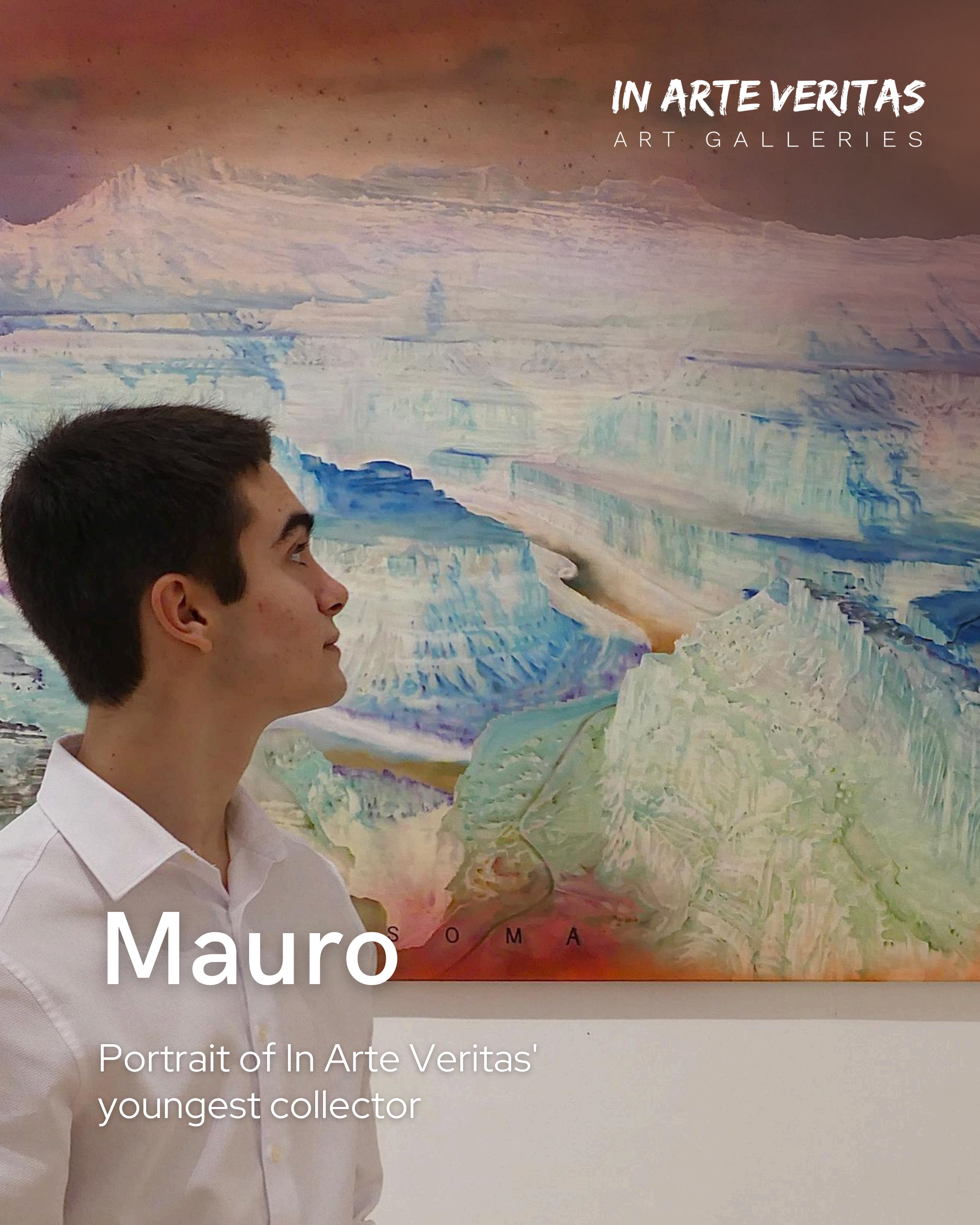
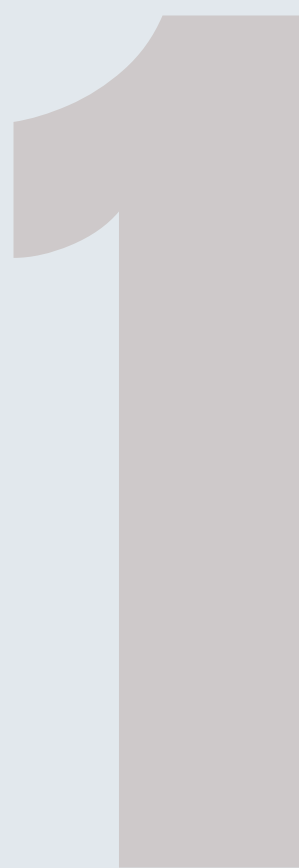


IN ARTE VERITAS
ART GALLERIES



Mauro

Portrait of In Arte Veritas'
youngest collector



Could you tell us about your relationship with art, its importance in your life, and what motivated you to start collecting?

To this day, the art world is completely new to me. I could say that I've been drawn to this passion for some time, but I only truly started immersing myself in it about a year ago. It's amazing, but it's In Arte Veritas Valencia gallery that has helped me develop this fondness for art and get to where I am now. What I love most about an artwork, is that it compels you, for a moment, to enter

the artist's mind and attempt to decipher the piece.

Many questions will likely remain unanswered, and that's precisely what makes art fascinating. I first entered In Arte Veritas shortly after its opening in Valencia, and the experience was truly incredible. Everything I saw captivated me, especially the fascinating stories behind each piece. As I left, I knew I had loved the experience and would return. Since then, I've visited every exhibition offered by the gallery.

Since the age of 12, I've been collecting coins, not only because I find them fascinating but also with an eye toward investment—considering their potential future value. So, why not start investing with art? This thought crossed my mind several times: *"I love the artwork, and it's a good investment."* Then, one day while visiting a new exhibition, the director of In Arte Veritas Valencia showed me a lithograph. It made me realize that there were different options in terms of techniques and artists that fit my budget, allowing me to buy a piece I loved while entering the world of art investment.

That same day, we set a date to explore different options and purchase my first artwork.

How did you first hear about In Arte Veritas, and what kept bringing you back to the gallery time and again?

Honestly, I'm not quite sure how I first discovered In Arte Veritas. It could have been through a recommendation, or perhaps I was drawn in by what I saw from the outside. Either way, I'm grateful to have made that discovery. Thanks to this gallery, I've been able to have new experiences, and I know for certain that great stories await me in the future because of In Arte Veritas.

A very important point to emphasize is that, without the kindness of the gallery team from day one, I might never have returned. What I am certain of is that I would never have entered as many times as I have. For me, the most important thing is the attention given to customers. Kindness and a warm welcome are absolutely essential, and that is precisely what sets In Arte Veritas apart from any other gallery. Because ultimately, every person who walks through the door could be a buyer, regardless of age, gender, or appearance. I am a prime example of this.

In recent months, I have visited many galleries and noticed that, being young, I don't receive much attention. At best, some show a bit of curiosity, assuming that if I'm in a gallery, it's because I'm studying something related to art. They are quite surprised to find out that I am a collector and not interested in creating art, but rather in appreciating and purchasing it. I completely understand that this can happen, but I believe it is very important to treat every person who enters equally.

2
Daniel Gallego

It was at the age of 17 that you purchased your first artwork, "*L'année du tigre*" by Hom Nguyen in 2023. Could you tell us about what drew you to this piece?



When I went to see different artworks at the gallery, I didn't have much knowledge about art. The first piece they showed me really caught my eye, but I wanted to see more. So, when I got home, I started thinking about the various artworks I had seen, and began research on their authors.

I paid special attention to this first artwork that had fascinated me, and after discovering the artist's life and way of working, I decided it would be "*L'année du Tigre*" by Hom Nguyen.

The artwork was officially purchased on my 17th birthday. A beautiful gift, without a doubt. So, it can be said that my interest in art collecting began at the age of 16.

A few months later, I made my second acquisition: "*CardborZoic II*" by José Luis Ceña. Some might think it was an impulsive purchase, perhaps due to the emotion of my first acquisition. But that wasn't the case. I discovered this artist for the first time while browsing the In Arte Veritas website, and all of his works fascinated me. Gradually, I learned about Ceña and his journey. For several days, I thought a lot about him, and shortly after, I had the great opportunity to see some of his works exhibited at the gallery. His art impressed me even more in person.

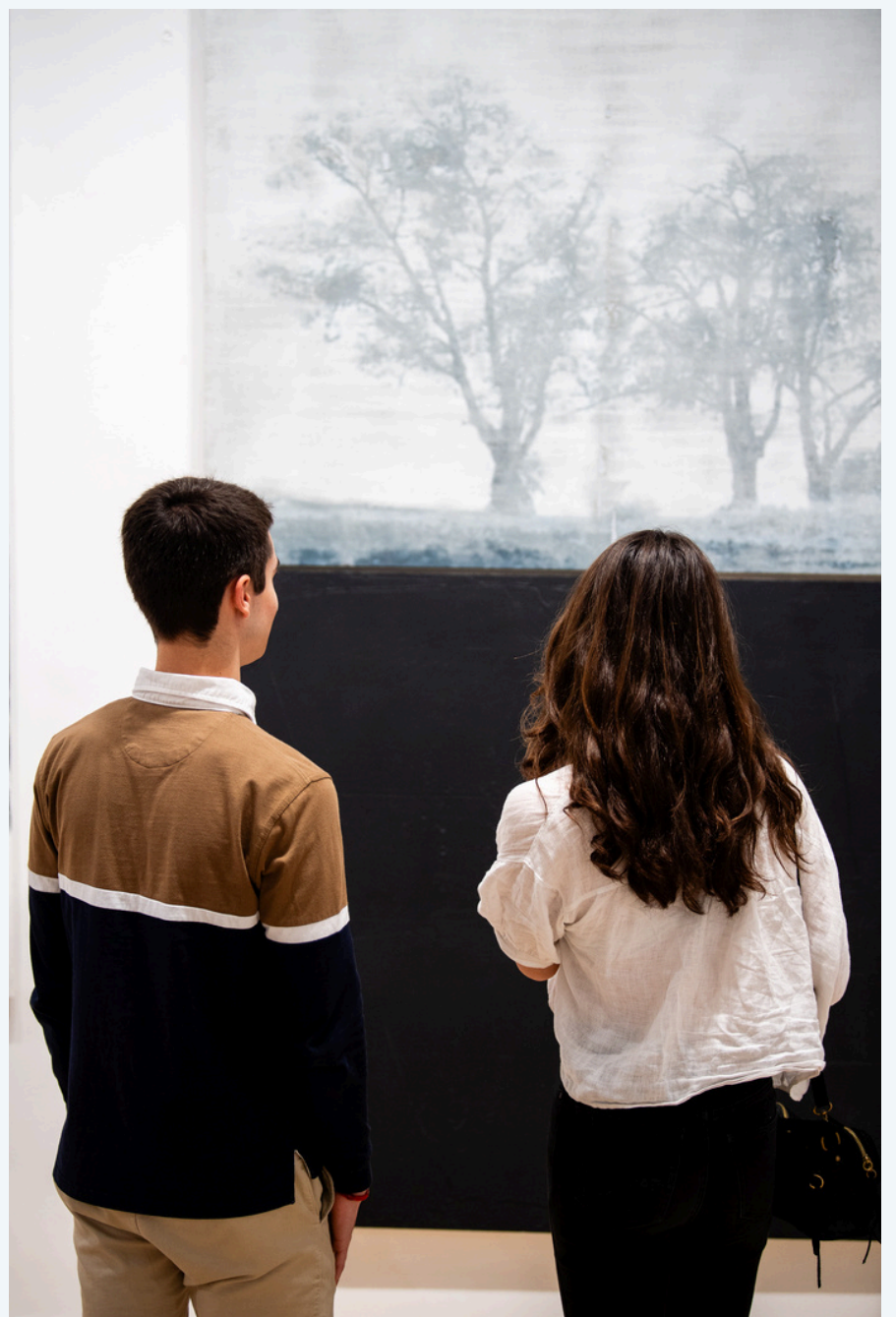
I was shown all of Ceña's works within my budget, and among those available, one immediately caught my eye: "*CardborZoic II*". All that remained was to deepen my knowledge about the artist and this specific artwork to be completely certain of my choice.

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What are your artistic influences, and what contributes to your favorite aspects of a work of art?

Since I have only been exploring the art world for about a year, I don't yet have a clearly defined artistic style that attracts me the most. Contemporary figurative art is currently my favorite and what I collect, although I appreciate other forms of artistic expression such as Oriental art or Baroque art. These styles, though very different from each other, create a certain harmony in my tastes.

I couldn't really pinpoint specific characteristics or elements that make me like a piece of art. Generally, when I see a work of art, I instantly know whether I like it or not. And usually, if a piece captivates me from the first glance, it's very unlikely to change later on. Even when I see multiple artworks, if one of them truly grabs my attention, all the others lose their appeal. For instance, in galleries, there may be several artworks that I find appealing, but there will always be one that stands out as "special," the one that keeps lingering in my mind.



What are your goals as a young art collector and enthusiast?

Do you have specific aspirations for your collection in the long term?

One of my main goals as a collector is to acquire new knowledge as I expand my collection.

Another goal I hope to achieve with my collection is the appreciation of my artworks. The pieces I have acquired have been partly purchased to invest my money in an asset that could generate long-term profits. By putting my money to work instead of simply saving it and losing its value. Taking advantage of my youth to start investing before having major obligations.

Throughout my life, I expect that my tastes in art will evolve. Over the years, I would like to acquire Asian artworks, especially Chinese ones. It's a culture that fascinates me, particularly Chinese sculpture and architecture, crafted with meticulous attention to detail and truly unique materials.

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What advice would you give to other young art enthusiasts who are looking to start collecting?

I strongly encourage you to dive in, as it's an experience that not only allows you to explore a new and fascinating world but also offers you the opportunity to acquire a vast cultural understanding. You'll have the chance to meet people who share the same tastes and passions as you do.

Even if they have more years of experience, they can greatly benefit your journey as a collector and impart their vast knowledge of art to you. However, before purchasing a piece, it's crucial to research thoroughly and learn about the artist and the artwork you wish to acquire. Don't let your emotions carry you away and avoid impulsive purchases. Take the time to reflect carefully to ensure that what you're buying is truly what you want.

Personally, I find it very difficult to meet people my age, around 17 years old, who are interested in art collecting or who want to start investing. I know people who are interested in art, but more in the creative aspect rather than collecting. I understand that being an art collector might seem strange or hard to grasp for many young people, but I believe that art allows us to learn a lot and to experience our daily lives in a slightly different way.

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Ultimately, what does art collecting represent to you?

For me, collecting art is something difficult to explain. On one hand, it's an investment, but on the other, it's about admiration. I'm not sure where this artistic feeling comes from or at what point I truly started to become interested in art, as I have neither family nor friends interested in art who could have introduced me to this world.

On the other hand, the act of collecting has been with me since I was younger. I've always enjoyed collecting different things, even if they had no monetary value. In fact, to this day, I have a vast collection of coins.

One could say that art represents for me both an investment, an admiration, and a passion for the artworks and the artists who create them.

