

# ALICE IN WONDERLAND

ILLUSTRATED BY

# GIOVANNI ROBUSTELLI



by @SEMPERLUXUS

Italian Alice in Wonderland illustrated by Giovanni Robustelli @giovannirobustelli, published by Edizioni Papel @spaziopapel in 2018

This very interesting version contains 2 sets of illustrations in 2 different styles which Robustelli created 10 years apart for a Milanese gallery.

The earlier style has long, horizontal panoramas, the later version is in a vertical format.

As Ferruccio Giromini said, “this is how dreams take shape, almost literally. Environments & characters occupy their spaces imposing themselves for what they are, matters of ink & dreams. The material tangles of beasts & things, of sidelong glances & closed eyelids, of fullness rather than emptiness”.

1: Cover: A pensive Alice Liddell.



2: Alice is the rabbit hole herself: the dream starts at the top of her head, her hands try to grasp the concepts, but her bare feet are firmly placed on the ground of reality.



3: The animals of the Caucus Race occupy Alice's thoughts in a most striking way.



4: The earlier version of the Caterpillar. He has the wisdom of the God Emperor of Dune, & the face of Andrea Camilleri, imagining the latest Inspector Montalbano mystery.



5: The later version of the Caterpillar is much less human. Alice tries to prick awake this dream image with a long pin.



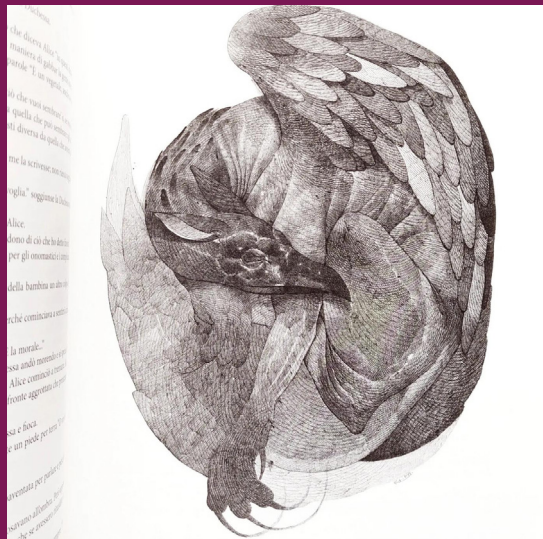
6: Alice with the the will-of-the-wisp Cheshire Cat.



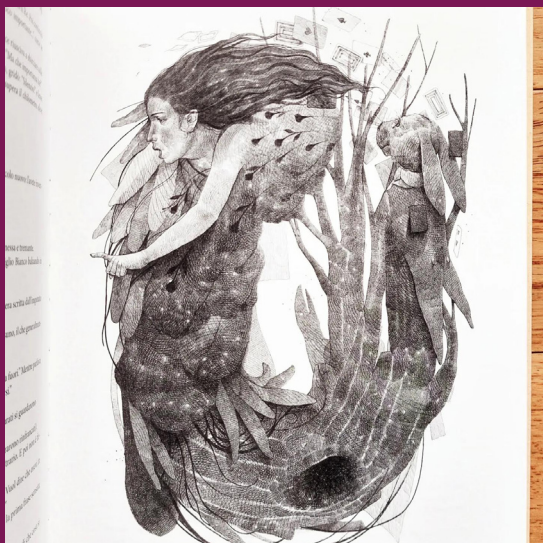
7: A detail from the earlier Hatter, in his very bourgeois Risorgimento guise.



8: In the later version, the Tea Party is a jumble of concepts, with Hatter as a brooding Oscar Wilde.



9: Gryphon:  
“We are such stuff  
As dreams are made on,  
And our little life  
Is rounded with a sleep.”  
 (“The Tempest” - Shakespeare)



10: The whole dream of Alice, an ouroboros serpent eating its own tail, with echoes of Pedro Calderón de la Barca’s great Spanish play “La vida es sueño”

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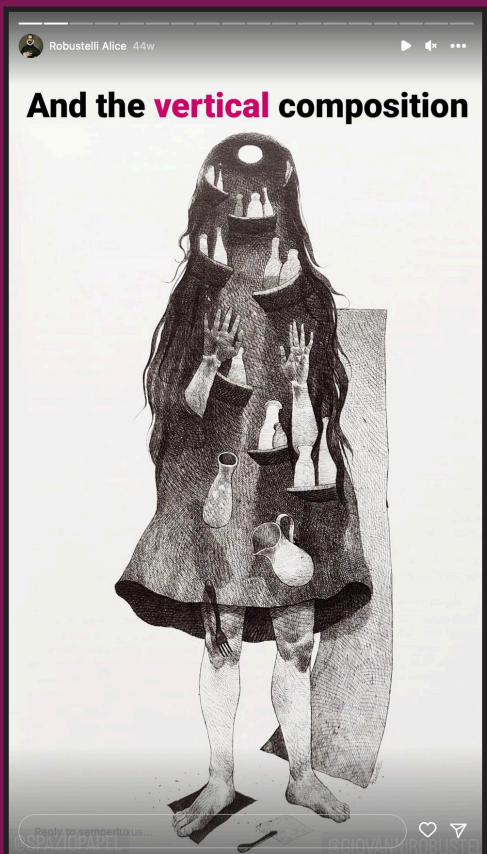
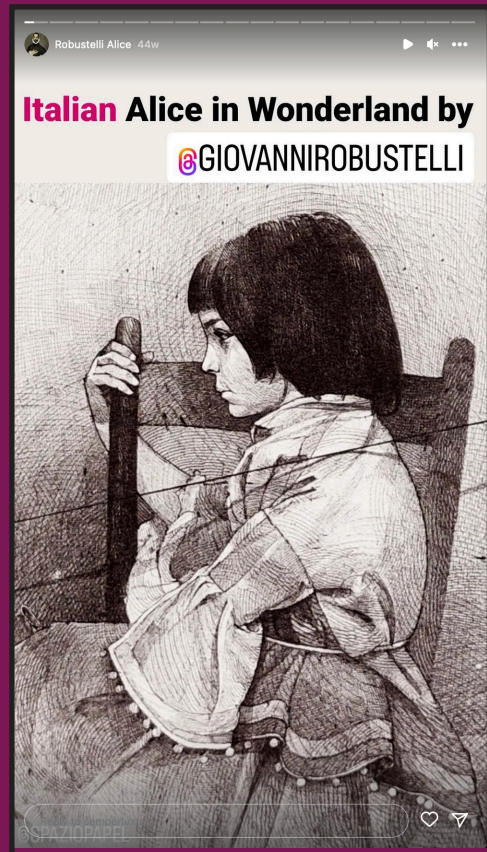
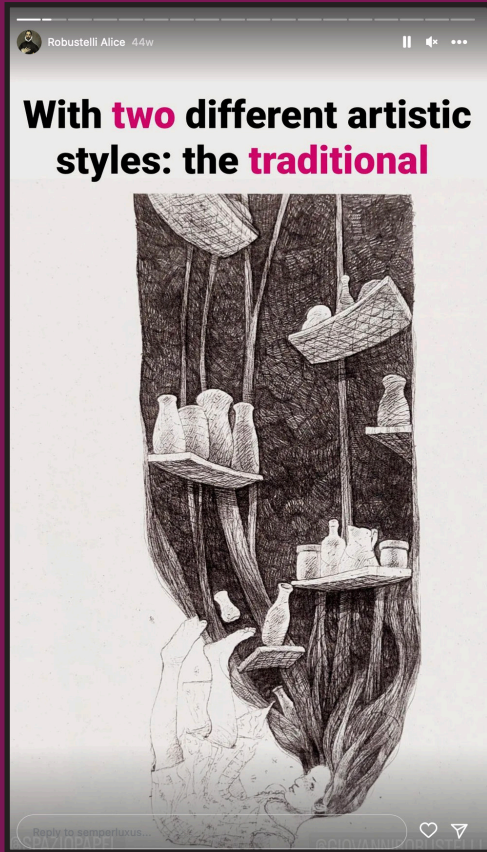
Giovanni Robustelli, the “genius of the pen”, is a Sicilian illustrator & painter, who works with oil painting, watercolor, graphite & ballpoint pen, with which he creates illustrations in large format, without the use of preparatory sketches.

He creates marvelous pictorial works during live performances in collaboration with various musicians, intertwining lines & colors with rhythm & notes.

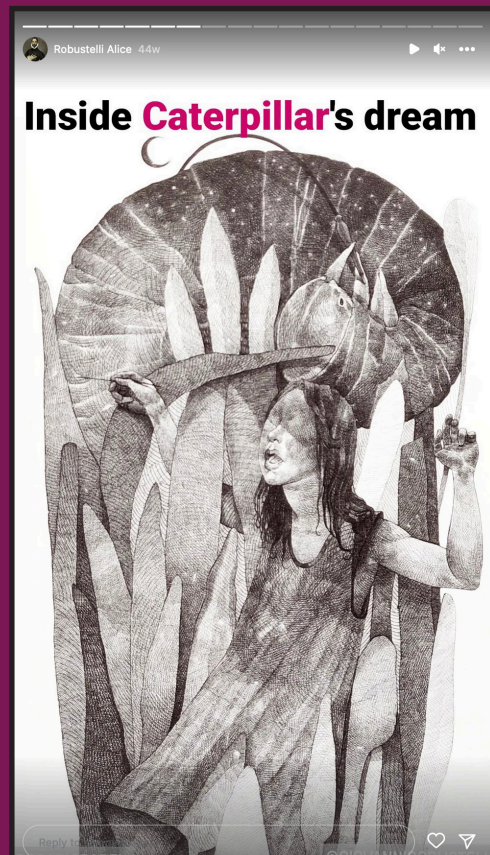
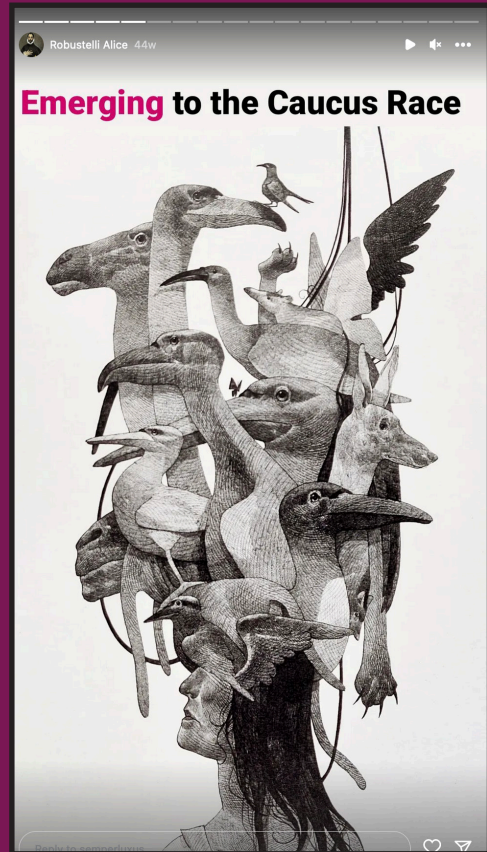
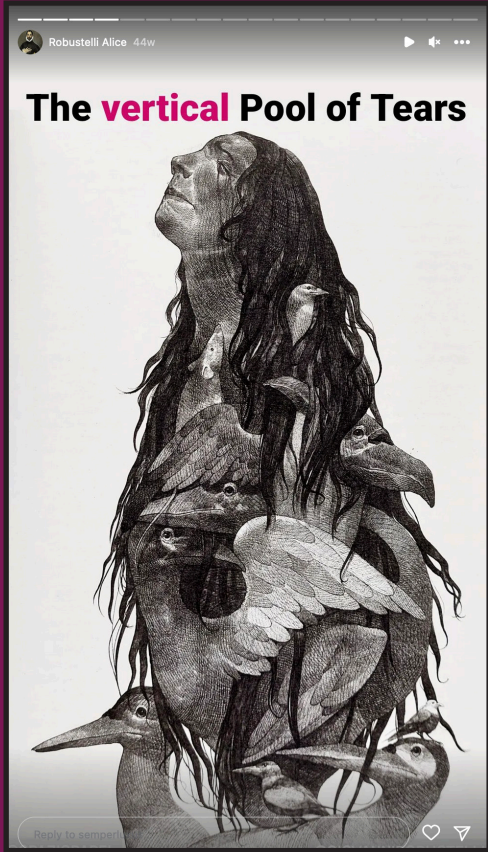
His works are part of prestigious private collections. Since 2009 Spazio Papel has started a close collaboration with the Sicilian artist, realizing numerous personal exhibitions and publications of his works.

In 2015 the city of Naples dedicated an exhibition to him, exhibiting 40 works by him in the fantastic setting of Castel dell’Ovo.

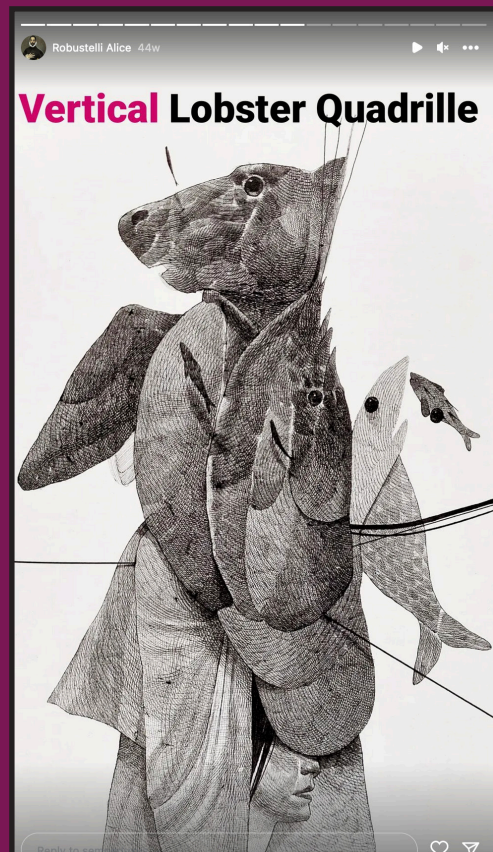
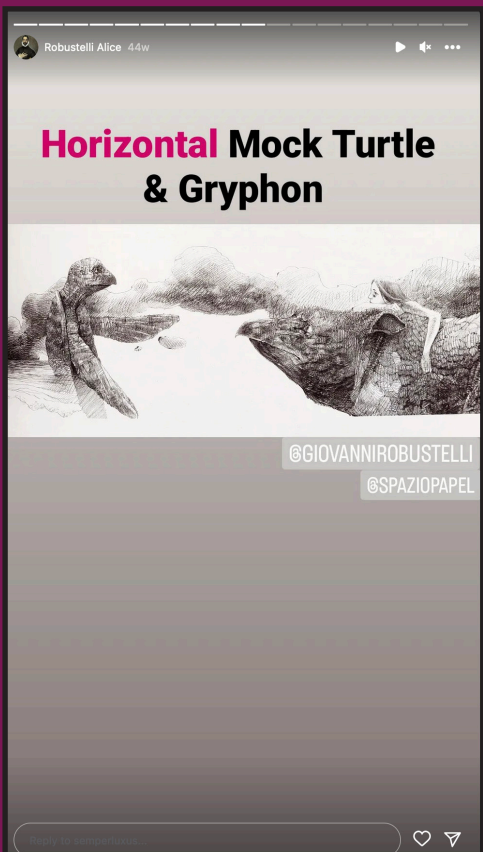
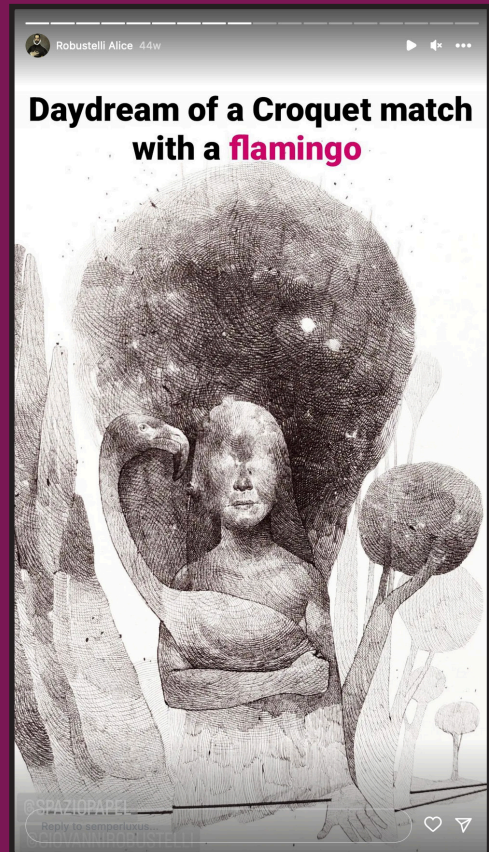
# HIGHLIGHTS



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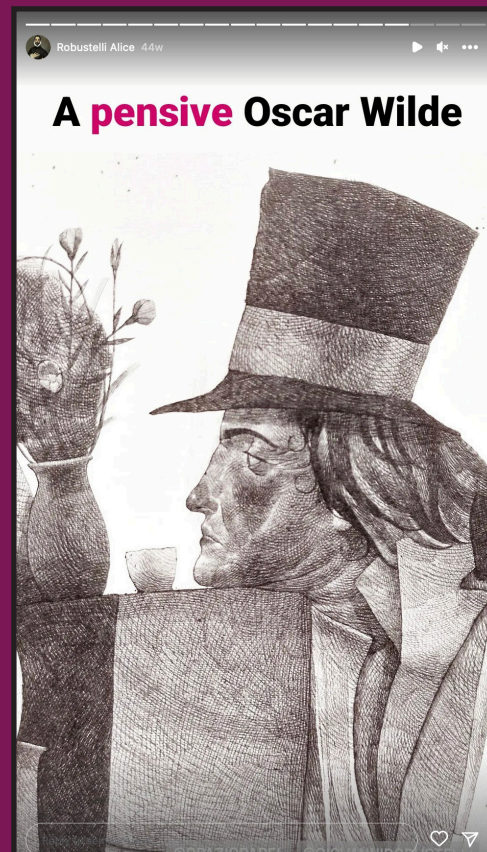
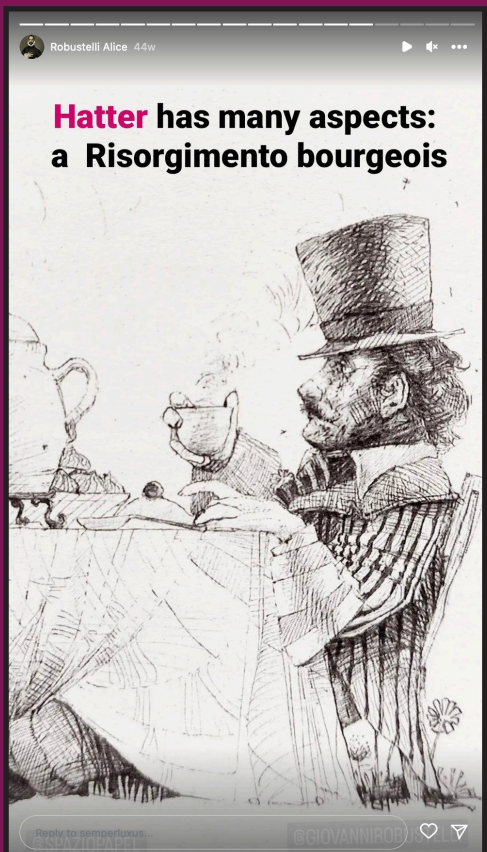
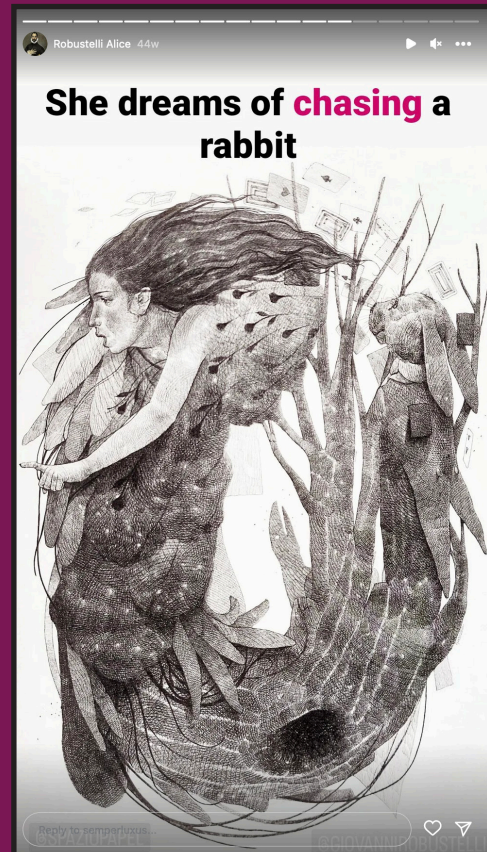


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