



[www.athenantichita.com](http://www.athenantichita.com) ---- [athenantichita@gmail.com](mailto:athenantichita@gmail.com)

## Our Story

Founded by Antonio Tortorici in the 1950s, Athena Antichità is today one of the most representative realities in the Sicilian antiques scene. For over seventy years, the Tortorici family, now in its second generation, has dedicated it self to the selection, conservation, and sale of art objects, furnishings, paintings, majolica, silverware, and precious artifacts, overseeing every phase from acquisition to restoration and certification.

The large gallery on Via Libertà 6 in Palermo has always been a point of reference for collectors, enthusiasts, and scholars: a place for meeting, disseminating, and learning about antiques, thanks also to cultural initiatives, courses, and guided tours personally curated by the siblings Michele, Stefano, and Emanuela. Since 2022 we have opened a large gallery in Palazzo Drago in via Vittorio Emanuele 382, in the historic center to welcome tourists passing through in Palermo

Athena Antichità also offers consultations, appraisals, and expert valuations, guaranteeing professionalism, transparency, and constant attention to the protection of artistic heritage, in full compliance with the ethical code of the antiques sector.

## Tortorici Siblings: Promoters of Art and Culture

The Tortorici siblings, second-generation antique dealers and passionate about art and culture, have promoted this important cultural initiative. After holding an exhibition in Palermo following the acquisition of works by Giovanni Lentini and a subsequent exhibition in Trapani, the artist's family's hometown, they wanted to bring Lentini's works to Bormio, to celebrate the painter's connection with this territory thanks to the availability of the Mayor and the Councilor for Culture.

"In a summer never so rich in prestigious cultural events, we are happy to propose an exhibition that highlights the sentiments that link visitors to Bormio. Giovanni Lentini, a modern and versatile painter, interprets them with his art, revealing the beauty of our landscapes admired during his family holidays. Mountains along with lakeside views, urban scenes, and portraits compose an artistic journey that will strike the public. The initiative strengthens the close relationship between Bormio and Sicily, uniting Italy from one end to the other."

*Councilor for Culture, Paola Romerio Bonazzi*

"We are delighted to host the works of Giovanni Lentini, a Palermitan who had Bormio in his heart, in an exhibition journey through his art and his soul. An expression of a historical period agitated by wars and massacres, he gives us back through his paintings the pure beauty of landscapes, inviting us to go beyond the image to capture the poetry of colors, between light and shadow. A significant exhibition, capable of impressing connoisseurs and enthusiasts, which we propose in the evocative setting of the Mulino Salacrist, an expression of local history and traditions."

*Mayor Silvia Cavazzi*

Bormio, August 9-20, 2025 Mulino Salacrist Hours: 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM and 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM  
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## A Tribute to an Eclectic and Modern Artist

Giovanni Lentini (1882-1948) belongs to a dynasty of artists who profoundly marked the history of Sicilian art between the 19th and 20th centuries. His grandfather, Giovanni Lentini senior (1830 - 1898), was a respected painter and set designer, while his father, Rocco Lentini (1850-1943), contributed decisively to Palermitan artistic culture with a multifaceted production: from easel painting to the decoration of interiors and architecture, from graphics to art writings, and even teaching.

Raised in this fertile context of stimuli, Giovanni Lentini completed his training in Palermo, where, until 1910, he frequented the lively artistic environment dominated by prominent personalities like Ernesto Basile and the great masters of the time. At twenty-six, he moved to Milan, a city that offered him new opportunities for growth: here he became a professor at the Brera Academy and participated with important recognition in international exhibitions, developing his artistic parabola during the years of the Great War and the subsequent twenty-year Fascist period.

Despite living in contact with innovative stimuli and trends, Lentini always remained faithful to a figurative painting firmly anchored in tradition, yet capable of interpreting with a modern gaze the anxieties of a historical period troubled by wars and profound social changes. Alien to movements, groups, and proclamations, he developed a personal pictorial language that reached its highest results in depictions of bourgeois interiors traversed by intense shafts of light and rendered with an intimate essentiality.

His production ranges from mountain and lake landscapes, characterized by a rarefied and enchanted atmosphere, to urban views that capture with poignant lyricism the grey winter atmospheres of Milan in those years, as in *Milano d'inverno* (Winter Milan) and *Strade bagnate a Milano* (Wet Streets in Milan). There are also works inspired by his homeland, such as *Rovine ad Agrigento* (Ruins in Agrigento) or *Contadini siciliani* (Sicilian Peasants), which bear witness to an unbroken bond with his roots. Portraits, landscapes, urban views, interior scenes, and glimpses of daily life reveal an artist capable of combining, always with balance and grace, his inner world with external reality.

Today, Bormio has the rare opportunity to rediscover and admire a precious part of Giovanni Lentini's (1882-1948) artistic production, thanks to a selection of 32 works including paintings, oils on canvas, watercolors, and pastels from private collections in Palermo and Milan, particularly from the Athena collection of the Tortorici Brothers in Palermo.

The exhibited works, which are for sale, have been carefully chosen to recount the variety of genres and themes addressed by the Palermitan painter, with special attention to his emotional connection with the Bormio valleys, where he loved to spend his holidays with his family.

This initial critical approach to Lentini's work aims to be an invitation to further studies, with the hope that the viewing of these works can move visitors and restore the artist deserves his rightful place in the history of Sicilian and national art.