

DIONYSIS SARAJI

(2001, Venezia)

Lives and works in Bologna.

LABS
CONTEMPORARY ART



The artist trained at the Academy of Fine Arts of Bologna, graduating in Painting (Visual Arts). Working with a variety of media—while favoring textiles and ceramics—Saraji develops a practice that uncovers, reclaims, and deepens multiple aspects of personal identity.

Central themes include Persian culture—explored through the father's narratives and the study of the decorative artistic elements of miniatures and carpets—elements of Greek mythology, the extreme fluidity of the body, particularly in relation to gender, and the acrobatic exploration of the line dividing reality from fantasy and play.

These subjects are reworked through a playful lens: references to Persian visual culture are reinterpreted with vivid colors and interwoven forms; the body is transformed through the relationship between sculptural and pictorial elements, dissolving into drops, chimeras, fishnet stockings, and serpents.

Exhibitions:

Arte Fiera 2026, LABS Contemporary Art, Bologna (2026), ArtVerona 2024, LABS Contemporary Art, Verona (2024). *Fringe*, curated by Marta Orsola Sironi, LABS Contemporary Art (2025). *GOLD*, curated by Elsa Barbieri, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea di Cavalese (2024). *Interferenze*, curated by Simona Pagano, Sof.Art, Bologna (2024). *Per un'idea del colore*, curated by Luca Caccioni, Casa Saraceni, Bologna (2024). *La misura delle cose*, curated by Leonardo Regano, LABS Contemporary Art, Bologna (2023). *Arte e Risveglio Interiore*, curated by Licia Mazzoni, MUG Prize for the Arts, MUG, Bologna (2023). *Progresso Scorsoio*, curated by Leonardo Regano, parte di Opentour, LABS Contemporary Art, Bologna (2022). *Theriaca*, curated by The Contraband Collection, Metaforte, Venezia (2021).

Awards:

In 2025, he won the Art Up Prize for Graphic Art and Illustration at Opentour, as well as the Special Mention Zucchelli Award. This followed the Casarini Due Torri Painting Prize at ArtVerona in 2024.

Workshops:

Traineeship for Fondazione Venturoli with Sissi Oliviero, Bologna (2023). Workshop *La misura delle cose* led by artist Francesco Arena at MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna (2023). Workshop *Progresso Scorsoio* led by artist Giulia Cenci at MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna (2022).

Artist residencies:

Sympósiou, 5 - 30 may, LABS Contemporary Art, Bologna (2026). *MEZZOMONDO* curated by Art Motel and Adiacenze, 25 may -15 september, Casa della Cultura Italo Calvino, Calderara di Reno (BO) (2024). *LABS PROJECT #1, Caio&Dionysis*, curated by LABS Contemporary Art, 8 - 10 june, Bologna (2023). *Theriaca* curated by The Contraband Collection, 18-25 june, Metaforte, Venezia (2021).

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