a warrior. Her strength is her art. Her weapons are her paint brushes, her colours, her strategy, they way she paints with her hands.

The freedom conquest will take her towards other horizons to conquer

Yvette Gualtieri

## Biographical Notes

Milena was born and grew up in Rimini, between the sea and the countryside of her aunt's house, and in fact the sea and nature will forge her artistic temperament.

Her parent's job make her feel lonely and make her create her own world, through sheets of straw paper and a pen. She uses them with self-confidence. She knows she can't erase any mistakes. She produces many drawings, very much appreciated by customers of her grandmother's shop. They are the first admirers of her art. With her first, little but symbolic earned money, she buys her first things. She begins to feel the taste of being independent. She grows, becomes a teenager. The passion for art grows inside her, without overwhelming her. Everything she does, will serve to feed her. Very soon she starts to feel full and she produces her first fruits. The events, youth studies, lead her to another form of art: fashion, which she faces also as a job. During this period she produces numerous drawings, which somehow satisfy her hidden and deeper artistic desire.

She starts traveling far from home. Milan, Paris and like a sponge, she unconsciously assimilates. The vicissitudes of this period, brings her to end with the fashion world and to start a new artistic path: the self-taught painting.

Self-taught, a way to express a negative concept, for many people of the art world, and also to her. It's like a stain that limits her any possibility and blocks her psychologically. She starts studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna, but she finds out it's not the place she wants to be. There is an involution. There, she feels tied and she leaves, although she receives positive critics and a consideration that she immediately accepts as a challenge ... but with herself. We are in the first phase of her early art, the period of her conflict with God. A conflict expressed through tough figurative painting, expressionist, symbolic, in which she uses different techniques and materials. A period of suffering and torment. From this experience, the help and loving education of her parents shake her, they make her think and react. She was able to find the positive side from all the negative situations she lived. Her self-esteem grew and then...then comes the second phase of her art: the meeting with God through the Bible. She is struck and from the torment she reaches peace. It's an "inner" peace that is poured on the canvas with a great strength. Art is passion! This is art for her.

But she still could not shake off the "black stain" of being a self-taught artist, until she meets and knows personally Fernando Gualtieri and his personal art. The master painter greatly appreciates Milena's work



and encourages her to fight. In Gualtieri she discovers many similarities: the softness of the fabrics, the transparency of the crystal, the broken crystals ... but what surprises her is the fact that she is a self-taught painter and that despite of this, she reaches fame and success.

This meeting releases her psychologically... and the stain disappears, becoming a source of strength for her. Now she feels ready to introduce her powerful art.

Milena is a painter who loves classical masters: Raffaello, Caravaggio, Michelangelo... She is still living a growth phase, but the improvements are obvious. Canvas after canvas she reaches greater mastery, with her oil colours from bright colours and with her hands she uses as a brush. Art is life. It is the cornerstone of her life. Here we have the predominant use of red, because red is the colour of life, blood flowing in the veins: "And red collects dreams, pain, life, feelings ..." [ Milena ]

Her first three artistic periods highlight the search for her own identity. A research highlighted by the signatures that she uses. *Divaa* for the first period, *Maddalena* for the second, and now after the change, simply Milena. Creativity, observation, sensitivity and precision are the "tools" that allow her to express herself. Until now the dominant element of her art is her experience, her joys, her sorrows, made even more powerful by the insertion of sensual and symbolic details that portray her. Never vulgar "self portraits". Her first period is accompanied by the necessity to write on paper to block sensations, pain and passions. A need that she keeps as a secret. From written words she starts painting, two forms of expression that live inside her with difficulty. Now with brushes and colours she expresses everything she feels inside and her words are transformed into masterpieces. This is her way of expressing herself,

**"You can tell a lot about yourself putting in silence the words that are about to be told."**

**"Flies essence of woman to boundless landscapes and reigns alone in the night, giving to the naked canvas glares of lights and shadows, flowers and jewels, marbles pulsating of veins and hopes..."**

Pier Luigi Nucci









Autoritratto  
oil on canvas  
cm 50 x 70  
2013



La cena - particolare

La cena  
oil on canvas  
cm 45 x 45  
2012



## Fiamma di fuoco

*Tornare a scrivere dopo tanto tempo....  
ho lasciato la penna perché ho amato l'arte del dipingere con ardore  
e a lei ho dedicato i miei versi.*

*Sono giorni senza di lei, eppure la sento addosso  
fluttuare come seta aderente al mio corpo.*

*È donna, è pelle rinnovata, è volto di amica sincera.  
È mare che mi parla. È madre che mi cura.*

*È musica senza voce,  
è voce di chi ha qualcosa da dire da dentro se.*

*È marito che ti ascolta,  
fedele-innamorato-comprendivo-unico.*

*È fiore da odorare, è colore vivo che viene verso di te.*

*È fiamma di fuoco che arde senza consumarsi.*

*È padre che non ti abbandona.*

*La pittura è l'abbraccio di Dio, il mio Dio, che mi consola.*

Milena





Luce nel mondo  
oil on canvas  
cm 80 x 100  
2012

*“ That was the true Light, which enlightens every man that cometh into the world...”*



Luce nel mondo - particolare

*"...as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God..."*



Luce nel mondo - particolare

*“ . . . And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses,  
but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. . . ”*

Giovanni





Luce nel mondo - particolare

La chiamata di Samuele  
oil on canvas  
cm 60 x 55  
2012



*...nel breve istante in cui l'occhio sognatore  
dipinge la trasparenza della goccia al suo arresto,  
io vedo l'amore dato per intero...*

Milena



Il sapore dell'empio - particolare

Il sapore dell'empio  
oil on canvas  
cm 120 x 170  
2011





Il sapore dell'empio - particolare





Il sapore dell'empio - particolare

## Viaggio notturno

(dipingendo nella notte)

*Vola essenza di donna verso paesaggi sconfinati  
e regna sola nella notte, regalando alla nuda tela abbagli di luce ed ombre,  
fiori e gioielli, marmi pulsanti di vene e speranze....*

*La vita continua a scorrere e la tua bellezza ad ingigantirsi  
seguendo il passaggio di tumultuosi pensieri.  
Difficile comprendere la ragione del suo solitario vagare,  
ne tantomeno scorgere la sua direzione.*

*Stupito, della mia arte ti nutrirai e della tua ingordigia farai parola.*

*Vola regina essenza verso orizzonti senza fine...*

*Oh pennellata di mano tremante  
per l'eccitazione di sublimare sguardi, capelli, pelle;  
oh incarnato scolpito nell'oro incandescente  
che ti incontri con la danza di bicchieri e calici rotti;  
oh spettatore assuefatto da vortici di rossi e lacrime di rose;  
distendi anche tu le tue ali sopra il mondo dormiente  
e fatti trasportare dalla musica dei colori....*

Milena





Bicchiere spezzato  
oil on canvas  
cm 55 x 45  
2011

Si può dire molto di se stessi rimanendo in silenzio

*Il sangue scorre lungo il mio corpo schiuso alla luce crepuscolare,  
e diviene il rosso che raccoglie sogni, dolori, vita, sentimenti. . .  
Fiori abbandonati alla veduta di una natura infinita e taciturna  
entrano a far parte di questa raccolta segreta, che all'improvviso con impeto si rivela.  
La mia mano attraversa la distesa del paesaggio osservato  
e la raccolta si arricchisce di rossi smaltati e leggiadre sfumature.  
Si può dire molto di se stessi mettendo a silenzio le parole in procinto di raccontare.*

Milena



Sacro manoscritto e orchidea Vanda - particolare



Sacro manoscritto e orchidea Vanda  
oil on canvas  
cm 100 x 80  
2009







Ricchezza trovata  
oil on canvas  
cm 50 x 40  
2008

## Spade e rose

*...Il mio corpo giace inerte sul letto, sigillando all'interno rose bollenti del mio agire;  
in esse sono convocati pensieri, attitudini, speranze, idee, illusioni,  
slanci che la mano del mondo sprigiona strappando la statua  
sulla forma possente dei suoi generosi fianchi.  
Decidere di mostrarle all'esterno imprimendole sulla tela può recar sofferenza,  
la loro libertà potrebbe estinguersi in breve tempo. . . ed una lacrima sgorga dai petali.*

Milena



Ligeia - particolare



Ligeia

oil and gold leaf  
on canvas  
cm 135 x 166  
2007





Ligeia - particolare





Ligeia - particolare



Profumo di donna e lilium dorato - particolare



Profumo di donna e lilium dorato

oil on canvas

cm 100 x 80

2006

Braccialeto prezioso in oro, smeraldi, perle e rubini  
oil on canvas  
cm 35 x 40  
2005





..The God who made the earth and everything in it, he, being Lord of heaven and earth, is not housed in buildings made with hands, and he is not dependent on the work of men's hands, as if he had need of anything, for he himself gives to all life and breath and all things. And he has made of one blood all the nations of men living on all the face of the earth, ordering their times and the limits of their lands, so that they might make search for God, in order, if possible, to get knowledge of him and make discovery of him, though he is not far from every one of us. For in him we have life and motion and existence, as certain of your verse writers have said: "For we are his offspring". If then we are the offspring of God, it is not right for us to have the idea that God is like gold or silver or stone, formed by the art or design of man. Those times when men had no knowledge were overlooked by God, but now he gives orders to all men in every place to undergo a change of heart, Because a day has been fixed in which all the world will be judged in righteousness by the man who has been marked out by him for this work, of which he has given a sign to all men by giving him back from the dead.

Paolo, speech in Athens.

