

# 30th Anniversary Special Interview

## Julia Passamonti-Colamartino Artist

### 1) When did you become aware of B&B and its fandom?

*I became aware of it in 2010 or so, when I ran across some fanfic for the first time, a SND. I never knew that online B&B fanfic even existed before that. OMG, I was in HEAVEN!*

### 2) What attracted you to B&B as a subject for your art?

*For me, it was Vincent and what he represents. For one, he is beautiful. And for me, he also represents power and inner strength, sensitivity, integrity, and love for others. I also used to strongly identify with his inner struggle to find and to learn to love himself for who he is, and to just BE. (I no longer struggle with that, thankfully ;) ) Also, the whole show has a Baroque/Renaissance feel to it as far as the costuming and lighting, and watching just makes me want to paint!*

### 3) What medium do you prefer to work in?

*I have several mediums that I really like, but perhaps my favorite medium is oils on canvas, working in high realism, like the Baroque painters of long ago. I also enjoy pencil as well as illustration on ceramic pieces using the Italian Maiolica technique. Textile is another, as I love to sew and make historical costumes.*

### 4) What was the largest B&B artwork you made?

*The largest piece I even made is a 17 inch wall plate with a painting of Catherine and Vincent in Vincent's chamber, embraced. It is done in the Italian Maiolica technique. The most complex project I ever did was an entire Vincent costume and latex mask, as well as a "cat" mask and costume for my husband Dino. We wore them together to the 2013 Con.*

### 5) What is your favourite piece?

*The aforementioned wall plate, which hangs in my own "chamber". But I like the Vincent cloak I made just as much, so it's a real tossup.*

**6) What subject matter do you like best?**

*Portraiture is definitely my favorite subject matter. I LOVE studying the human face and capturing not only the physical likeness, but the inner soul, or essence of a person. For me, it is the ultimate challenge.*

**7) Did your B&B art change your career?**

*It didn't so much change it as it rekindled my passion for it, especially in portraiture and costuming.*

**8) What is your fondest memory related to your B&B art?**

*My fondest memory related to B&B art began by exchanging information with the most talented artist and fan Clare Sieffert, who generously shared some Photoshop techniques for enlarging a photograph to transfer to canvas as well as with Rusty Bader, a talented seamstress and photographer who was a huge help with the sleeves for the Vincent vest. And then the culmination was in doing the Vincent impersonation at the 2013 con and the warm, happy feeling in getting a bunch of wonderful pictures taken by Rusty with so many fellow fans. I will cherish those moments forever!*

**9) If you could have one wish as an artist, what would it be?**

*For all people to awaken to their true creativity, whatever that may be, and dare to follow that dream and live from the heart.*

**10) What are you working on now?**

*I'm presently working on an ancient amphora reproduction for a customer in Hong Kong, who opened a Biblical museum, first of its kind. He has commissioned several pieces from me over the years. I think that exporting to rather than importing from Hong Kong is really cool. Plus, Peter Wong is a wonderful customer, great to work with.*

*(Find out more about Julia's art at: <http://venetiancat.com> and <http://claycookpot.com> )*