

Aldo Falchi



Icarus, 1990

Life and works:

He was born in Sabbioneta (Mantua), on November 30th, 1935.

Oriented towards Visual arts to an innate predisposition and the example of his father, the painter Paride Falchi, Aldo soon began to shape sculptures (at the age of 15). He worked by the stonemason sculptor Guido Germani in Casalmaggiore (Cremona) 1951-1954.

In May 1954 he moved to Milan, where he attended the evening courses at Brera Academy, while during the day he worked with his master and mentor Remo Brioschi (student of Armando Violi and Arturo Martini), becoming his disciple and collaborating with him on the Monument “to the Resistance” of Reggio Emilia and to several sculptures for the Monumental Cemetery in Milan, such as ‘the Group of Mercy’ (1959), composed by Madonna, Christ, Mary Magdalene, a few meters from the tomb of Arturo Toscanini.



In June 1959 he moved to Germany, sculptor of the prestigious porcelain factory *Rosenthal*. From this period (1965-69) is the famous service entitled "*The Magic Flute*" (one of whom bought by the wife of the Aga Khan).

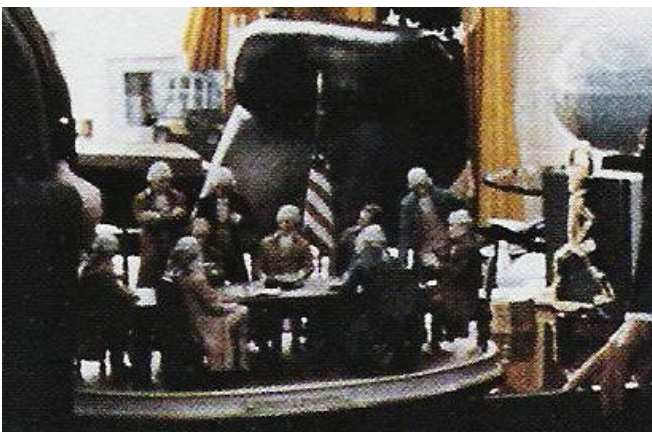
Group of birds, 1973

To be counted among the many achievements, the portraits of 11 composers, including Mozart, Beethoven, Wagner, Bach and Verdi.

He collaborated with the Danish designer Bijorn Wiinblad and the Viennese painter Ernst Fuchs, the most representative of the Vienna School of Phantastisches Realismus (Fantastic Realism).

At the same time he worked in Copenhagen with Wiinblad. In 1962 he realized for the Thai Tivoli Theatre (Copenhagen), *the portrait statue of Mr Karstensen*, the founder of the Tivoli amusement park, to celebrate the centenary of its foundation.

He realised for the United States some groups of commemorative china for the two hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Among these, the group called "*The Declaration of Independence*" which is on the table of the President of the United States and a copy in the Palace of Congresses in Philadelphia.



The US President, Gerard Ford, on his table the "Declaration of Independence", 1974

In 1978, he created for the Board of Tourism in Mantua, the life-size statue "*Rigoletto*", located in the garden of the House of Rigoletto (Place Sordello - Mantua).



Rigoletto, 1978

For the two thousandth anniversary of the birth of the poet Virgil, he made the bust of Virgil and Virgil forms for the new headquarters of the Municipal town of Virgil, in addition to the official medal.

The German company of china 'Rosenthal' donated to the Museum of China in Höhenberg, Bavaria, a dozen works in porcelain made by Aldo Falchi in the 80s.

In 1987 he modeled for the Province of Mantua the Medal to commemorate the restoration of the bell tower of the Basilica of St. Andrea and the Mantegna Chapel (one of which was bought by the British Museum in London and another by the Vatican).

In 1991, for the four hundredth anniversary of the death of the Duke Vespasian Gonzaga, The municipality of Sabbioneta commissioned to Aldo Falchi the bust of the Duke and six reliefs illustrating the main events of the life of the Duke, which were placed in the lobby of Town Hall Sabbioneta.



Monument "To the dead of all wars", 1997

In 1997, for the City of Sabbioneta he modelled the monument "To the dead of all wars."

In 1996 and 1997, the Issuer TV Color of Cremona dedicated 2 documentaries to him.

In 1997 he received the International Award "Agrumello" to the career.

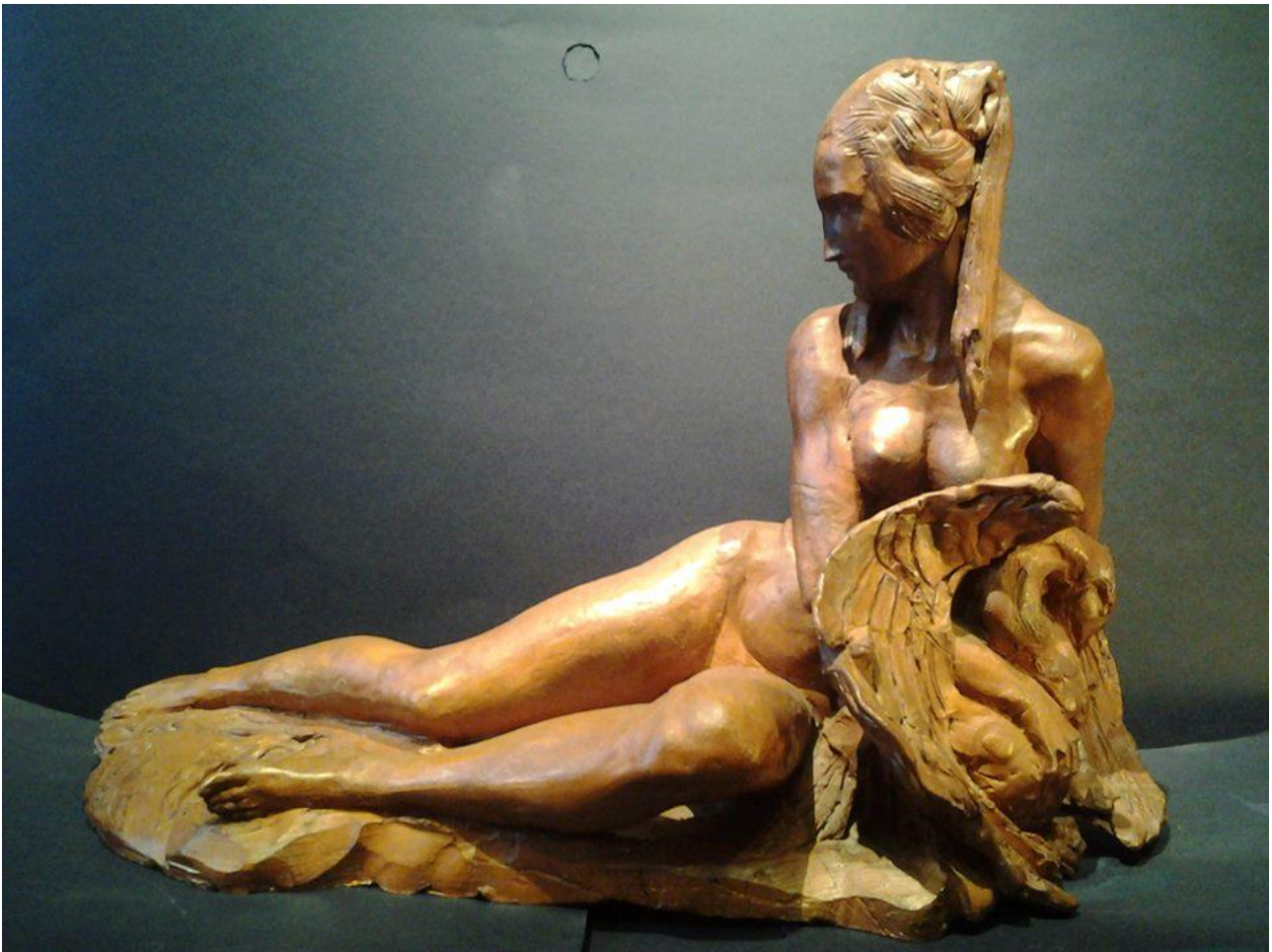
For the City of Castelleone, he performed a bronze relief on the two world wars.

In 1998 for the City of Virgil, he modelled 6 terracotta reliefs for the facade of the new schools.

Throughout his life he continued a spiritual and stylistic research on various subjects from the Greek-Roman-Christian tradition, revisited and re-actualized, most of which made of terracotta, clay and often translated into bronze. The ethical commitment of denunciation of the violence perpetrated by man towards his peers and the environment is present since 1970 with the cycle that starts with "Homo Sapiens", or 'The Conquistadores': denunciation of the massacres committed in the name of God (sadly a current theme). Nothing escapes the predator-Man, so "The lament of Nature" starring a horse lying down that turns complaining and rebelling.



"Homo Sapiens 2000", 1982



Leda and the Swan, 1982

The passion for what is "Human, all too human"- (Nietzsche), condenses into figures such as "Nature" 1972 "The Mystery of Life" 1985, and the sequences of "Don Giovanni" and "Senility".

The strong connection to the myth, is shown by the classical "Leda and the Swan" by the various Nudes, by fauns, nymphs and tritons, all engaged in an eternal struggle between the Apollonian and the Dionysian. Not to be forgotten the call to the "Infernal Sabbath".



'Nature or hymn to Life', 1972



Faun, 1988



Faun, 1988

*“Considering the vast and complex production, by Aldo Falchi we remain strongly impressed by the neverending spirit of research and the high quality of the works he produced as a draftsman and sculptor
“(…”*

Benvenuto Guerra (Art critic), 1988

(…) But Aldo Falchi’s artistic adventure, now incalculable for the generous prodigality with which he lavished in space and time, yet includes works of exquisite and touching evocative power, sublime expression of the universal artistic genius that being secluded from fashions and ephemeral vogues of a time sick of distraction and hasty superficiality, is not yet understood and appreciated in its powerful qualitative and quantitative importance.

Arnaldo Maravalli (art critic and historian), 1993

*(…) Of course Aldo Falchi has nothing to do with the avant-garde: 'he is a modern Mannerist instead. The results of this refusal are a vivid passion for finesse and good quality (….) Among the adventure and the aesthetic quality he has definitely chosen for the quality.
But, if there's poetry in his work, who can say with confidence that this is a mistake? '(…)*

Renzo Margonari (art critic), 1983

Exhibitions and Shows:

1951- Collective, Palazzo Ducale Sabbioneta (Mantua).

1953 April – ‘Youth Meetings’, Palazzo della Permanente - Milan.

June and September- Collective, Palazzo Ducale Sabbioneta (Mantua).

September 1981 - Collective, two thousandth anniversary of Virgil, Virgilian City Hall, Virgil (Mantua).

1983 September – Personal Exhibition, House of Rigoletto Mantova.

1984 May - Personal E.at the union of regional families, Piazza Duomo, Milan.

September to December – ‘Mantuan Drawing in the '900,’ Palazzo Te, Mantua.

1985 April – Personal E. by the town of Virgil for the "Bicentennial anniversary of the Writer Manzoni," Virgilio (MN).

July - Biennale of Sculpture, Medieval Fortress Reggiolo (RE).

October - Exhibition dedicated to the characters Manzoni, Officers' Club, Mantua.

1987 September - Collective, Gonzaga's Routes , Palazzo Ducale Sabbioneta (MN).

1988 October-November – E., Palazzo Ducale in Mantua.

1993 September – Exh., Palazzo Ducale Sabbioneta (MN)

1999 May - Bipersonal Aldo and Paride Falchi, Ducal Palace of Sabbioneta. Donation of sixty works on permanent display.

2000 September – P.Ex., The sculpture of Aldo Falchi, Museum of Modern Art, Gazzoldo degli Ippoliti (Mantua).

2002 March - Bipersonal, Poetry and forms: paintings and sculptures by Aldo and Paride Falchi, MaM, Gazzoldo degli Ippoliti (Mantua).

2004 November - Collective, Mantuan painters and sculptors , at Arianna Sartori Gallery, Mantua.

2008 December - Collective Mantouan Sculptors' 900, Quistello (Mantua).

2013 April- May- P. Exh. at the Museum of Pietole Virgil (Virgil -MN) with the participation at the opening of the Nobel laureate poet Seamus Heaney.

October-November 2013 - Collective at the Museum of Pietole Virgil (Virgil -MN) "Virgil in

modern memory."

2014 March 25 - 27 April- Bipersonal "Paride and Aldo Falchi, painting and sculpture," Casa del Mantegna, Mantua.

2014 September 27 -24 October Collective "Spoleto Art meets Venice", Venice, Falier Palace, curated by the historian of Art and Critic Prof. Vittorio Sgarbi.

2014 24-26 October Fair at Salon Du Louvre, Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

Permanent Exhibitions:

Ducal Palace of Sabbioneta (MN-IT)

Museum of Palazzo Te, Mantua

Diocesan Museum, Mantua

Academy of Virgil Mantua

Museum of Modern Art of Gazoldo degli Ippoliti, Mantua

Museum of Medole Mantua

Donation of a series of "Madonnas" to Mezzana Street, Sabbioneta where he lived as a young boy. a

Museum of Lodi, porcelain Group "*Hunting*", a copy of which was sold to Princess Anne of England

Bibliography:

R. Margonari, "Quadrante Padano", 1982.

R. Margonari, catalog, Exhibition in the House of Rigoletto Mantova 1983

Mantuan Drawing in the '900 (catalog), Mantua 1984.

Painters, sculptors, engravers in Mantua '900, 1985.

(catalog) 5th Biennial of Sculpture, Reggiolo (RE), 1985

(catalog), Gonzaga Itineraries, 1987.

R. Dall'Ara (magazine), "Art", Mondadori, June 1988

B. War, (catalog) Personal, Doge's Palace, 1988

A. Maravelli, (catalog) Anthology, Sabbioneta 1993

R. Margonari, Aldo Falchi, MAM Gazoldo 2000

A. Sartori "Sartori Catalog of Modern and Contemporary Art", 2013 and 2014

V. Sgarbi "Catalogue Spoleto Art meets Venice" in 2014