

Roman Frances

Spain

Alcoy, Spain, the 2nd January 1950.

At the age of 14, he felt the necessity to express himself and choose painting. He started to painting ,with his friend and teacher Gaspar Frances Rico. He exposed his first painting in 1965 in the Salon de Otoño in his hometown. The following year he travelled to Madrid where, without realizing it, was immersed for sometime in the cultural and political movement of the 1960.

During those years ROMAN FRANCES walked confused and full of energy, among the artistic exaltation of the new and the old, the known and the unknown ; the ephemeral and perencial, the ambiguous and the definite. In those years he found out that the artistic revolution, he wanted to belong to did not come from the wisdom or technique, or the clear reflection. It comes from the heart and he became convinced that all form is illusory as it represents two different facts: the objective fact and the assimilated truth.

With this intuition in his heart, he comes back to Alcoy in 1971, where he investigates the splendid "ALCOYANA" painting from the XIX century. Painters like Emilio Sala, Lorenzo Casanova, Placido Frances, Fernando Cabrera and some others. All these painters together with the "VALENCIANS" Sorolla, Pinazo and Navarro exerted a great influence on Roman Frances, and it is then on that he search for his expressive strength in his renovated desire to communicate his intimate truth, without coactions or excuses.

Nowadays he's living and working in two different places full of inspiration; very close to Alcoy, in the mountain, and Denia, in front of the Mediterranean sea. In both places, it's very easy to see how the sky changes every morning, with the comprehensive tints of violet, or blue or purple. With splendid grades of fuchsia and garment till it reaches the colour of a fire. Always accessible to his brush of impressionist character. Convinced that the truth he looks for in his work cannot be found inside the books or the drawers, but outside far from the idea of aggressiveness, competence and rivalry. Convinced as he is that the man was not created for the society but rather the other way round.

He defines himself as an indomitable "acrata". However it is something different, what his reflexion and even more his work suggest. It is very visible for everyone who knows Roman Frances how he refuses all authority -that is -being "acrata". It is also clear that everyone who knows the painter also knows about his abstraction towards the academy. He has stuck himself to severe discipline from whom, as himself has been self-taught to the self-discipline in his work and every day strength.

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