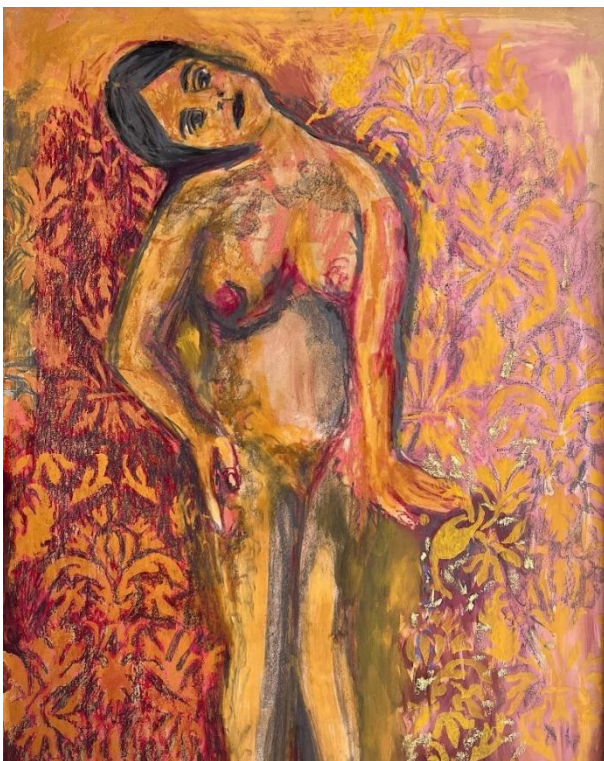


# TAMARA VALKAMA

Tamara Valkama was born in Stockholm to a Finnish mother and an Italian father. Her mother, a ballet teacher, initiated her into the arts, first in the dance atelier in Lucca then, sensing her aesthetic sensitivity, enrolling her in the artistic lyceum. At the beginning of the nineties, Tamara moved to Florence where she attended the Academy of Fine Arts, in this period to support her studies she worked as a waitress. She then obtained the qualification in *Technical Attaché of Mural Painting* at the fresco workshop of Elena and Leonetto Tintori in Vainella. Today Tamara lives and works in Florence as a painter and interior decorator.

Visiting Tamara's studio located within the magical atmosphere of the Vecchio Conventino in Oltrarno, it is difficult to say where her work as a decorator ends and where that of an artist begins, the two activities seem to overlap each other with the stencil decorations that pass from the cartoons leaning against the walls to the canvases in the backgrounds of her pictorial works.

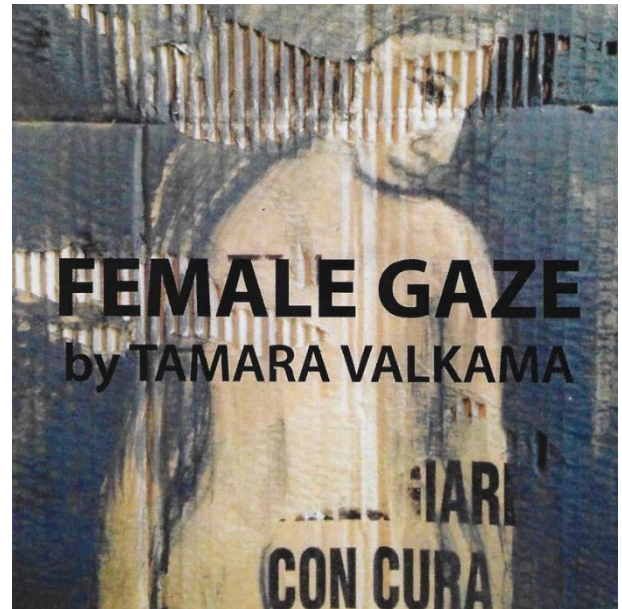


*Bloom ~ 2022*  
Mixed media on board

Her activity as a decorator leads her to always experiment with new techniques and new materials, the results of these experiments are never taken for granted, as in the series of women's faces painted in acrylic on pieces of polyurethane foam cut out and inserted into shoeboxes

*"Every time I paint, I realize a dream, every time the truth is revealed through a flowering of colors and images, and the gift of life is revealed to me."*

that were exhibited in the solo exhibition "*FEMALE GAZE*" at Studio Bong in Florence in May 2022.

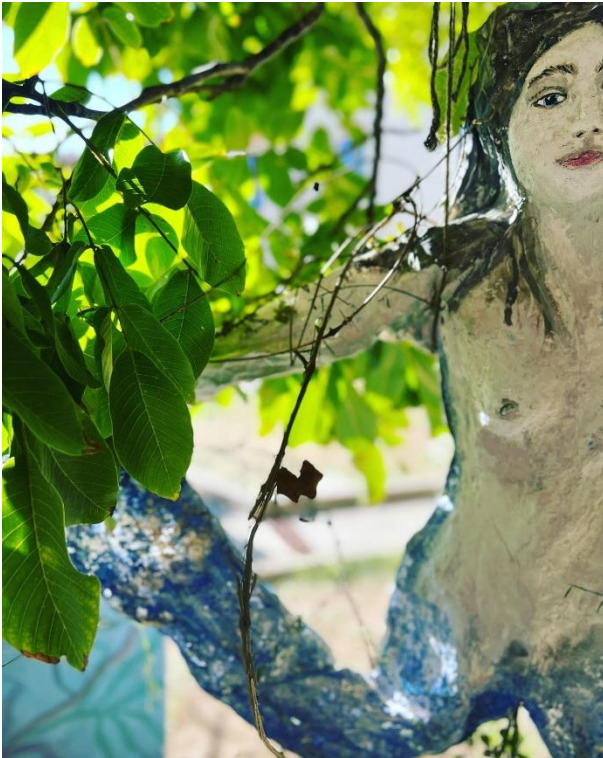


Tamara's work is a profound work of investigation on the theme of the feminine, of which the sensitive eye of the artist highlights the sacredness but at the same time the fragility. His work generates images suspended halfway between the dreamlike and the real. From her works emerge figures of women now lying dormant under skies with cathartic atmospheres, now in ecstasy intent on capturing the enchantment of a moment, now archetypes of our collective imagination such as the sculpture of the Melusina created for the group exhibition "*Un sentiero di segni*" organized by the Sincretis Association of Empoli at the Podere Lemniscata.

Here, as Alessandra Scappini of Sincretis, curator of the exhibition, writes, Tamara *"is oriented to rediscover the bond of the eternal feminine with nature, to grasp the enchantment of the universe beyond the attachment to the concrete aspects of existence, to invite us to dream, to advance towards the beyond, trusting in ourselves to rediscover a possible contact with the universe, the harmonious conjunction between me and everything, between earth and sky, between body and soul"*.

In the work created for "Sottosuolo", a group installation around a large tree stump, organized by Sincretis for the winter solstice, Tamara evokes the rites of divination and poetry of the women of Algiers who gather at night to practice the *boqala* to find in the verses of poetry the

answers to their uncertain future in a context of limited freedom.



*Melusina ~ 2022*

*Mixed media: metal mesh, fabric, gold, silver leaf and acrylics*

#### **Exhibitions:**

- 2023** Group exhibition "100x100 Piccolo Formato" organized by Sincrexis.
- 2022** Open air group exhibition "Sottosuolo", installation around a large tree stump, Montespertoli (FI), with Sincrexis.  
Group exhibition Premio Pittura Panzano.  
Open air group exhibition "Un sentiero di segni", Podere Lemniscata, with Sincrexis.  
Solo exhibition "Female gaze" at Galleria "Studio Bong", Firenze.  
Group exhibition 100x100 Libri d'artista at Museo Marino Marini (FI) and Associazione Sincrexis, Empoli. Organized by Sincrexis.
- 2020** Group exhibition Galleria "Simultanea Spazi d'Arte" Firenze.
- 2019** CATS Arte Fiera Padova.  
Group exhibition Panzano Arte, Tenuta Sassolini, Panzano.  
Group exhibition Prato in Rosa, Palazzo Buonamici and Saletta Campolmi, Prato.
- 2018** Group exhibition "Museo delle memorie di guerra per la pace", Prato.  
Group exhibition "Arte: sostantivo femminile" Palazzo Buonamici, Prato.  
Group exhibition "Metroquadro d'arte", Firenze.  
Group exhibition "Racconti di donne artistiche" Sala delle Sirene, Massa Lubrense, (NA).

- 2017** Group exhibition presso 1mq Superficie d'Arte, Firenze.  
Group exhibition "I buoni propositi", Expart Gallery, Bibbiena (AR).  
Group exhibition "Natale in trincea", "Casa delle memorie di guerra per la pace", Prato.
- 2016** She took part to "Postcards from an artist" di MyHome Gallery all'ArtVerona.  
She took part to the catalog of Italian artists with a work, contemporary category.
- 2015** Group exhibition 'C'è Luce', Palazzo Ducale, Lucca.  
Group exhibition Tour Fotografico, Statuto Transizione, Galleria Puzzle Firenze.  
She took part to "Inseminazione Artistica" organized by Progeas Family.  
Live Painting "Dada" Space Club, Firenze.  
Group exhibition "Creatività al femminile" Prato in Rosa.  
Group exhibition "Il sacrificio nelle guerre del 900" Museo del Combattente. Prato.
- 2012** Group exhibition "Maternità sacre e profane" Museo Casa Francesco Datini, Prato.
- 2010** Group exhibition at "Janssonin Galleria", Finlandia.
- 2008** Group exhibition at Crystal Palace Hotel, Montecatini Terme (PT).
- 2005** Group exhibition alla Galleria Morabito, Roma.
- 2004** Solo exhibition at ArtBar Caffè Italiano, Firenze.  
Group exhibition "Differents et Ensemble" al Foyer Clair Bois Pinchat, Ginevra.
- 2003** Temporary exposure Station to Station, Stazione Leopolda, Firenze.  
Group exhibition at Galleria Art Point Black, Firenze.
- 2001** Temporary exposure Fabbrica Europa, Firenze.  
Concorso di scultura "Il mondo contadino dai Bruzi ai nostri giorni", bas-relief on permanent display in the open-air museum in Crucoli, Crotone.
- 2000** She created 39 panels in medieval style for the Torre Guinigi di Lucca.
- 1998** Group exhibition "La memoria del colore" at Fringe Festival.
- 1990** She created scenography for classical dance performance, choreography Sirkka Liisa Valkama.
- 1989** She collaborates with the painter Luca Alinari.

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