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Massimo Di Stefano, Artist and Garden Designer

I was born in Chieti in 1965 and I live and work in Perugia.

I am a self-taught artist who loves the beauty of Nature and the wonders of the Cosmos.

I approached painting by listening to the innate transport towards the primordial elements of life in which I recognize the main engine to be able to express the depths of my soul.

My works are abstract - informal with sometimes more or less figurative hints.

They are made with mixed techniques through the use of acrylic colors, tempera, enamels, natural earths, gypsum, vinyl glues, polyurethane, plant elements, etc.

The experimentation of materials is the basis of my artistic path that treasures all that nature and human technology make available to me.

Photography and digital art go hand in hand with painting with a synergy that strengthens and completes the desire and need for the emergence of my subconscious and of the users of my works.

## Sites where I exhibit

<https://www.facebook.com/massimodistefanoarte>

<http://www.premioceleste.it/MASSIMODISTEFANO>

<https://www.artlynow.com/galleria-arte-moderna/elenco-opere-arte/artista/massimo-di-stefano/>

<https://www.instagram.com/massimodistefano65/>

<https://www.designbyhumans.com/shop/RADstore/>

<https://www.riseart.com/user/my-settings#section%3Dartist>

<https://www.artegante.it/massimodistefano>

<http://www.quaz-art.it/ita-artista.php?id=392>

<http://www.massimodistefano.com>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/massimo-di-stefano-2b787916/>

<https://www.absolutearts.com/portfolios/x/xilema/>

<https://www.artpal.com/massimodistefano>

<https://www.artmajeur.com/massimodistefano>

<https://www.saatchiart.com/massimodistefano>

<https://www.gigarte.com/massimodistefano>

[Fine art america  
massimo-distefano.pixels.com](https://massimo-distefano.pixels.com)

<https://www.ArtPal.com/massimodistefano?i=218359-8&r=218359>

<https://www.singulart.com/it/artista/massimo-di-stefano-29541?ref=ts>

<https://fragile-express.com/2021/06/27/massimo-di-stefano-catarsi-2013/>

## CRITICAL

Massimo Di Stefano's Sidereal Psychocreativism

edited by Dr. Andrea Domenico Taricco

"Angelo Nithael: Lord of perfect balance. Dazzling beauty. Harmony that pours into creation. Touch, O Eternal One, my sick body and make Me the faithful needle of your scales "

Prayers to the Angels. Haziel with Anna Alba

When we think of a contemporary artist, we certainly imagine an intolerant intellectual locked in his studio drowning his frustrations in pictorial projections dictated by chance. Stains of color on the floor, on the clothes and on the support reduced to a rational container of everything that was dictated by the involuntary impetus of a latent ferocity. The children of the short century inherited this anger. They have absorbed the nightmare of nuclear devastation in which racial differences have imploded the spirit of the world, reducing it to a sacrificial victim on the altars of the soul.

This is not the case with Massimo Di Stefano. Eclectic, intense, profound artist. He crosses creation and freezes it materially by dilating it on the support. Son of the twentieth-century creative tradition, he expanded and deepened his aesthetic taste through his experience until he landed in a sort of no-man's land where logic and imagination coexist in an indefinite unicum in which only the spirit finds refuge.

Look, observe, see. He descends into the atmospheres dictated by the surrounding world and translates them into art, giving them back to us diluted through an out of the ordinary sensitivity. Di Stefano is a *sui generis* artist. It has a degree of humanity dictated by a very fine sensitivity. Through matter and assiduous technical research, he freezes the elements and in them, in fact, finds the soul of the world: the deep heart of things. While the world is in struggle and peoples unleash hells of power, Di

Stefano elaborates sidereal journeys aimed at purifying the vanity of a globalized world that is gradually losing the profound sense of things, mutual feelings and beauty.

This joy or hope lives in him, even if at times it implodes itself to the point of losing the connection with expectations.

This must not discourage him, on the contrary, it must encourage him to search again and make us travel in his submerged worlds. Submerged because they scientifically praise the surrounding Nature by probing it in structural particles up to the archetypal origin and to sub-units that seek the greatness of a distant God because he is unknown to us all but present in essence. "Inside ...." says the artist: "... inside things there is a universal presence that guides the course of events.". And he adds while his eyes shine with a disarming candor: "... a mysterious force that has given the Cosmos life and will continue to transmit it through things, beyond any superstition".

He himself is the angel who gives the world its purity and immolates it in timeless works. Works that will surely survive the aesthetic laws of contemporaneity and that will be read through cultural codes of the reference periods. But the degrees of reception are fleeting. These works are eternal and will always maintain the ideal matrices that the artist has chromatically infused on the supports, deriving universal archetypal formulations.

Think of Thoughts in Evolution (2014), a mixed technique on polystyrene in which it seems to expand the neuronal possibilities in passionate outbursts of color that gradually becomes directional forms. Same considerations valid for Tempesta Emotional (2013) or In the depths of the subconscious (2014), works in which thoughts take shape and colors symbolically investigate the nature of these inner projections. This is where it all starts. The mind becomes the entropic seat of an immeasurable and immeasurable force. Ancient traces (2014) as well as Dancing in the limbic world (2012), constitute an impetus towards the higher world, almost as if the mind were interconnected to a cosmic network of pure energy. The ratio rises to a degree of cosmic spirituality and the journey begins.

Let's think of Dentro il tempo (2011), a mixed technique made on a wooden panel, in which he interconnects thoughts with external time, generator of space and forms circumscribed by a momentary state of matter. A speech comparable to another metaphysical work such as The Folds of the Soul (2011), a mixed technique on a table in which time freezes and the body becomes the perfect synthesis of a superior discourse. Before the creation (2014) as well as Inside the heart (2012),

looks at the surface with the inner eyes of a sidereal traveler and crosses the macrocosm in Unforgettable dream (2014) as well as in Bassa marea (2012) up to undisputed masterpieces such as Before the creation (2014), when the miracle of life as we conceive it at this stage, had not yet been conceived.

Cosmic skin (2010) now crosses the galaxies uniformed to an anthropomorphic mantle in which life and death, surface and depth, light and darkness, are conceptually amalgamated in an absolute becoming.

The perfect synthesis of this synaptic journey between micro and macro, between spirit and matter is represented by the masterpiece entitled Geoembrione (2011), also made with a mixed technique on polystyrene. A simple sub-atomic corpuscle is pictorially isolated in an expressive test tube, but probing it with our gaze we can verify its evocative power to the point of understanding its compositional uniqueness. Within the chromatic agglomeration we can distinguish planets, stars, galaxies structured in material formations almost indistinct with denoting uniformity. The world, the entire universe and the vastness of which we are part are thus enclosed in a micro - organism. The miracle of form, mind and existing things convert matter into spirit.

And this is the process that distinguishes Di Stefano from other artists. It is precisely through his ability to describe matter to us that allows us to cross the spirit and see it through the chromatic flow organized on the supports he uses.

Features not only evident through painting but also with the aid of Digital Graphics. If painting is the ideal tool to plow through the sidereal space to find its ephemeral folds, digital graphics impresses its sublimated essence.

Let's think of "Fragment of tears" or the kaleidoscopic universes of "Life ... like a dream" or the amazing abstractions entitled "The beginning and the end are the same thing" up to "Constructivism deconstructive". "Soul's explosion" tells us about the wonders of the cosmos that radiate galaxies exactly as feelings live in our hearts.

"Your eye" is the dilated image of a human eye which, like a distant world, acts following the impulses of nature. And the journey continues through unknown worlds such as "From a different space" as well as "Anima in turmoil up to The creation".

And we could continue with hundreds and hundreds of works that, in one way or another, through an emotion or a simple impulse of a researching mind, transform the material by manipulating it into a timeless work. Massimo Di Stefano is a psychocreativist artist born of virtualism for the fact of converting the degrees of

abstract realism preceding an interior search not aimed at the description of what is outside of us but of what is inside. His introspective analysis is interconnected with the whole, finding the mysteries of the spirit in reason, the totality of the soul in the paradoxes of matter and the greatness of the Ego in the infinite cosmos. We are talking about an immense ego capable of receiving the vastness of God in a leaf.

In this sense, his is a sidereal art that crosses the vastness of the reference body, crossing itself through an extraordinary sensitivity. These are the premises for a conscious art, mature and addressed to all those who, besides the eyes, are able to see with their heart.

## Critique by Dr. Carmine Ciccarini (Oxan Clounout)

Human sentiment can be represented without necessarily resorting to images or structured compositions and can do without a clear, immediate manifestation that often only less skilled critics claim to find.

Massimo Di Stefano, who at first looks like an abstract artist, actually expresses much more than what the eye can grasp at first glance.

If we observe his artistic production in "toto", from painting to digital art and photography, we realize that many expressions that Di Stefano conveys also through the flexible use of poor materials, at first glance refractory to lyricism, have a poetic character extreme even if it requires the observer to move outside the normal critical patterns.

This is how we perceive the umbilical cord that binds the Abruzzese artist to the Italian and European avant-gardes: Fontana's sense of spatial concept is evident but also a certain affinity with the Cobra group, in particular with Karel Appel and Jorn, especially in his more material works in which the use of paint binds to enamels and, often, to strong hyperchromatic tones; the third dimension that is sometimes appreciated in some of his works evokes the works of the Azimuth group, those created with glazes and plaster differently dosed to form a real spatial concept, also very close to the expressions so dear to another great artist named Anselm Kiefer; in his digital works, conceived in the binomial visual expression and obsessive and repetitive musical expression, the concepts elaborated by a young and talented American artist, Cory Arcangel, are perceived, albeit reworked in an absolutely personal way.

It is certainly not Di Stefano's intention to cite these authors: he possesses an often intuitive and sometimes wild technique, an inherent ability to be a medium of deep and hidden human feelings, drawn from the archetypes of the collective unconscious that goes beyond and exceeds the aesthetics as an end in itself.

Di Stefano moves in a subtle field, suspended in a form of psychological dichotomy, an effective encounter between rationality and "madness".

Di Stefano's pictorial and photographic works manifest a spasmodic and ferocious urge to transmit suffered feelings, typical of one who moves in a sort of inspired trance; he is an alchemist and demiurge of truth sometimes only intuited by the author himself.

From this intimate contrast his creations are born, undoubtedly original in certain aspects, which even though there is a common artistic denominator, allow us to prefigure a very personal evolution that will be synthesized in pure innovation.

We are deeply struck by this artist who in his works expresses a rare sense of freedom and a marked, instinctive processing capacity.

The kineticism, the spatial concept, the monochromatism of certain works and the polychromatism of others, combined with the kinetic sense, do not represent the aesthetic quotation of artistic currents but are typical of the artist, an unconscious expression of his offer, intelligent, personal a new art in the maze of a cultured and restless spirit.

Oxan Clounout (art critic on ArteIn)

## Criticism by Dr. LUCIANO LEPRI (critic and journalist)

His is a painting of experimentation both in materials, in techniques, and in supports; experimentation that leads to results of an interesting formal and content level, where in the research inspired by astatto-informal suggestions, particular attention is given to the materials that determine the images and their placement in the spatiality of the painting with subjects that become symbolic presences of sure grip and effect, to the point that the happy creative and imaginative vein and the mysterious formation of the image constitutes the most relevant effect of the compositions that appear as immersions in vanished worlds or futuristic visions of distant and unknown worlds.

## Exhibitions:

2010 solo show at the Literary Cafe in Foligno - Foligno - (PG)

2010 collective "Images, words, sounds of Spring" IPSO ART GALLERY - Perugia -

2010 collective "Music is Art" at Villa Perusia - Perugia -

2010 personal "Terra Cosmo Anima" Porto Franco Gallery - Perugia -

2010 collective "Travels for images" Galleria Vista - Rome -

2010 international collective "The balance of the gypsies" Galleria degli Zingari - Rome

2010 collective "Form of expression" within the event "Short circuit" IROKO Gallery - Milan

2010 collective "Red Art" Villa Perusia - Perugia -

2011 International collective "Sight" The Sense of Sight - Galleria degli Zingari - Rome

2011 Collective exhibition "The Voice of Art" IROKO Gallery - Milan -

2011 Collective exhibition "Psyche & Love" Serenarte Gallery - Bologna -

2011 International collective "Taste" The sense of taste - Galleria degli Zingari - Rome

2011 Collective "80,000 cm2 in the face, in the sky, on the ground" - Studio Gabelli - Milan -

2011 Collective exhibition "Images, Sounds, Words" IPSO ART GALLERY - Perugia -

2012 Collective "Masquerade" Galleria Saman - Rome -

2012 Collective exhibition "Images, Sounds, Words, Summer" IPSO ART GALLERY - Perugia -

2013 Biennale Arte Brescia

2014 1st International Symposium of Digital Art - Barbella Museum - Chieti.  
Exhibition curated by Prof. Massimo Pasqualone

2014 Spring Award - Lagostiniana Gallery - Rome

2014 personal exhibition Caffè Nanni - Piombino -

2014 Collective Digital Art - Unpainted - Art Meet Gallery - Milan

2014 Collective of Digital Art "Stabiae: Art without obstacles" Palace of Quisisana Castellama of Stabia - Naples -

2014 Award ceremony at the Sala Protomoteca del Campidoglio - Rome - on the occasion of the Art Award Autumn

2014 Personal exhibition at the "Contemporary Renaissance" Gallery Pescara. Exhibition curated by dr. Andrea Domenico Taricco

2015 Collective exhibition space Aurum - Pescara. Exhibition curated by Prof. Massimo Pasqualone

2015 personal exhibition Gallery "City of the future" - Mandarini - Perugia

2015 Selected as permanent artist by the association "Ventitrezerouno" - Catalog -

2015 Collective organized by Ventitrezerouno at Altresi exhibition space - Nepi - (VT)

2015 Selected by the "Fifth Annual Exposure Award" competition - See Mee - to exhibit a work of photomicrographs at the Louvre Museum in Paris

2015 Traveling group exhibition "Art in the villages" by the Lejo association. Exhibitions curated by Prof. Massimo Pasqualone

2015 Collective "When art meets Jazz" - Hotel Giò - Perugia. Exhibition curated by the association "Oxygene". With the presence of the art critic, Prof. Giorgio Gregorio Grasso.

2015 Collective art competition organized by the "Oxygene" Oxygene Gallery - Perugia - President of the jury: Prof. Giorgio Gregorio Grasso.

2015 International Symposium "the silence of the soul" by Prof. Massimo Pasqualone. Serafini Gallery - Montesilvano - Pescara

2015 Collective exhibition "Soul in frame 2" by Prof. Duccio Trombadori.

"Vittoria Colonna" Museum of Modern Art - Pescara -

2015 XXIII International Painting and Sculpture Competition. G. D'Annunzio Award - Aurum - Pescara -

2016 Collective exhibition "Varatio delectat" by Prof. Zazzeroni at the Federico Barocci Gallery Raffaello College - Urbino

2016 Participation in the auction curated by the auction house "Picenum Arte" and subsequent presence as an artist listed in "Ars Value", "Art Price" and "Saleroom"

2016 Collective "Radici (Terra)" at "Castello Orsini" Avezzano (AQ)

2016 Collective exhibition at the Fortress of Civitella del Tronto (TE) organized by Prof. Massimo Pasqualone e attended by Vittorio Sgarbi