

Francesco Brunelli

Italian Jesuit woodcarver
(1572 - 1635)

He was born in Forlì on 24 September, 1572. After training in his hometown, enters, in Rome, in the Society of Jesus as a lay brother (21 January 1593): thus he will be able to know the Jesuit sculptor Bartolomeo de' Tronchi.

After that, he works as a carver in various churches:

- in Sezze, in 1603;
- in Ancona, in 1606, for the tabernacle and three altars, but little remains of all the work today: only two choirs;
- in Rome, in 1609, for the wardrobes of the sacristy of the Church of the Gesù, with the statues of the twelve Apostles, two Angels and a crucifix;
- again in Ancona, in 1611;
- in Imola;
- in Forlì;
- in Perugia, in 1620, or just before;
- in Modena, between 1621 and 1624, for the closets of the sacristy;
- again in Perugia, in 1627, for one of his masterpieces, the two altars of the transept.

In 1629, he carved a large tabernacle for the Chapel of the Madonna del Fuoco, in the Cathedral Church of Forlì, a work that gave him great admiration: "Everything is so subtly worked, that it seems a theater full of one hundred thousand curiosities in the way that the eye gently draws ingenuity to consider them "

He died in Forlì on 7 October, 1635.

Translated from:

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