Robert Morgan ART STUDIO Palazzetto De Pisis, Dorsoduro 1709a, Venezia www.robertmorganvenice.com

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Robert Morgan, born in New York in 1943 has been a resident of Venice for nearly 50 years.

He arrived in 1973 from New York where he had first studied Italian with Isabella Rossellini. A graduate of **Princeton University** with a degree in English literature, he studied painting privately and at the Art Student's League under the painter and sculptor **Edward Melcarth** noted for his frescos at the Pierre Hotel in Manhattan. Melcarth was a close friend of **Peggy Guggenheim**, for whom he carved her famous glasses. He introduced Robert to Peggy and they were frequent guests at her house.

He frequented classes of **Luigi Tito** at the Accademia di Belle Arti and remains close to the family to this day. He taught plein-air painting classes at the Scuola Internazionale di Grafica. **Olga Rudge** commissioned him to paint a portrait of **Ezra Pound** (now in the collection of Mary de Rachewiltz) and was commissioned by Philp Rylands to paint a portrait of Olga, as well as one of himself at the time when he was appointed director of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection.

Friend of many poets and writers, most notably **Joseph Brodsky**, 1987 Nobel Laureate, who dedicated "Watermark" published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux to him. A limited edition illustrated by the artist can be found in the British Library, New York Public Library, The Beinecke Library at Yale, The Boston Atheneum, and The Stanford University Library. He painted the only portrait of Joseph Brodsky in his lifetime.

He was awarded the Ingram-Merrill grant in 1982. Acute observer, he was an eye witness to the assassination of **John Lennon** in New York which he recorded in a small oil sketch done on the spot rather than a photograph. An event which he described years later in a text "The Photograph Not Taken."

In 2004 he located his studio in the former house of **Filippo De Pisis**, the renowned Italian painter.

A romantic landscapist, he sticks to a pictorial vision based on direct observation, memory, and a poetic reconstruction. He has had major shows in New York, San Francisco, London, Milan and Venice but has remained independent and is not represented by a gallery or dealer.

His paintings are found in numerous private collections in the United States, the UK, as well as in Venice and abroad.