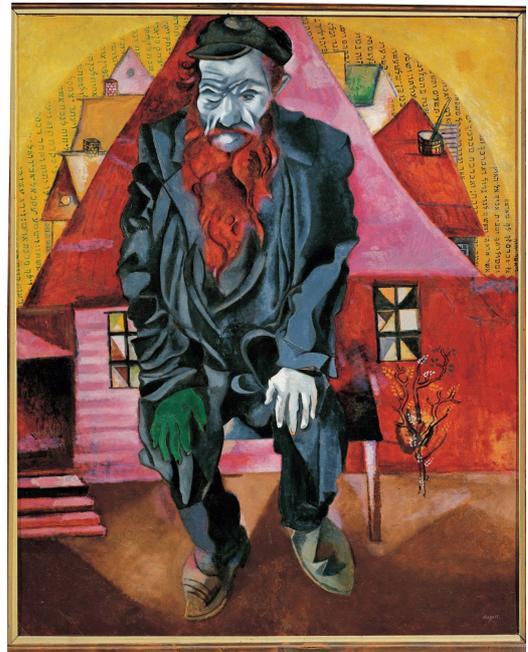


Marc Chagall

The paintings with religious background

Introduzione

Il 24 Novembre siamo andati a Milano per vedere la mostra allestita con i quadri di Chagall a Palazzo Reale. Ci hanno mostrate diverse delle sue opere descrivendole in lingua inglese. Qui sotto illustreremo una delle opere che abbiamo visto e che ci ha colpito di più, che presenta numerosi elementi religiosi.



The red Jew

In “The red Jew” (or “The Jew in pink”) by Chagall in 1915, makes clear that he is bound to his Jewish traditions and the Bible, with an extract of Exodus written on the moon in the background. The figure of the Jew occupies all the space and draws the viewer’s attention.

The work represents the typical aspects of the production of Chagall: there are elements as one hand which is green and one which is white, the two different shoes, one eye closed and one open. These elements represent the complexity of the human soul and make look the severe figure of the Jew even more profound and complex. An old man is sitting on the roof of a house, he puts his hands on his knees and he is visibly tired and worried and thinks about his day and his life, poor and uncertain. The forehead is wrinkled, typical of those who are immersed

in dark thoughts. The poverty of his social status is evident from the messy grey suit. He is wearing one dark green glove in his right hand. At his feet he is also wearing a pair of different shoes. The house is pink, as well as the long beard that denotes an advanced age but, at the same time it also symbolizes the wisdom and weariness of a troubled

life. The man depicted is not only a portrait, but it becomes a symbol of Jewishness. In this figure the pain and pride of his ancient and glorious people are evident. Red is the prevailing colour in the picture, in fact “earth” and “man” are words that have the same root in Hebrew, meaning “dam”, which means “blood”.

**M. Crisafulli, S. De Luca, C. Di Clemente, T. Moroni, F. Miele
Classe 4BLS, I.I.S. Colombo, Sanremo**

Supervisione della Prof. Carla Testi e del Prof. Antonio Lanteri