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BIOGRAPHY

Andrea Cagnetti, known by the artistic name Akelo, is an Italian goldsmith, designer, and sculptor internationally recognized for his highly intricate creative journey supported by studies and research in various fields. Born in 1967 in Corchiano (Viterbo), a town built on the ruins of the legendary Etruscan city of Fescennia, both the location and his upbringing led him to fulfill his destiny as an artist and master goldsmith.

From adolescence, he focused on ancient technologies related to metallurgy, ceramics, medicine, and the processing of glass and fabrics. After completing his scientific studies, he moved to Rome, where he worked as a graphic designer for several years. Eventually, he decided to leave the hectic pace of the big city to return to his hometown, dedicating himself exclusively to his vocation and adopting the artistic name Akelo (from Acheloo, the Greek god of waters). His artistic calling, far from being characterized by self-promotion, worldly pursuits, and tumultuous travels, is cultivated in a monastic retreat, in the silence and peace of the Etruscan land—much like a true Renaissance man who isolates himself in his tiny "workshop."

Today, Akelo's works draw inspiration from a body of studies ranging from ancient and alchemical knowledge to contemporary scientific inquiries, paying homage to both classicism and bold abstraction. Despite their considerable diversity, reflecting rare eclecticism and visionary qualities in the contemporary art scene, all his creations are permeated by a singular purpose: Beauty and Harmony. Exhibited in various national and international shows, some of his works have been acquired by significant museums and private collections. Akelo has received numerous accolades from critics, scholars, and

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media worldwide, highlighting not only the artist's talent and stylistic originality but also the value of his research, studied in many art institutions.

Filmography

2022: "Siccià" directed by Paolo Virzì, featuring Silvio Orlando, Valerio Mastandrea, Elena Lietti, and others.

2021: "House of Gucci" directed by Ridley Scott, starring Lady Gaga, Adam Driver, Al Pacino, Jared Leto, and others.

2019: "Cecchi Gori. Una famiglia italiana" directed by Simone Isola and Marco Spagnoli, featuring various Italian personalities.

Exhibitions

Art Design from Inspiration to Function, IL SALOTTO DI MILANO, Milan [May 2022].

Genova Design Week, PALAZZO SALUZZO DEI ROLLI, Genoa [June 2021].

San Valentino Arte, PALAZZO DI PRIMAVERA, Terni [February 2020].

Dedica for the arts, PALAZZO NAIADI, THE DEDICA ANTHOLOGY HOTELS, Rome [April 2019].

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Gods, PALAZZO NAIADI, THE DEDICA ANTHOLOGY HOTELS, Rome [April 19 - June 12, 2018].

Artrooms - International contemporary art fair for independent artists (Guest Artist), THE CHURCH PALACE HOTEL, Rome [March 2018].

Akelo, Anima Mundi, PALAZZO ALEMANNI, MUSEO GEOLOGICO E DELLE FRANE, Bagnoregio [July 15, 2017 - January 3, 2018].

Past Is Present: Revival Jewelry, MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS BOSTON, Boston, MA, USA [February 14 - August 19, 2018].

Akelo - Materia Nova III, SPAZIO PENSILINA, Viterbo [January 28 - February 28, 2017]

From Silver to Iron, ACCADEMIA D'UNGHERIA IN ROMA, Rome [September 12 - October 16, 2016]

Anima Mundi, MUSEO ARCHEOLOGICO, Terni [July 15 - September 3, 2016]

Jewelry: From Pearls to Platinum to Plastic, NEWARK MUSEUM, Newark, NJ, USA [June 27 - ongoing]

Energy for Art, COFELY, GDF SUEZ, Rome [June 2014]

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Ante Materiam, MUSEO DIOCESANO, Gubbio [May 2 - June 29, 2014]

Akelo - Andrea Cagnetti. The Sculptures, OFFICINAE D'ARTE #2, Terni [December 2013]

Human Forms and Golden Cosmos, MUSEO CIVICO ROCCA FLEA, Gualdo Tadino [October 4 - November 24, 2013]

Materia Nova II. Sculptures by Akelo, SALA TURCHETTI, Viterbo [June 26 - July 7, 2013]

Materia Nova, GALERIE LUDWIG TROSSAERT, CONTEMPORARY ART, Antwerp, Belgium [May 18 - June 6, 2012]

Collecting for a New Century: Recent Acquisition, MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, Columbia, MO, USA [January 28 - May 13, 2012]

Akelo's Treasures. An Exhibition Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of a Roman Master Goldsmith, BENTLEY & SKINNER, BOND STREET JEWELLERS LTD., London, UK [November 2011]

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Golden Treasures by Akelo, MUSEUM OF THE GEMOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA, Carlsbad, CA, USA [October 7 - March 11, 2011]

The Voyage of a Contemporary Italian Goldsmith in the Classical World: Golden Treasures by Akelo, MUSEUM OF ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI, Columbia, MO, USA [June 5 - September 26, 2010]

In Its Time: Materials and Techniques Throughout Jewelry History, AARON FABER GALLERY, New York, NY, USA [October 2009]

Contemporary Italian Jewelry, MUSEO DI ARTI DECORATIVE, PIETRO ACCORSI, Turin [October 30 - January 11, 2009]

KUNSTGEWERBEMUSEUM, Berlin, Germany [September 3 - October 5, 2008]

CASTELLO SFORZESCO, TREASURE ROOM, Milan [March 27 - April 18, 2008]

Contemporary Italian Jewelry, PALAZZO VALMARANA BRAGA, Vicenza [January 13 - March 2, 2008]

MUSEO F. RITTATORE VONWILLER,* Farnese [August 2007]

Gold Expressions, The language of Italian design, WORLD GOLD COUNCIL/FIERA VICENZA, Around the world [December 2006 - December 2007]

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MUSEO ARCHEOLOGICO DELL'AGRO FALISCO, Civita Castellana [September 2006]

GALERIE REM, Jabeek, Netherlands [August 2005]

Akelo: Shining the Gold of the Etruscans, VICENZAORO 2, FIERA DI VICENZA, Vicenza [June 2005]

Art Exchange - Een uitwisseling van kunst, GEMEENTE ONDERBANKEN, Onderbanken, Netherlands [August 2003]

Living Art, CHIOSTRO DI SAN MARCO, Tarquinia [June 2000]

The Hanover World Exposition 2000, ITALIAN PAVILION, Hannover, Germany [June 1 - October 31, 2000]