

Franco Costa

CURRICULUM VITAE

- 1934 Franco Costa was born in Rome on August, 14th.
- 1948 His first experience in stained glass in a church in Dundee, Scotland.
- 1950 At the age of sixteen he finished his studies of violin and harmony at the Accademia of Santa Cecilia in Rome and his Jesuit Classical education.
- 1951-1955 He studied simultaneously French language and literature in Geneva, architecture in Zurich and studied at L'Ecole des Art et Métiers in Paris.
In Provence, France, he often met with Nicolas de Stael, Picasso, Matisse and other artists.
This period is characterized by the interior turmoil between being a painter or an architect.
After the death of Nicolas de Stael, he left for South America.
- 1956-1957 He traveled in South America, Argentina and Brazil, mainly for the project of building Brasilia with his uncle Lucio Costa.
Encounters with Che Guevara, Manuel Kantor and Hugo del Carril.
- 1960-1964 For four years he joined the "Popular Theater Wagon" as art director, showing his work as a painter in different towns in the USA.
- 1961 Daniela, daughter of his first wife, was born in Rome.
- 1965 Franco collaborated with French and Italian high fashion as a stylist for new design of fabrics, used by Dior, Lancetti, Grès and Valentino.
- 1966 For a period he joined the High School of Textiles in Huddesfield, to specialize in fabric designs. He was often in London where he had a close friendship and collaboration with Cecil Beaton. Exhibition at the "London Arts Gallery".
- 1967 Trip to Ethiopia where he published his book "Theodor II" (a story on Emperor Theodor's life). While travelling through China, India and Nepal he was inspired by oriental arts.
- 1968 Collaborated with Fellini as costume designer and assistant art director for the film "Juliet of the spirits".
- 1969 Again in the USA to collaborate for a different design with Burlington Carpets, Phillips '66 and Lowenstein.
First exhibition at Gallery "Rizzoli" in New York.
- 1970 Art direction with the Chelsea Theater Center.
In Bordighera, he won the First Prize for the theme "Humour against drugs".
- 1971 Exhibition at Gallery Erling Hagfelt in Copenhagen together with the Italian Institute of Culture. He wrote his first draft for his theaterplay "Oh ! Che Felicità".
He collaborated with the argentinian writer of "Clockwork Orange" and later with the director Stanley Kubrick for both theaterplay and film.
He had his first exhibition in Sweden, Lidingo's Stadz Biblioteket.
- 1972 Presentation of the script "Oh ! Che Felicità" in the Museo della Scienza e della Tecnica in Milan. While living in Milan and Scandinavia he met Henry Unger and Kary Lash.

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- 1973 He went to Columbia and Venezuela with Margot Benacerraf and Gabriel Garcia Marquez for the art direction of the play "La Candida Erendira".
- 1974 The preparation of the film "Oh ! Che Felicità" in Paris.
- 1975 Eleonora, his second daughter of his second wife Valentina, was born in Rome.
He made various illustrations for the book of Gun Zacharias "Skarnpack USA". With a group of artists from Aquila he organized exhibitions in places such as Arischia, Calascio, Ofena and San Demetrio. The aim was to bring art to people like shepherds, farmers etc.
- 1976 In Rome he collaborated with the group "Rajatabla" from Caracas, and as an art director he traveled with them from Rome through Europe to South America.
Another exhibition in Milan with "Arredaesse" on the theme "Arte Vita Uno".
- 1976-1978 With Carlos Jimenez he directed the group "Rajatabla" for his theatrical play "Oh ! Che Felicità", which won the world award for theater in Caracas.
In Rome in "Galleria Poltrona Frau" he showed his exhibition "Arte Vita Due".
In Citeria he showed the exhibition "Arte Vita Tre".

Many exhibitions mainly in Sweden.
- 1978 In Rome at the "Bottega dello Scultore" with Alberto Ricci and 18 international artists he had an exhibition in honor of the birth of the "Light of Sweden" Foundation. His first exhibition for "The International Year of the Child" for Unicef, took place in Landskrona.
- 1979 Exhibition in New York with active participants from different schools for a new experience in order to give through research and culture, creative assistance to the children of the Third World.
In New York he held another exhibition for "The International Year of the Child" at the B. Altman Department Stores on 5th Avenue. At the end of "The International Year of the Child" he brought the resume of his experiences in Gothenburg and New York to the State University of Montreal, Canada.
- 1980 He launched the Swedish Challenge for the "America's Cup" together with his Foundation "Light of Sweden" and with King Carl Gustav (as member of Honor), at the Svenska Batmassan in Gothenburg.
He became the official "America's Cup 1980 Artist", through a very large distribution all over America, of the three official America's Cup posters.
- 1981 The beginning of a period in which he worked with Volvo. He created the logo for the "Tennis Grand Prix" and made posters for different sports events like America's Cup 1980, Ski Acrobatic, Horse Jumping and Motor Sports: "Franco Costa in Sports" with Lars Ahren.
In this year he started a series of ten paintings called "Houston 10".
- 1982 He married his third wife Joshoua.
- 1984 Sebastian, his first son was born in Rome.
- 1985 He created a completely new design for Lycra Fibers of Du Pont de Nemours.
Samuel, his second son, was born in Rome.
The complete exhibition Societetshuset in Lysekil was burnt in a fire. A big loss of more than a hundred works, such as graphics, originals and tapestries.
- 1986 He made a poster design for Greenpeace, "Antartica" in Sweden.

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- 1987 Great Australian experience, different exhibitions, America's Cup 1986-'87.
- 1988 He created two official posters for the Ski Race "Vasaloppet", Sweden.
He painted the original of EUR "Il Sogno di Roma", used as the poster of the "Salone del Mare" in Rome and to make Italians aware of the existence of the little lakes of EUR, he brought his friend Dennis Conner to a match race.
For the first time, official artist of the Baltic Match Race in Kiel.
- 1989-1990 As official artist of the Whitbread Round the World Race he painted originals and produced limited edition prints of all ports of call.
For the first time a small merchandising line was created with the reproduction of his art on it.
In a letter from the Whitehouse, President George Bush communicated his appreciation for the image that Costa made for the first Soviet entry in Whitbread with the boat "Fazisi", putting the Russian and American flags on the same boat.
Exhibition of America's Cup graphics in San Diego in collaboration with "Stars & Stripes" skipper Dennis Conner.
This was the fourth consecutive cup season for both Costa and Conner who met during the 1980 America's Cup races in Newport, R.I.
During Cowes Week Franco Costa's works were shown by the Solent Gallery.
He was again official artist both for the second and third Baltic Match Race where his image was incorporated by BMW Sportslogo.
- 2000 January: 22 Exhibition at Dusseldorf International Boat Show in collaboration with Eissing GmbH.
29 Non-profit charity auction "Franco Costa-Polsce" (Franco Costa for Poland) of different art works in order to help the children's hospital, organized by Grazyna Kowalczyk and her Foundation "Sziachetne zdrowie" in Katowice, Poland. Cooperation with the three National TV, one cable and one private TV.
- March 13 Presentation at the Holocaust Museum in Auschwitz, taken care of by the Italian President Dr. Carlo Azeglio Ciampi.
- May 11 Exhibition at ART_QUAKE gallery in Assen, Holland.
25 Opening of the exhibition at Heimat Museum in Heiligenhafen in Germany.
26 Malerischer Asflug nach Italien at restaurant L'Etoile, Eutin, Germany.
- June: 16 Exhibition at Artbarbakan, historical museum in the old town in Warszawa, Poland. Exhibition at Ginnastica Roma, Dr. Gianni Capellano and Coro Santa Cecilia for a meeting with the children of Rome, helping poor children for the project "2000 children for the year 2000".
- July: 5 Freilicht Museum, Molfsee, Germany in collaboration with Am See Gallery of Plön.
- August: 23 (till September 7th) Exhibition in Berlin during the Golf-WM 2000
- September: 12 Exhibition at Replay Café and Italian Institute of Culture in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- October: 7 Presentation of different artworks inspired by landscapes of Toscana and the wines Chianti Classico & Riserva, at the Fattoria di Montecchio of Ivo Nuti in San Donato in Poggio - Florence, organized in collaboration with Giovannoni Associates.
- November: 2 Arte Vita and Finance, in Munich - South Germany with Maiken Schweizer Exhibition at the "Beurs" in Rotterdam - Holland
- 2001 June: Franco was nominated as the Official Artist for the Volvo Ocean Race 2001-2002. He created 5 original artworks, and its limited edition of silkscreen.
- August 8 World preview of Franco's V.O.R. artworks at the Volvo Show Room in Kungstradgarden, Stockholm, Sweden.

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- December Franco was nominated as the Official Artist for the 150th America's Cup Jubilee in Cowes, England. He created an original artwork with its limited edition of silkscreens (150 pieces). Those silkscreens were especially numbered for the event from 1851 to 2001: a number for each year since the birth of the America's Cup. Each piece was sealed with the original emblem of the America's Cup Jubilee. Franco was finally back in the sailing world. Franco was present at the Sidney and Auckland V.O.R. legs. He went to Australia and New Zealand to be present, and to present his new artwork "Dreaming and Sailing Down Under... Sidney and Auckland", with a limited edition of silkscreens.
- 2002
June: Franco Costa created a special painting for the arrival of the Volvo Ocean Race in Kiel, Germany. He created 550 limited edition silkscreens as well.
August 3: Inauguration of a personal exhibition in the Malcesine Castle, on Lake Garda, Italy.
The president of the well known sailing association of Hamburg (Norddeutsche Regatta Verein) asked Franco's artistic collaboration to create a whole new image for the Daimler Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge 2003, nominating him as the Official Artist for the race.
- September 3 - 8 Exhibition at "Hiswa te Water" in Seaport Marina Ijmuden, Netherlands.
November 11 Nominated as the Official Artist for "Kiel Sailing City" in Germany, during the candidacies of Kiel as Olympic Sailing City 2012. He was officially presented during the Lord Mayor's (the Honourable Norbert Gansel) press conference.
- 2003
February: 25 (until the 2nd of March) Exhibition at the Hiswa boat festival in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
March 14 - 23 Exhibition at the Boat show of Lillestrom, Norway.
April 26 (until the 4th of May) Exhibition at the Skallum Gallery in Stabekk, Norway.
June 4 - 29 Exhibition at the Italian Culture Institute of Salonicco, Greece.
19 (until the 30th of August) Exhibition for the Couturier Collection of the "Girouettes" at the Modern Art Museum Louisiana in Humlebaek, Denmark.
20 Exhibition and presentation of the new artwork "Kiel Kai City" at the Kiel Kai City festival in Kiel, Germany.
July 1 - 15 Exhibition and presentation of the new Daimler Chrysler North Atlantic Challenge at the DCNAC Village in Hamburg, Germany.
August Exhibition at the Commeter Gallery in Hamburg, Germany.
Exhibition at the Riera & Socii studio of Munich, Germany.
Other exhibitions during the year 2003:
Exhibition in Oslo, Norway.
Exhibition at the Porto Cervo Yacht Club, Sardinia, Italy.
Exhibition at the Greek College with King Constantine in London, GB.
Exhibition at the Salon Nautique of Paris, France.
Exhibition at the Burg Gallery on the Fehmarn Isle, Germany.
- 2004
April: Exhibition at the Todini & Todini gallery in Rome, Italy.
Cultural collaboration with the "Roma per 2", a Roman sailing Challenge in Ripa di Trajano.
May Preparation of a project concerning 25 artworks describing Dubai's aspects. They would have been made for His Excellence Sheik HH Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum.
Presentation of a new original artwork for Citti Gross Markt in Muhlendamm, Germany. Exhibitions at the Citti Gross Markt malls in Flensburg, Lubeck, Kiel (Germany).
June June: Great success while selling the CGM limited edition of silkscreens.
Donation of 10,000 euro (the CGM income) to the FAO project FOOD FOR ALL.
July Creation of an original artwork for the 100 years Jubilee of Yacht, the biggest European Sailing Magazine.

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- 2005 January: Presentation of an original artwork, made for the city of Zingst, at BOOT, the Sailing Festival of Dusseldorf, Germany.
- February Exhibition at the Art and Industry Museum "Roubaix la Piscine" in Roubaix, France with the Daniel Couturier art collection.
- March Exhibition at the 50th Hiswa sailing festival in Amsterdam, Netherlands.
Exhibition at the Boat Show in Lillestrom, Norway.
- Realization of a new project "Painting with Children" in Haugesund, Germany.
Exhibition at the Ancora Marina in Neustadt, Germany, by Simoneit Sail and Service Team.
Preparation of new Scandinavian projects in Karlshamn, Bastad and Goteborg.
- May: Cultural participation for the Zingst 5th Match Race in Germany.
Exhibition with Roel M. van den Brink, Catch Projecten B.V. in Utrecht, Germany.
- June: 1st Exhibition at the ESN opening in Kiel, Germany.
3- 30 Exhibition at the Kieler Yacht Club in Kiel, Germany.
8 - 12 Exhibition on the Eolian Islands and Milazzo, Italy for the 1st Eolian Sailing week, organized by New Sail s.r.l., Associazione Yachting Club Antica Marineria, and the Community of Milazzo.
12 - 18 Nomination as Official Artist for the Societ e de Regates Rochelaises, La Rochelle, France.
17 Official Artist of "The Legend" for the Louis Vuitton Cup in Valencia, Spain.
18 - 26 Cultural participation at the Kieler Woche in Kiel, Germany.
- October Exhibition at Golf Gagliassi, with Thomas Going from the Anthroposophische Medizin Foundation and Antonella Contu, from Burgenstock Hotels, Switzerland.
- November Exhibition at the Quai Est, Saint Claud, France.
- 2006 January: presence at the Bot Dusseldorf 2006.
Creation of a new logo for the Bayerisches Yacht Club.
- June Invitation to be interviewed in the German NDR3 for the TV program "Nord Tours".
- August Official artist of the World Championship of Fireworks, Caput Lucis in Valmontone, Italy.
- October Creation of the new popular image "I Love Kiel".
- December Exhibition at the Locanda Martorelli, Ariccia, Italy.
- 2007 April: Franco Costa is back in the Americas's Cup painting for the South African Team Shosholozha. In collaboration with Desmond Tutu, Franco starts a charity programme for Desmond's children hospital.
- May The F rde Sparkasse Kiel orders an original painting of the Probstei area, Schleswig Holstein, Germany.
- June Franco opens exhibition at the Probstei Museum in Sch nberg.
Exhibition at the Insel Gallery in Lindau, Bodensee, Germany.
Exhibition of only maritime originals on show at "Het Fries Scheepvaartmuseum", Sneek, The Netherlands.
Auction of the painting for Team Shosholozha to raise funds with Desmond Tutu.
Exhibition at the Kieler Week.
- July Exhibition at Apant , the International Art Fair in Taormina, Sicily, Italy.
- August Exhibition in the Locanda Martorelli, Ariccia, Rome, Italy.
- October Exhibition at Hansebot, Hamburg, Germany.
- November Exhibition at the Scheepskamer van Heeg, in Heeg, Netherlands.
- December Exhibition at the Stall54, Preetz, Germany.

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- 2008
January The painting "Lighthouse in Friedrichsort" has been auctioned in December 2007 by Yacht, the German magazine.
February Exhibition on the Scheepskamer Van Heeg stands in the Boot in Dusseldorf, Germany.
Franco Costa will participate to the art fair Vitarte, Viterbo, Italy.
Exhibition in the Galerie Kunst Nesse, Leer, Germany
- March Nominated guest of honour and prize given at the Associazione Culturale "Rocca d'oro", Italy.
Exhibition for the celebrations of the 125th Jubilee of the Royal Norwegian Yacht Club at the En Café, Oslo, Norway.
Exhibition of his weather vanes at the exhibition "Du vent dans les Girouettes", Maison de la Culture Famenne-Ardenne, Marche-en-Famenne, Belgium.
Exhibition at the Salon du livre, Paris, France.
- April Franco Costa will celebrate his twenty years in Kiel with a series of events starting at the Stadt-Café in the new town hall in Kiel, Germany.
Exhibition at Uwe Hechelmann Real Estate in Lindau, Bodensee, Germany.
- May A Travelling Exhibition that will take place in three different places at different times:
12/05/2008 Clubhaus Wassersport-Vereinigung Moenkeberg, Moenkeberg, Germany.
16/05/2008 - 01/06/2008 Clubhaus Golf - Club Kitzberg, Kitzberg, Germany.
06/06 - 15/06/2008 Clubhaus Moeltenorter Seglerkamerads, Moeltenorter, Germany.
Franco Costa participates to Italiarts, an event organised by the Italian Institute of Culture at the Europa Passage, Hamburg, Germany.
Exhibition at the Buergenstock Hotels, Buergenstock, Switzerland.
- June Exhibition at the Galleri Ellen Kwam together with a new collection of jewellery, Oslo, Norway.
Exhibition at the Kieler Week.
- July Exhibition at Gaeste- und Veranstaltungszentrum in Busum, Germany.
Franco receives the price "Premio Internazionale Professionalità" in presence of top professional people, Serrone, Italy.
Exhibition at the Walentowski Gallery, Dubai, Arab United Emirates.
Presentation of the book "Esprit de la voile", with Franco's images on and in it, at Maison del la Mer, Nantes, France.
- September France.
October Auction of the painting "Tranoy" at the Bavariawerf in Lelystad, The Netherlands.
- 2009
February Exhibition of his latest originals and graphics at Galleri Athene, Drammen, Norway.
Exhibition at Gallery Den Norske Veritas, Hovik, Norway.
Charity auction to help children to be able to convert the concrete wilderness of the school yard into a child-friendly green playground.
Exhibition at the Förde Sparkasse in Preetz, Germany
- March Exhibition at the Costa Gallery during the art fair "Vitarte" in Viterbo, Italy.