



MATER OBSCURA

Art Contest

✧ Art Contest on the Dark Feminine ✧

Free competition, open to both experienced and beginner artists.

The winning artwork will be displayed at the
Museum of Contemporary Witchcraft in Turin.

WHAT IS MATER OBSCURA Art Contest?

MATER OBSCURA Art Contest is an artistic competition created to promote esoteric art and raise awareness on the delicate topic of female freedom. This initiative aims to give emerging artists the opportunity to showcase their work, making it visible to a wide online community. The theme of the contest is the Goddess in her darkest aspects, in order to celebrate the Sacred Feminine in its purest and most primordial form, beyond any censorship.

Among the names of the Dark Goddess, Lilith undoubtedly stands out. According to biblical tradition, Lilith was demonized for opposing Adam's dominance, thus becoming an emblem of female freedom and rebellion against oppressors.



MATER OBSCURA Art Contest thus aims to encourage reflection on these important themes, inspiring artists to delve into the depths of their own souls, suspended between dream and nightmare, light and shadow, where the Lady of Worlds reigns.

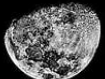
Rules of the MATER OBSCURA Art Contest



❖ The Contest is open to everyone, with no restrictions on gender, age, or tradition.




❖ The Contest is completely free and does not require any registration fee from participants.




❖ The artworks must be original. Any style is accepted, including drawings on paper, paintings on canvas, or digital art created with a graphic tablet, but NO AI-generated works are accepted




❖ Each artist may participate with a maximum of two artworks.



❖ Non-digital artworks must be submitted in the form of high-quality photos or scans.



❖ The content of the artworks is entirely free, beyond any form of censorship, but must relate to the theme of the contest.



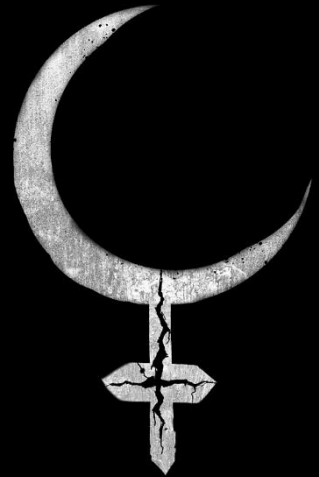
❖ The artworks must be submitted to the contest email by December 10, 2024, at the latest.

HOW TO WRITE YOUR PARTICIPATION EMAIL

Each participating artist must send an email to: **materobscuracontest@gmail.com**

containing the following information:

- Name or pseudonym
- Title of the artwork
- Dimensions of the artwork
- Technique used
- A brief introduction about yourself
- A brief description of your artwork (optional)
- An image of the artwork in high quality must be attached to the email.



PRIZES OF THE CONTEST

MATER OBSCURA Art Contest will award the three best artworks, offering various prizes.

The 1st place winner will have the opportunity to have their artwork displayed at the **Museum of Contemporary Witchcraft in Turin**. The Museum of Contemporary Witchcraft in Turin houses over a thousand artifacts, including private collections and genuine ancient and contemporary witchcraft items, making it the most authentic in Italy and the second in Europe. The Museum is located 300 meters from Piazza Statuto, where the iconic statue of Lucifer stands.

The 2nd place winner will receive a **personalized Satanic Rosary**, handcrafted by Sacra Tenebra, or alternatively, a personalized necklace of their protective deity.

The 3rd place winner will receive an **esoteric book** of their choice.

**The second and third prizes will be offered by the Italian Satanists Union.*



EVALUATION CRITERIA

All works received by December 10, 2024, will be evaluated by **a jury of seven judges**, chosen from representatives of various spiritual currents to promote collaboration among different traditions. Each judge will have five days to evaluate each work and create a ranking of their ten favorite artists, assessing content, style, and technical ability. Each position in the ranking will correspond to a score that will be added to those of the other judges.

But there is also an **eighth judge in the competition: the online community!** After the judges' voting, all the competing works will be published in an online gallery on the Unione Satanisti Italiani website, and everyone will have the chance to vote for their favorite. The ten most voted works will receive a score that could either confirm the judges' votes or change the final outcome.

On December 21, 2024, coinciding with Yule, **the winners of the MATER OBSCURA Art Contest will be announced** in a live broadcast on Jennifer Crepuscolo's Instagram.

THE JURY

The jury of the Mater Obscura contest will be composed of **Jennifer Crepuscolo**, founder of the Unione Satanisti Italiani and organizer of the competition, along with two other representatives from USI: **Kate Ecdysis**, an esoteric artisan and scholar of snake worship in all its forms, and **Krama Karasu**, an enthusiast of esoteric music and explorer of shamanic practices.

The jury will also include four special guests: creator **Strega Salamander**, editor of Hekate Edizioni **Sara Ballini**, founder of Hexen Press **Kazim**, and internationally renowned painter **Daniel Mirante**.





Kazim is a multi-disciplinary artist and practitioner expressing his personal reification of the Craft through different medium such as ritual performances, visual art, photography, drawings and writings. Originally from France, he is the founder of Hexen Press, a publishing house collaborating with some the most creative and innovative contemporary occult artists and writers. With a background of 20 years in different traditions, Kazim embraces the archetypes and forces lying in the sacred visions of the Mundus Imaginalis to refine his personal recension of sorcerous praxis. His steps have been walking the grounds of Thelemic and Chaos Magick, the Orphic Mysteries, The Poison Path, the Vāma Mārga, Tibetan Tantrism, Sabbatic Witchcraft, the Grimoire Tradition,

Brazilian Quimbanda and Jurema, making his quest a constant search for a renewal of consciousness and ecstatic liberation of the Self. His writings and artworks have been published in numerous international occult journals and anthologies: Pillars Journal, Alraune Journal, Qliphoth Journal, Sabbatica, Noxobnia, Lilith Goddess of Sitra Ahra, Silver Star Journal, Silkmilk Magizain. As an artist, he presented ritual performances, exhibitions and lectures in different occult events, galleries and festivals in Europe and South America: Occulture Conference Berlin, Death & Rebirth Festival, La Abadia Aurea, La Semaine des Magies, Salón Arcano, La Cantada.

Sara Ballini Ciappi is a model, actress, and writer originally from Florence, whose career is distinguished by her versatility and passion. After an initial education in languages, Sara decided to embark on an in-depth artistic path, focusing on drawing and the history of art at the Institute of Art in Florence. Despite her solid humanistic background, she continued her studies by enrolling in Medicine and Surgery in Florence; however, she did not complete this program, choosing instead to move to Spain during a period of profound existential crisis. For several years, Sara devoted herself to a life rich in experiences, balancing travel, publications, and her modeling work. After a long journey of growth and reflection, she decided to return to Italy and, in 2018, founded Hekate Edizioni, an editorial project created in response to the growing misinformation surrounding the Left-Hand Path, Luciferianism, and contemporary magic. Through this initiative, Sara aims to create a space for dialogue and understanding, offering publications that challenge conventions and promote a more open and informed perspective on these themes. Despite the personal challenges she has faced along the way, Sara continues to pursue her project with passion and dedication. Through her work, she shares her love for art, culture, and beauty, establishing herself as a significant voice in the contemporary esoteric landscape.





Giulia, born in 1991, known on social media as Strega Salamander, is a gothic model and creator who has captivated a wide audience with her vibrant and authentic storytelling. Her lively personality and ability to connect with people make her an icon in the alternative world. A passionate activist for animal rights and a member of the LGBT community as a pansexual, Strega Salamander uses her social media channels to spread meaningful messages about veganism and animal rights, while also sharing her experiences in the paranormal realm. With a unique style and a great sense of lightness, she addresses complex themes without ever losing her smile, creating an atmosphere of joy and positivity. Loved for her unconventional look and non-traditional viewpoints, Strega Salamander defines herself as a practitioner of Witchcraft, although she prefers to keep her practices private and does not follow a specific tradition. Her

approach to Witchcraft is free and personal, in total harmony with the energies of nature, embracing spirituality in a fluid way without limitations. With a strong online presence, Giulia continues to inspire and foster a sense of community among her followers, encouraging them to explore their identities and embrace diversity.

Daniel Mirante, born in 1977 in the United Kingdom, is a painter and director of the portal Visionary.art. He earned a first-class degree in Fine Arts from Manchester Metropolitan University, specializing in conceptual art and installation. After graduating, he developed a deep interest in the painting tradition and, in 2012, studied Mischtechnik in Vienna with Ernst Fuchs, founder of the Vienna School of Fantastic Realism and mentor to notable psychedelic artists. Daniel then studied with Timea Tallian, a restorer at the Victoria and Albert Museum, acquiring skills in the traditional techniques of the old masters. As a teacher, he is highly regarded for his approach that combines Steiner-style art education with Visionary Art. He has taught at the Tobias School of Art Therapy in the UK, is a founding member of the faculty at the Vienna Academy of Visionary Art, and has conducted seminars in Italy, Australia, and India. His works are featured in various international collections and are represented by MOVA Gallery International, Phaneros Gallery (USA), Galerie10 (Austria), and NAIA Museum (France). His work focuses on the Italian Renaissance, exploring the connection between sacred and humanistic artistic styles. He is interested in the esoteric language of symbols in ancient art and their application in painting as a means to express historical and archetypal forces that influence the contemporary world.



A painting of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a vibrant red dress, sitting in a dark, moody environment. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting her face and the texture of the dress against a dark, textured background.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks to all the judges who graciously agreed to participate in this initiative in favor of Art, the Goddess, and the Sacred.

A special thanks also to Norak Odal for deciding to host the winner's work at the Museum of Contemporary Witchcraft in Turin.

Thanks also to the artist Mark Demstader for allowing us to use his wonderful painting *A Red One* as the cover for the MATER OBSCURA Art Contest announcement.

And finally, a heartfelt thank you especially to all those who choose to participate in this artistic contest as competitors, sharing their Art with us, made of deep inspiration, passion, and beauty.

To receive every new update on the MATER OBSCURA Art Contest, follow
Jennifer Crepuscolo's Instagram stories

