

off the wall gallery

paintings · sculpture · original prints

ANTONIO SANNINO Italian, (1959 –)

Artist Biography



Sannino is known for richly textured surfaces, often achieved through expressive brushwork and palette knife application. His work blends abstraction and figuration, layering oil paint to create depth, movement, and emotional intensity. The tactile quality of his oil technique is central to his style, allowing him to build luminous color fields and dynamic compositions that feel both contemporary and timeless.

Antonio Sannino was born in Naples in 1959. Raised among the sea, sounds, and scents of his surroundings, he showed a strong artistic sensitivity from an early age and a natural inclination toward painting. As a boy, he was fascinated by an elderly painter who regularly depicted the historic piperno entrance of his building. The scent of oil colors left a lasting impression on him. The sea and the landscapes of his youth formed the foundation of his early research, subtly influenced by traditional landscape painters and the School of Posillipo.

After completing his studies, Sannino moved to England in the 1980s, where he lived for ten years. This period marked an important chapter of training, introspection, and dialogue with other artists. In England, his interpretation of landscape expanded and matured. His once saturated palette softened through contact with a different natural environment. The decade in the United Kingdom reshaped his perception of reality, refining both his emotions and his visual language.

Upon returning to Italy, his renewed palette and evolved approach quickly brought recognition, followed by numerous solo exhibitions. These were also years of travel, during which Sannino proved himself an attentive observer of his surroundings. His desire to experiment emerged more fully, leading to further artistic development and affirmation.

His research moved toward a more Informal approach, where landscape became not simply a subject of representation but a means of reinterpreting rules and techniques. He later began exploring contemporary urban landscapes, introducing international cities such as London, Istanbul, and New York through studies of light and depth. Eventually, he began working with aluminum, which became his canvas. Its versatility allowed him to develop innovative solutions and pursue a vision that embraces both figurative and Informal elements.

His recent series include Autunni, Under Construction Seas, and Hanami. Having developed a distinctive technique within his genre, Sannino enjoys significant international recognition.