

Lanotte Maria | Apulia between real and surreal

In my images, I wanted to create a dreamlike vision of Puglia, looking for representative references of some cities and typicalities, with a surreal vision.

Digital art is my greatest passion, a personal interpretation of my surroundings.

"I only need to close my eyes to be able to see," quoted Gauguin.

I only need to close my eyes and step outside the canonical patterns of representation and narration.

In these images, I have represented ten territories of Puglia:

Bari: Petruzzelli's Theater: construction of the Petruzzelli began on May 23, 1898, but the theater was not inaugurated until four years later, on February 14, 1903, with Giacomo Meyerbeer's "Gli Ugonotti." The Petruzzelli was distinguished from other Italian theaters by its extraordinary capacity (originally 2,192 seats, today 1,482, reduced over time as a result of safety regulations) as well as variety of programming.

The spotlight had just turned off on Bellini's Norma when, on the night of Oct. 27, 1991, a fire destroyed the theater, irreparably damaging the artistic life of the Apulian capital and leaving citizens in the dismay of an unimaginable event.

On December 6, 2009, with the official closing of the construction site, the theater was handed back to Bari and Puglia completely rebuilt, exactly as it was in its fundamental spaces, but with state-of-the-art facilities in terms of safety and technology.

Lecce and its baroque rose window of the MAESTOSA BASILICA DI SANTA CROCE

Lecce, and more generally the entire Salento region, have several architectural beauties that are the result of art and genius. The Basilica of Santa Croce is recognized as the highest expression of Baroque in the Salento province. A magnificent building whose construction began in 1549 and ended in 1646 (almost a hundred years later); it can be admired in all its beauty in the historic center of Lecce.

An ambitious project that required about 100 years of work and investment, and which saw the support of some of the most important architects of the time. Not surprisingly, its construction was planned in several steps allowing the religious of the time to be able to enter and actively attend the structure.

Taranto the city of two seas: symbol of the city is the dolphin. The city is known for its attention to these cetaceans, through studies, analysis and care of the area, experts in the field accompany you in unforgettable tourist experiences.

Trani and its romantic gardens: Trani's municipal villa is, without a doubt, one of the most charming seaside gardens in Apulia.

It is located next to the old walls; it is filled with holm oaks, maritime pines, flower beds, palm trees and fountains. It overlooks the sea, projecting far into the distance, with a wide view that goes from the Cathedral to the Colonna peninsula

Barletta: Pietro Mennea the arrow of the SOUTH

In the 1970s and 1980s, when Pietro Mennea took to the track, all of Italy would stop to watch him on TV. They called him "Arrow of the South," a nickname that significantly compared that extraordinary sprinter, originally from Puglia, to the famous express train that connected Milan with Sicily.

The fastest man in the world in the 200 meters from 1979 to 1996. Pietro lived as he ran and ran as he lived.

Ten years after his death, the pride of the city of Barletta, it is he who represents it in this exhibition.

Alberobello, Trulli: typical limestone dwellings in Alberobello in southern Apulia, are outstanding examples of dry-stone slab construction, a technique dating back to prehistoric times and still used in this region. Although rural trulli are scattered throughout the Itria Valley, the highest concentration of the best-preserved examples of this architectural form can be found in the town of Alberobello, with more than 1,500 structures in the districts of Monti and Aja Piccola. Trulli are traditional dry-stone huts with roofs composed of slabs set in dry-stone. Trulli generally served as temporary shelters or as permanent homes by small landowners or agricultural workers. Trulli were built of roughly worked limestone, quarried during excavations for underground cisterns, stones collected from the countryside and from surrounding rocky outcrops.

The mysteries of Castel del Monte: is one of the most magical places in Italy. Located 60 kilometers from Bari, more precisely in a hamlet of Andria, it was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996.

Castel del Monte is not only a splendid example of medieval architecture, built with quartz and limestone, but also encapsulates magic and esotericism. Because of the strong symbolism it is imbued with, it has been assumed that the fortress might have been a kind of temple of knowledge, in which to devote oneself to the study of the sciences.

Margherita di Savoia and the pink flamingo reserve: The salt pans of Margherita di Savoia are the largest in Europe, about 100 square kilometers in size. Even the ancient Romans collected salt here. The pink color of the salt marshes comes from a seaweed that shrimp are fond of, a favorite food of the flamingos, which thus take on their muted hues. About 500 pairs of flamingos are nesting at this time. A place that still preserves a timeless charm.

Canne della Battaglia, Hannibal and the pincer strategy: The Battle of Cannae on August 2, 216 B.C. was one of the major battles of the Second Punic War, and it took place near the city of Canne in Apulia. The army of Carthage, commanded by Hannibal, encircled and almost totally destroyed a numerically superior army of the Roman Republic.

Hannibal ordered his infantry to turn inward and advance against the enemy's flanks, creating an encirclement of the Roman legions in one of the earliest known examples of a pincer maneuver.

The giants of Puglia: In Apulia there is a portion of territory, known as "the plain of the olive trees," bounded by the municipalities of Ostuni, Fasano, Monopoli and Carovigno in which there is a very high concentration of millenary olive trees, with plants that could be up to 3,000 years old dating back to the time of the ancient Messapi. It is possible to visit this great heritage that characterizes the landscape of the Apulian territory thanks to a network of paths, sheep-tracks and ancient roads that the Millenari di Puglia project has selected to visit some of the largest and most spectacular thousand-year-old olive trees.

The queens of Puglia: Orecchiette are a pasta format typical of the area in the province of Bari and date back roughly to the historical period between the 12th and 13th centuries. In Bari dialect they are called "recchietelle" because of their ear shape.

As early as the Middle Ages they were produced using durum wheat grown and harvested in the Tavoliere delle Puglie. Their typical shape was due to the fact that they were able to store pasta better for use during long periods of famine. In fact, the concave shape favored the drying process. Some reliable and accredited historical sources trace the first evidence of this Apulian pasta format to an archive of the Basilica of San Nicola in Bari dated to 1500. In this deed of inheritance in which the owner of a bakery bequeathed his business to his daughter, it can be read that among the marriage dowry left to the young woman was that of preparing the famous "recchjetedde."

Italiano

Nelle mie immagini ho voluto creare una visione onirica della Puglia, cercando riferimenti rappresentativi di alcune città e tipicità, con una visione surreale.

L'arte digitale è la mia più grande passione, un'interpretazione personale di ciò che mi circonda.

"Mi basta chiudere gli occhi per poter vedere", citava Gauguin.

Mi basta chiudere gli occhi ed uscire dagli schemi canonici della rappresentazione e della narrazione.

In queste immagini ho rappresentato dieci territori della Puglia:

Bari e il Maestoso Teatro Petruzzelli: un ballerino danza davanti alla rinascita di un grande monumento, distrutto dopo un incendio.

Lecce e il barocco, rappresentato dal rosone della Basilicata di Santa Croce

Taranto, la terra dei due mari: ispirata dal simbolo della città, il delfino ho cercato di porre l'attenzione sulla riserva e la salvaguardia dei cetacei, in quella parte di Puglia.

Trani, con la eleganza architettonica e paesaggistica, una visione romantica, che parte dalla villa, accompagnandoci in una passeggiata malinconica, fino alla Cattedrale

Barletta, in un evento sportivo, spicca il simbolo e la grandezza di un atleta che ha dato lustro alla città, in tutto il mondo: La FRECCIA del SUD, Pietro MENNEA.

Alberobello, i trulli si levano dal suolo in un'esplosione di pietra calcarea e sovrastano il paesaggio stesso.

Andria, i misteri di Castel del Monte, la magia, le onde sonore che avvolgono la pianta ottagonale e la storia del passaggio di Federico II definito Stupor Mundi in Puglia.

Margherita di Savoia e la sua riserva di fenicotteri rosa, una delle Saline più importanti di Europa, con una riserva davvero affascinante.

Canne della Battaglia, sito archeologico, ove si svolse la più grande sconfitta dell'Impero Romano, ad opera di Annibale e della sua imprevedibile strategia militare, definita a Tenaglia.

La Puglia non solo arte, cultura, tradizioni, ma anche gastronomia, fra le più conosciute ed apprezzate in Italia, per cui due immagini dedicati ai prodotti più esportati nel mondo.

Gli ulivi, i giganti di Puglia, rappresentano uno dei prodotti pregiati del nostro territorio, ma soprattutto una storia millenaria

Le regine di Puglia, ovvero le orecchiette: un formato di pasta tipico della zona della provincia di Bari e risalgono all'incirca al periodo storico tra il XII e il XIII secolo. In dialetto barese sono chiamate "recchietelle" per la loro forma a spiga.