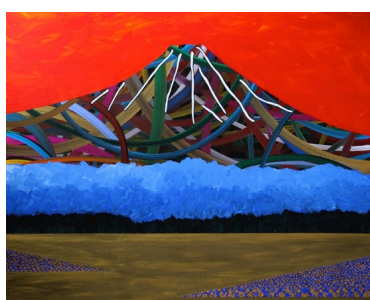


Patrick GEROLA - artist

Contemporary artist born in 1959 in Brussels, Patrick Gerola grew up in an artistic background, as his mother was a painter. He studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture of Brussels, and then started to work in 1981 with Micha Van Hoecke, director of the Maurice Béjart's ballet school and choreographer of the of the company "L'ensemble", as a stage designer. In 1983, Patrick left for Japan, and since then, it is with passion that he has exclusively devoted himself to art creation through various media.



patrickgerola.art

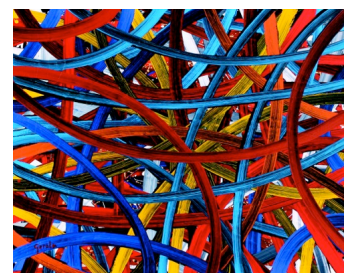


At the crossroads of three cultures: Belgium, Italy and Japan.

With a perspective on stage artwork Patrick Gerola developed his own sense of colour, space, movement and structure. The origin of all his artworks always has a three-dimensional inspiration. His wife Tomomi, Japanese artist and singer, strongly supports the succes of the artist. Along with his admiration of the Flemish masters (as a young man, he travelled the Belgian countryside to discover Brueghel's landscapes) as well as of their Italian counterparts (in particular Caravaggio), Patrick is inspired by the traditions, the scenery and the customs of Japan.

A light out of the dark.

The secret of his vivid colours lies in the fact that Patrick Gerola prepares his own paints. His invention inspired by the fresco painting technique, which he draws from the pictorial technique "al fresco": he mixes resin into natural pigments "iwa enogu", traditionally used in Japanese painting "Nihonga". The pigments give the paintings the glow and transparency of precious stones. He loves painting at night, while listening to music, with a subdued light, as he can then easily adjust the intensity and the unique brightness of his colours.



Dauntless and simple at heart.

Not fully figurative nor particularly abstract, Patrick's works reach the deepest subjectivity, the one nestled in the heart. The vivid colours that light up his landscapes cannot be found as such in nature, but you can feel them. Colour always drives his artworks, like the Manneken-Pis sculptures he renewed in various formats and covered with his paintings. His sense of colour reveals a mystery that lies in the fantasy world behind the canvas.

« The first time I saw the works of Patrick Gerola, a new sense of pleasure came over me. Essentially, his works made me feel something I had never felt before. »

Atsushi Takeda, art critic

« His affinity with choreography can be sensed in the clear elegance of the lines which define his painting compositions. »

A.L.J. Van de Walle, professor emeritus at Ghent University



Major achievements

- 1959 Born in Brussels in 1959
- 1968 Study for three years, the history and works of Pieter Breughel under the direction of his teacher Agnes Dekrom
- 1977 Study at the Brussels Royal Art Academy
- 1981 Worked at the Maurice BEJART School with Micha Van Hoecke (Artistic Director of the Maurice Bejart School and Choreographer of the company "L'ensemble") Belgium
- 1983 Leaves Brussels in 1983 to live and work in Japan.
- 1985 Artistic decoration for the French Pavilion at the Tsukuba World Exhibition, Japan
- 1989 Creates paintings and frescos with artists of Paxo Studio in Taiwan, Italy and Japan.
- 1994 Exhibits at the Belgian fairs of Osaka and Nagoya, in the presence of S.A.R. the Prince Philippe, Japan
- 1998 Acquisition by the Belgian State "Kamakura in full bloom" Embassy of Belgium, Japan
- 1999 Organises a Belgian fair in a 4000 m² dome in Numazu, broadcast live on TV, with 20.000 visitors over 3 days
- 2001 Decorates and animates the festivals honoring the King of Belgium (every November 15th) at the Residence of the Belgian Embassy in Tokyo, (from 1998 to 2001) Japan
- 2000 Hosts H.R.H. Prince Lorentz and Princess Astrid of Belgium on a private visit to his atelier in Kamakura, Japan
Creates a 12m² painting for the Helena Berthelius dance company for their production, "The eyes of the sky", in Tenerife, Spain
- 2003 Appointed Honorary Citizen of the commune of Forest (Brussels) for his cultural contributions, Belgium
- 2004 Commissioned to paint 12 paintings for the catamaran "Douce France".
- 2005 Retrospective at the Mercian Karuizawa Art Museum, Japan (2005)
Creates a 20 m² painting for the show "Japonida" for the Belgian day on June 14, Belgian Day at the Aichi World Fair, in the presence of H.A.R. Prince Philippe, Japan
- 2006 Exhibits at the Imperial Villa of Numazu, Japan
Creates a painting with diamonds for the evening of Charity "Sherill Blossom" in the presence of Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamadonomya, Japan
Exhibition of the work "Matsuri" at the Diamond Museum of the province of Antwerp, Belgium (from 2006 at 2011)
- 2008 Creates ten 2.20 meter high painted sculptures, Japan
- 2009 Finishes the 9m² "Creation" and a 2.20 m high painted sculpture permanently exposed at the Brussels Airport in Belgium (from 2009 at 2018)
- 2010 His work is represented at the Belgian Embassy in Tokyo, a painted sculpture "Washi", part of the collection of the Kingdom of Belgium, Japan
- 2013 Acquisition by the Belgian State, INASTI, Belgium
- 2014 Hosts S.A.R. Prince Laurent on the occasion of Brussels Japan Night exhibition, Belgium
- 2015 Produces a painted sculpture, order of the Tourist Office Wallonia-Brussels, Belgium for All Nippon Airways, ANA, Japan
- 2016 Acquisition of "Bouquet" by the Belgian State, Embassy of Belgium, Japan
Retrospective at Ikeda Museum 20th Century of Art, Japan
Acquisition by Ikeda Museum 20th Century of Art, Japan
Exposes a sculpture in Roppongi Hills Arena, Mori Tower, on the occasion of 150 years of friendship between Japan and Belgium, Japan
- 2017 Exhibition at the 2017 Shanghai Art Fair, China
- 2019 Modern Art Museum Tokyo, Hanbi 2019 Exhibition, The National Art Center, Japan
Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Japan
Retrospective at the Gallery Kristal & Glam, Tokyo, Japan
Art Plus Shanghai, Art Fair, China
- 2020 Yun Jian Art Museum, Shanghai, China
- 2021 Mobile Art Exhibition, Art on 4 wheels, Japan
Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Ueno, Japan