

[English 🇬🇧]

Alessandro Montalbano

SCULPTURE



The human body

"The human body, and more particularly the female body, is, in my work, my best field of exploration. In this body are embodied the weight of my thoughts and my emotions which result in conflicts and misunderstandings leading to this tension so present and so material in my sculptures."

"I do not hesitate through my sculptures to establish a dialogue of synthesis between the different phases and periods of my work: to combine the round shapes of my first works with the hollows and notches that have appeared over the years with my bronzes and welded steels. This dialogue is found in the series of sculptures made in direct plaster where I reconnect with the full form of my beginnings, nourished by my past experiences and always focusing my attention on the vibrations of the material, its rhythm, its strength."

The horse

Alessandro Montalbano superimposes in a single metaphor the image of the horse, the man and the artist. Indomitable, fiery, rearing, rebellious, his horses express through the tension which animates them a fierce struggle for freedom and for life. This same theme runs through the work of this prolific painter and sculptor who gives us the vision of a world where its main protagonists are subject to the apparently contrary - but ultimately complementary - forces of life and death, the masculine and the feminine, divine and human. In painting, the woman and horse duo interpret through these improbable couples, a theatrical staging of human comedy and man / woman relationships.



"The body of my horses is marked by a very great tension, but also torsion, it is an energetic body which is not simply placed on its four legs, but in positions that are sometimes completely impossible for the animal. The image of the horse, the powerful symbol that it evokes in our mind is all the more reinforced as I try to endow it with a very great visual dynamic. The tension materialised in the horse's body, in the evocation of the fight against death, is the incredible strength and capacity that man actually possesses to recover from the trials and sufferings inflicted on him."

The bull

"The theme of the bull, which recently appeared in my work following my installation in the Charolais countryside, is in the same vein as that of the horse. The exceptional plasticity of this new "neighbour" with whom I established a dialogue, captivates me and impresses me as much by its power as by its harmony. The symbolic evocation of these creatures that are the bull and the horse, fascinates since the dawn of time and it is for me the metaphor of the man, his strength and his capacity to face the tests of the existence."



The angels

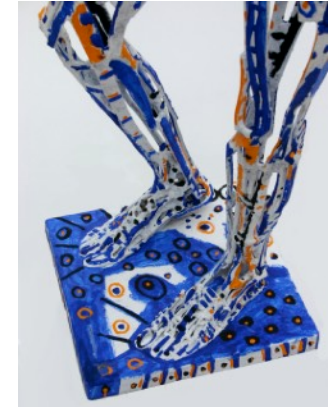
"The angel testifies to this spiritual need which persecutes every being at one time or another of his existence, and if they have the wings ragged, in tatters, it is because they have touched men as closely as possible, but , although this contact has deeply hurt and humanised them, they keep the hope of their mission. Usually asexual, my angels are feminine, because much more than a celestial creature, it is also the positive image of the woman, that is to say the hope that she represents for the man."

"I have been working on the subject of the angel for over 20 years. Through this subject I seek to express the duality of the human being, both anchored to the ground, in the materialist reality, but also attracted to an ideal, a transcendence, a spirituality that I represent by wings in which a wind of hope although they are in tatters. The

notion of duality is also present through the work of bronze, between power and fragility. My sculptures are both benevolent and tragic. Each spectator is free to see according to his experience and his state of mind towards which feelings my angels will guide him... "

Painted sculpture

Through his painted bronze sculptures, the artist "explodes" with an almost tribal painting the hollows and solids, in a turbulent but well-proportioned whirlpool and guided by a certain rhythm essential to his work. The pictorial writing produced on the sculpture (lines, dots, circles ...) is very similar to that which characterizes his paintings and is therefore not an anecdotal painting that would be just there to embellish the work. This painting brings a whole other way of apprehending sculpture, to discover the voids and the solids which constitute the main part of his research as a sculptor.



Maternity

The image that traditionally comes to our mind when evoking the theme of motherhood is an image of tenderness and gentleness. This sculpture resists these feelings and favours a more universal idea. This is motherhood in the sense of fertile Mother Earth, with generous forms, giving birth to her child and thereby to the human condition. A Mother worried about the future of her son and at the same time worried about the future of man. This tension is made visible through the particularly expressive treatment of the material, the welded bronze, as well as by the twisting of the body of the Mother holding her child with one arm and her head raised to heaven invoking divine help.