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FMR No. 9

Vernal Equinox 2024

Franco Maria Ricci Editore

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- Eduardo Barba Gómez, a landscape gardener and botanical investigator of great artworks, shows us recondite vegetal details of renowned masterpieces
- The tropical welter of vegetation painted in the cloister of the Mexican monastery of Malinalco bears witness to the encounter (and clash) of cultures
- Hyperrealistic cacti, painted in oils and garish hues on gigantic canvases by the South Korean artist Lee Kwang-Ho
- The Masonic park of the Villa Durazzo Pallavicini in Pegli (near Genoa), conceived as a theatrical spectacle
- The botanical festoons frescoes by Giovanni da Udine in the Raphaelesque Loggia of Cupid and Psyche in Rome's Villa Farnesina, which include a number of species then newly brought over from the New World
- Stunningly refined portraits of botanists done by Gaetano Gandolfi for Bologna's "Pinacotheca Bassiana"

FMR issue number 9, arriving on the vernal equinox, is wholly devoted to the world of plants, our humble and yet noble fellow travelers on this earthly plane: we range from botanical details in the masterpieces of the Prado to a tropical jungle painted in monochromatic grisaille in a Mexican monastery, from a Korean painter's hyperrealistic cacti to an esoteric Genoese garden, and from the vegetable festoons of the Villa Farnesina to Gaetano Gandolfi's portraits of great botanists. In the front of the book, we see again, after a one-issue hiatus, Nobel Laureate Orhan Pamuk's "Mr. PA" visiting the museum.

Orhan Pamuk, Simone Facchinetti, Pietro Mercogliano, Sylvia Ferino, Eduardo Barba Gómez, Giorgio Antei, Maria Dorotea Gonçalves, Juan Carlos Barbero, Giovanni Aloi, Lee Kwang-Ho, Amerigo Gassarini (1857), Antonio di San Pietro, Massimo Listri, Marina Warner, Lucia Tongiorgi Tomasi, Araldo De Luca, Sergio Ruschena, Donatella Biagi Maino







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