

Fig.075 Picture taken by my high school art teacher, an Italian painter who invited me to use a corner of her ancient villa to paint together with her son. In this setting I was able to experiment with random chemicals I found at the hardware store. The paintings became filters of a much too industrialized society, especially the north east of Italy where I was living.

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After my American high-school I had my atelier in the apartment of a widow. There I used a room to make rather traditional oil paintings. Soon however I broke free from using traditional techniques and began experimenting with synthetic resins and foams of all kinds. Eventually the old lady began experiencing nausea and as a result I began painting in whatever garage I could find. In this early phase I would just go to a hardware store and buy whatever chemical product intrigued me. Not knowing what I was using, I would simply mix it on canvas with other chemicals and await for the reaction. The experiments did not end there as I was also using fire, powders and liquids to get the most bizarre textures. I was an alchemist of the modern age or possibly simply an artist using very unconventional materials, using the whole materials I could find on the shop shelves to enlarge the palette with which an artist could play with. After so much experimentation I began to know the materials I was using and got more and more into creating my recipes. The main ingredients of my paintings became undoubtedly polyurethane, the foam used by carpenters for isolation purposes. Frankly I did not even know what it was used for and how to use it but just stuck to it after trying it a few times.