

Franco Guerzoni | Archeologie

“A wall is like a book to be opened, a journey into the interior, revealing the experiences, memories, signs and symbols the wall has absorbed over the centuries”

[cit. Franco Guerzoni - Archeologie, CEDIT]

For Cedit, Guerzoni has designed an artistic expressive compositions based on a reflection on the stratification of colours and materials on walls. It is a form of reverse archaeology, with these Archeologie not sought for in the past but created in the future. With the aid of state-of-the-art technologies, these histories transform walls into works of art.

Biography and projects

Franco Guerzoni, artist, was born in Modena in 1948. His work focuses on aspects of cultural stratification and the idea of the "antique" in the sense of loss. In the 1980s he began to produce large paper wall coverings and study forgotten walls. In 1990 he presented his work “Decorazioni e rovine” at the Biennale in Venice. Since then, he has produced large cycles of works which continue his investigation of time and the poetics of ruins, a kind of archaeology with no restoration. His minimalist touch merges colour, conceived in absolute terms, with excavation, revealing grooves and ridges under a cover of exquisite pigment. Since 2006 he has also started to paint actually on walls themselves, working towards a concept of sculpture born from his increased awareness of the wall.

The use of powders and plasters in the stripped fresco technique enables him to achieve a density of substance which extends expressive potential.