

Felice Nittolo was born in 1950 at Capriglia Irpina. After his early studies at the Arts Institute in Avellino and at the Fine Arts Academy in Naples, in 1968 he moved to Ravenna for “the love of mosaics”.

He gained international attention at the second International Congress of AIMC (International Association of Contemporary Mosaicists) at Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium) in 1984 with his manifest *A-ritmismo*. With this statement he became the moving spirit of a new approach to mosaics as traditionally understood.

The increasing international recognition of his works from 1989 institutions both in Italy and abroad.

In 1992 he presented his manifest *Nuova Tradizione* at the third AIMC International Congress (Saint Petersburg, Russia) and participated in the Genoa exhibition which celebrated the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America. He organised in 1996 the *Mosaics Forever* exhibition at the Casa Italia in Atlanta during the XXVI Olympic Games; in 1997, while presenting shows in Ravenna and Udine in the field of design, he was active in theatre set design. He organised the *Byzantium Faventia Venetiae* exhibition (at Urban Glass, the Center for Contemporary Glass in Brooklyn; *Avellana* (in the Carmine Church in Avellino); and *Murarie* (in the Modern and Contemporary Museum in the Republic of San Marino).

In 2000 he created the *Abellinum* installation in the catacombs of the paleo-christian church of Prata di Principato Ultra (Avellino); various exhibitions in England (at Exeter, Chichester and Sheffield); and in the United States (at San Diego, Seattle, Olympia, New York). He turned his attention back to his native land in 2001 with the exhibition *Centoportemorte* set up in the Carmine church in Avellino and dedicated to the tragedy of the Avellino earthquake.

In the following years, while continuing to show his works in various institutions in Italy, he made several important personal exhibitions abroad; *The Sound of Silence* in the Art Museums of Kawagoe and Saitama in Japan (2003) and *Incantamenti* in the International Art Gallery “Ismet Mujezinovic” in Tuzla in Bosnia-Herzegovina (2004).

He then further explored the possibilities of glass and ceramics in art and also realized some *video-performances*. His creative work was accompanied by a meticulous rediscovery of the work of the greatest participants of the 19th century Ravenna’s mosaic school by organizing and curating along series of monographic exhibitions, alternating retrospective and contemporary artists (often mosaic ‘new talents’). Many other exhibitions were held in Italy, France, Japan, the United States, Germany, Austria, Scotland. In particular, for the occasion of the launch of the new Fiat 500 he created the work *Ravenna 2007*.

The following year he set up the evocative installation *Acqua e Mosaico* in the crypt of the Saint Francis Basilica in Ravenna. In the same year, his works entered the mosaic collection of the Art Museum of Ravenna.

In 2013 his works were shown at the exhibition *Meccaniche della Meraviglia* on the island of Lake Garda and in 2014 he was asked to organize the exhibition *Porziuncola* in Chartres.

The installation in the basilica of Saint John the Evangelist in Ravenna is from 2015.

In 2016 – 2017 the project Ritorno was started; a site-specific exhibition and installation itinerary curated by Paolo Sacchini and Generoso Picone which has developed in seven exhibitions held in different and unusual ancient venues of the territory of Irpinia.

In 2017 – 18 an extensive solo exhibition entitled *Felice Nittolo / Geografie a ritroso* took place at the National Museum of Ravenna. He also participated in the important historical exhibition at the MAR of Ravenna with the title *MONTEZUNA FONTANA MIRKO* mosaic sculpture art from its origins to the present day.

From 2018 there is the installation *Luce sull'Altare* in the basilica of Saint Petronio in Bologna and *La Pietra e l'Oro* in the chapel of the Holy Spirit in the monastery of Camaldoli (Arezzo).

From 2019 we have *Revealed*, a site-specific installation on the water in the crypt of the Saint Francis basilica in Ravenna.

The *Tree of Remembrance* is a permanent installation, a sculpture dedicated to the children who died in the Aquila earthquake.

Landscape and Water, organised by Maria Rita Bentini at the Estense castle and the Abbot's Tower in Mesola (Ferrara).

Light Takes Shape, curated by Linda Kniffitz; site-specific installations in the Baptistry of Neon, in the chapel of Saint Andrew and in the Archiepiscopal Museum in Ravenna.

From 2020 we have *Emersions*, mosaics in the 'Bologna of the Waters', curated by Riccardo Betti – a site-specific installation in the Reno Canal, to be viewed from the 'Little Window' in Via Piella.

Green, White and Red, curated by Sandro Malossini of the Emilia Romagna regional authority.

Controluce, *Ars communicat*, organised by Agneta Kreischer, Traun, Austria.

Litoritmo, in the PAN museum in Naples; organised by Daniela Ricci and the Home Gallery of Alessandro Vitiello.

100% Federico Fellini, galleria Vicolo Artecontemporanea a Cesena, organised by August Pompili and Marisa Zattini.

Doni d'Autore, contemporary art of the National Museum of Ravenna, curated by Emanuela Fiori e Serena Ciliani.

Co-ordinator and promoter of *e... uscimmo a riveder le stelle...*; works by 40 artists for the Santa Maria delle Croci hospital of Ravenna. A permanent installation, reached through the old entrance to the Ospedale Civile of Ravenna.

From 2021, *The Holy Family*; a site-specific installation on the Voltone Altar, Pieve di Cento, Bologna; curated by Riccardo Betti.

For many years Felice Nittolo has taught the art of mosaics at the “Nervi-Severini” Art Institute in Ravenna; he has also taught at the city’s Fine Arts Academy and has been a docent at the Pilchuck School in Seattle (USA). His works are to be found in many public and private collections, from the MAR Museum in Ravenna to the Art Museum in Tacoma (Seattle); from the National Museum of Ravenna to the Art Museum of Kawagoe in Japan-

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