

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Painting has always accompanied the course of my life, staying on the edge.

As a child I attended a school of art while going to regular school and as a grown-up I sometimes painted while working as an architect.. I designed buildings on work days and painted on Sundays. My interiors are enriched by frescos, landscapes painted on the walls, stylized shapes and, most of all, trompe-l'oeil.

Only in the last years painting has become my main job. In my work, the trompe-l'oeil is a technique but also a philosophy. Admittedly, I work like other painters; I look around and paint, but I also look into myself and paint as if I were searching in secret recesses of my memory, ghosts, irony, nostalgia.

As one can easily understand, I do not hesitate to wink at the spectator. During my long life I have encountered – not directly, of course – artists that have left a mark of emotions in my memory: Rothko, Magritte, De Chirico, Barnett Newman, Dali, Casorati. Also my brother Dario's photographs are sometimes a source of inspiration. I often recreate their works by superimposing new subjects and ghost-like images, as well as inserting female figures and my merciless self-portrait in my fantastic landscapes.

Such is my imaginary world.

Lucio Zucchi, 2010