

GROUP AND PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

Marg8 & Retrophuture

(**alias Gianni Margotto and Fabrizio Passarella**), are two video artists who have been collaborating since years on specific projects of video art, performing visual, electronic music, installations, videomapping, etc in Italy and abroad.

They both have studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna, Set Design Marg8 and Painting Retrophuture, and taught as lecturers in Bologna's and Ravenna's Academy.

Both have long since abandoned painting, but not giving up to rethink it digitally, keeping a pictorial sensitivity and translating it into new media. They collaborated very intensely at the beginning of the 80s, then undertook different paths and careers, while continuing to practice similar artistic and spiritual paths, after a period of almost thirty years, they started working again with renewed enthusiasm onto new complex and interesting dynamic projects, as well as to revise and develop the past topics. These were quite pioneering experiments, at the time, including electronic music, video, electronic installations, painted sceneries ecc...

Together they have created videoshow, digital performance and events for important public and private spaces, galleries, museums, clubs, electronic art festivals, etc.

Marg8 being more involved in the technical side, either live show or in studio, in mappings and real time generated 3D processing, while Retrophuture privileges the editing and the poetic flow of images and video.

Retrophuture (Fabrizio Passarella) was born in Contarina (Ro).

He studied at the Artistic Lyceum and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna (Painting).

After graduation he began his artistic career and, simultaneously, experimenting in the fields of design and graphics.

After spending a year in Berlin (which left indelible impressions on his artistic work), he began to exhibit regularly in galleries and museums, since 1978.

Although mainly involved in painting, he soon found himself exploring video and electronic music since the early '80s, organizing installations / multi-media events, combining painting, music, performance and video. He was hence involved with a few other Italian and international artists

on the project of Medialismo theorized by the critic Gabriele Perretta. In 1994 he got a residency in Düsseldorf from Nordrhein Westfalen Department of Culture, during which he worked on a series of works that have been exhibited in major contemporary art museums in Germany and Italy (Ludwig Museum - Köln, Kunstpalast - Düsseldorf, Staedtliches Museum - Moenchengladbach, Castello di Rivoli, Gam - Bologna, GAMEC - Bergamo, etc.).

As a painter and media artist he was invited to many solo and group shows in galleries, foundations and museums by prominent national and international curators and critics.

In 2005 he was invited (the only foreign artist for that year) to Expo Trastiendas in Buenos Aires with his installation Ex-Statica (previously showed at the Museo d'Arc in Rome).

His works are in important collections, foundations and museums (Mambo-Bologna, Bulgari Space-Miami, Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Rome, etc.) and have been exhibited in significant international exhibitions on Italian art of the 20th century.

Since 2010/11, abandoning painting almost completely, he conceived the project Retrophuture, an experiment of polymedia art which includes images, graphic design, video, lyrics and electronic music.

The project aims to find a wider feedback than the traditional circuit of contemporary art (galleries, museums, etc.), through the Internet and specific interventions in alternative places such as monumental cemeteries, industrial buildings, discos, public spaces, antique museums, etc.

Since then Retrophuture was received quite positively by the media, with articles, reviews, conferences, lectures, workshops (Rai 3, Fine Arts Academies, etc.), invitations to major Italian festivals of electronic visual and musical art (Miami, RoBOt, Hybrid, Mibart, Summer 50 Hertz, Metacinema Festival etc.). The videos from the cycle Neurotronik Tv have been exhibited at the Bienal del Fin del mundo (Argentina and Chile) 2014/15 and Curitiba (Brazil) 2017/18, after winning the 3rd prize at the Santorini Biennale 2014.

His video Jeratica (part of an installation exhibited during Art First in Bologna) was reported in the top 10 at Miami Art in 2010.

The video The Arabesque-Adorned Garden, exhibited for the first time at the Museo Civico Medievale in Bologna, has won of the Videoinight award during Bologna Artfair 2017.

Lately they participated at 1 Minute Mapping videomapping Festival in Odawara Castle Japan and ACSEE Festival in Datong Wall China.

Gianni Giovanni Margotto, nickname Marg8, graduated in scenography at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna, is an artist, set designer, expert in information technology and an exponent of contemporary electronic visual art, a digital designer and V.J. He mainly expresses himself through video, “transfiguring” and destroying black and white or using supersaturated and distorted electronic colours, obtained by glitching, moshing and bending techniques, using either digital or analogue media, using also node based audioreatives applications with visual programming in order to control events on real time.

He founded the artistic current of “Quantum art” with spiritual and curative installations.

He has organised several workshops and training internships in the fields of art, information technology/, web and founded a few production associations.

He also collaborates with musicians, DJs, producers, directors, actors, cultural and theatrical associations, non-profit organizations, private and public bodies and with Italian organizations and companies using innovative and interactive technologies for consulting multimedia presentations, architectural mapping, digital interfaces, 3D rendering and visual design.

He has created multimedia and virtual installations and video theatrical performances for companies, galleries, artists, institutions and for various environments such as squares, industrial buildings, historical museums, churches, historical courtyards, exhibition spaces, etc. to name a few: GAM Gallery of Modern Art, Circolo Artistico Bologna, Museo Medievale Bologna, Museum of History of Bologna in Palazzo Pepoli, Library of Art San Giorgio in Poggiale, Museum of Perfume Lorenzo Villoresi of Florence, Galleria Marconi Milano, Studio Cristofori Bo, Gallery of Arte Maggiore Bo, Auditorium Manzoni Bo Theater, Tivoli Bo Theater, Verdi Saludecio Rn Municipal Theater, Festival of Sant’Arcangelo Rn Theater, Armonda Rn Theater, Flaminia Ra Foundation, UISP Emilia Romagna, Genus Bononiae Bo, Kepler Musical Cultural Association, Ten Teatro Bo, Ass. Tardigrada, ONO Art Gallery Contemporary Art, Academy of Fine Arts Bologna, Durex SSL Healthcare Italy Spa, Guaber Spa, Centergross Spa, Promostil Paris, Imperial Town, Vanti Group BMW Italy, Vans, Creations Walt Disney SAI, Laura Biagiotti Junior, KatiaG, Sisley, Mi Holiday Club, Health Village Bo, Centergross Bo, Carlo Lucarelli, Alessandro Bergonzoni, Matteo Belli, Emanuele Montagna, Andrea Mingardi, Carlo Conti, Dmitry Distant, Lee Jaffe, John Tiberi, Alessandro Antolini, Stefano Tonti,

Lorenzo Villoresi, etc...

Recent live events or performances in clubs: Kinki club Bo, Ciak Bo, Matis Club Bo, Spritzbook 1 and 2, Festival Estate 50 hertz 1, 2, 3, The Arabesque-adorned Garden - Museo Civico Medievale Bo, Art City Night 2016, Sprivinkle - A disturbing night at night, Aleph Club Misano, Cocoricò Morphine Club Riccione Rn, Barcelona Disco Rn, Villa delle Rose Club Riccione, Wave Alternative Club Misano Rn, Streetango Bo, Alvertango Pd, Red Cave Rn, 4 / quarters Social Art Bar Bo, Luzee - Waterdrops, Shakespeare our contemporary, Cortile Terribilia Pinacoteca Bologna, Learn the art - Petrella Theater Longiano Rn, etc

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Website of the artists:

<http://www.audiovisualart.it/>

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