

# Ugolino da Bellono, O.F.M. Cap.

Italian painter and mosaicist  
(1919-2002)

He was born in Belluno on 15 December 1919, and baptized with the name of Silvio Alessandri. He entered the Roman Capuchin friars as a novice on 28 August 1936 and after his high school, philosophical and theological studies, he was ordained a priest on 16 May 1943. Immediately afterwards he began his studies in the Institutes and Schools of Art in Rome, where he has always lived and worked. In the years 1945-'47 he attended the 'Beato Angelico' Art Institute in Rome; from 1948 to 1950 he studied at the School of Ornamental Arts in Rome, practice of fresco, etching and woodcut. From 1951 until 1962 he frequented Giorgio de Chirico and Gino Severini: from the latter he received precious teachings for the technique of wall mosaic: "he taught me how to make the mosaic directly on site, giving me the unspeakable happiness of being able to express with color-matter the transcendent certainties of faith" which was followed by Father Ugolino from Belluno "the discovery or revisiting of the graffiti", updated with mixtures of polychrome cement and modern materials. A technique that of painting has the value of color and sign, and of sculpture that of "soliciting tactile stimuli, remove the excess".

The numerous trips abroad enriched him with the artistic knowledge of the various cultures. The richness of his inner life, the depths of his being a Franciscan and a priest, are expressed through the signs and colors of art, which in him was an insatiable search for communication and perfection. His creative frenzy is known, which led him to consult theological texts and people competent in the science of God, in the creative phase of the work of art. In this sense, the interpretations that he himself provided to the public and critics on the occasion of the inauguration of his works or the presentation of his exhibitions are illuminating. A robust conception anchored to the roots of the Christian faith, lived in Franciscan radiance, was a constant in his activity as an artist, which he was able to draw from the treasure of his heart and mind, nova et vetera. His name is present in Father Ugolino da Belluno many internet sites, some degree theses on his art have been discussed in the universities of Rome and Naples, the entries in his bibliography are around 240 titles, his works, ranging from fresco to stained glass, mosaic, bronze sculpture, graffiti and screen printing, are widespread especially in Italy, but also abroad (Liverpool, Birmingham, Tanzania, Granada).

On April 21, 2002 Father. Ugolino had found the strength to go to Pescara to present the sketch for the parish church of Sant'Andrea Apostolo. At the center of the apse he placed, in maximum evidence, an imposing Risen Christ of about 5 meters, highlighted by the black shadow of death. In recent years this image has returned more and more often in the works of the Capuchin artist, almost an indicator of his progressive and inexorable journey towards the dark shadow of death, with the light of the resurrection in his heart and eyes.

He died in Rome on May 24, 2002. In Rome, his works can be admired in the churches of S. Felice da Cantalice, S. Emerenziana, San Ponziano and in the Chapel of the Major Seminary.

Translated from:

<https://www.sanponziano.net/2015-03-31-17-50-34/storia-della-parrocchia/15-il-graffito-dellabside>

Also see:

[Italian Wikipedia page](#)