

This is the first time Manzelli has worked on this scale of 20 x 20 cm.

The titles are names of unstable stars.

The human figures are imagined beings, not portraits.

The birds, insects and flowers have the same valence as the faces.

Anemone Coronaria - Bombus - Cosmos bipinnatus - Datura stramonium - Erithacus rubecula - Helleborus - Hibiscus rosa-sinensis - Iris - Lilium -

Macroglossum stellatarum - Morpho helenor peleides - Pancratium maritimum - Pycnosorus globosus - Rosa - Rosa canina - Zantedeschia aethiopica

- 1 *Nashira* — “the bearer of good news”: the proper name of the star designated Gamma Capricorni, a chemically peculiar yellow/white star whose brightness is nearly constant.
- 2 *Alphard* — “the solitary one”: a single luminous star in an almost empty region of the sky.
- 3 *Mirzam* — “the announcer”: it rises shortly before Sirius and announces its appearance.
- 4 *M31-2014-DS1* — a vanished star, probably collapsed directly into a black hole.
- 5 *Atria* — a star with an intermediate classification between giant and bright giant.
- 6 *Albireo* — a double star, with one warm golden/red component and one blue component.
- 7 *Rigel* — a blue supergiant that continually loses matter through an extremely powerful stellar wind.
- 8 *Algol* — a system containing an eclipsing binary: one star periodically obscures the other.
- 9 *Naos* — a runaway blue supergiant, extremely hot and undergoing very rapid mass loss.
- 10 *Celaeno* — “the dark one”, a blue-white star in the Pleiades and one of the faintest members of the group visible to the naked eye.
- 11 *Wezen* — “the weight”: a yellow-white supergiant of immense size and luminosity.
- 12 *Altair* — “the flying eagle”: it rotates so rapidly that it is flattened at the poles.
- 13 *Deneb* — “the tail” of the Swan: an extremely distant blue-white supergiant and one of the most intrinsically luminous stars visible to the naked eye.
- 14 *Capella* — “the little she-goat”: it appears to be a single star, but is a system composed of four stars.
- 15 *Adhara* — “the virgins”: it is a binary star with exceptionally intense ultraviolet emission.
- 16 *Sanduleak* — *69° 202* — a blue supergiant that exploded in 1987 as the supernova SN 1987A: the star no longer exists in its original form.
- 17 *Terita* — a pre-existing title, retained because it already sounds like the name of a star.
- 18 *Alhena* — “the brand”: a binary system whose two components appear to the naked eye as a single star.
- 19 *Aludra* — “the virgin”: a variable blue supergiant in an advanced evolutionary stage and undergoing substantial mass loss.
- 20 *Spica* — “the ear of wheat”: two blue stars so close that they are mutually distorted by gravity.