Liz Craft Grottesca

07.06. - 21.06.2025

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Italians exploring the ruins of ancient Rome found strange paintings on the walls of some of the rooms. These paintings were of human and animal forms mixed with those of strange fruits and flowers. The Italians called such a painting pittura grottesca, which means "cave painting." The Italian adjective grottesca came from grotta, meaning "cave." We also get English grotto from this word. The Italian word grotta in turn came from the Latin crypta, which meant "cavern, crypt." The French borrowed the word grottesca from Italian and spelled it grotesque, the form in which it came into English. At first the adjective was used to describe pictures having strange combinations of things not normally found together. Later it came to be used for anything that looked weird or unnatural.

Source: www.merriam-webster.com /dictionary/grotesque

Image: Wall drawing, Limonistollen, Linz

1 2 3 4

- 1 Aglaee 2025 Mixed media 45 × 22 × 9 cm
- 2 Euphrosyne 2025 Mixed media 27 × 41 × 9 cm
- 3 Thalia 2025 Mixed media $29 \times 32 \times 9$ cm
- 4 Stalactites 2025 Ceramic Variable dimensions



