



Direzione Generale
Creatività Contemporanea



MUSEO FOTOGRAFIA
CONTEMPORANEA



Triennale
Milano

REFOCUS Visual Archive of the Pandemic

Exhibition curated by
Matteo Balduzzi and Matteo Piccioni

20 October – 21 November 2021
Triennale Milano
Viale Alemagna 6, Milano

PRESS CONFERENCE: Tuesday 19 October 2021 at 11 a.m.

The **Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity (DGCC) of the Ministry of Culture** in collaboration with **Museo di Fotografia Contemporanea** and **Triennale Milano** is presenting the exhibition titled **REFOCUS. Visual Archive of the Pandemic**, curated by **Matteo Balduzzi** and **Matteo Piccioni**. The exhibition brings together the works of forty young photographers who knew how to interpret experiences, situations and feelings during the months of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The exhibition from **20 October until 21 November 2021** in the rooms of Triennale Milano presents 360 photographs that with a considerable range of themes and languages chronicles the unique period of Italy's history by way of valuable visual documentation. Two open calls for artists were held between the Spring and Autumn of 2020. The first was to testify to the suspension lived during the quarantine months while the aim of the second was to stimulate a reflection regarding the transformations of Italian society during the period immediately following the lockdown. These public calls gave rise to the selection of the following forty photographers: **Fulvio Ambrosio, Arianna Arcara, Lorenzo Bacci and Flavio Moriniello, Fabrizio Bellamo, Giacomo Bianco, Alessandro Calabrese, Mara Callegaro, Sofiya Chotyrbok, Daniele Cimaglia and Giuseppe Odore, Tomaso Clavarino, Antonio Colavito, Giulia De Gregori, Matteo de Mayda, Ilaria Di Biagio, Riccardo Dogana, Stefan Gifftthaler, Filippo Gobbato, Luigi Greco, Giulia Iacolutti, Guido Lettieri, Claudio Majorana, Stefano Maniero, Luca Marianaccio, Guido Montani, Matteo Montenero, Domenico Nardulli, Claudia Orsetti, Mattia Paladini, Nunzia Pallante, Nicolò Panzeri, Claudia Petraroli, Camilla Piana, Benedetta Ristori, Giorgio Salimeni, Claudia Sinigaglia, Andrea Storni, Jacopo Valentini, Cosimo Veneziano, Hugo Weber, Alba Zari.**

REFOCUS is the third phase of a more comprehensive photographic project of the visual documentation of Italy during the year of the pandemic, titled *2020FermoImmagine* on the idea and following the guidelines of the Minister of Culture, Dario Franceschini. In fact, 2021 saw the inauguration in Rome of the exhibition titled *Italia in attesa*: held at Palazzo Barberini in Rome from the 25 February to the 19 September 2021, it was dedicated to 12 of the most prominent Italian photographers. This was followed with the exhibition at Palazzo Poli from 21 May to 16 July 2021 titled *Città sospese* which presented the results of a photographic



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campaign produced by photographers of the Ministry. The intention of *REFOCUS* has been to concentrate its attention on once again 'focussing' on reality following the effects which the confinement had on the both spatial and temporal coordinates of day-to-day life, supporting the activity of photographers aged under 40 and acknowledging their fundamental role within society.

In this exhibition the photographs are presented in the form of video projection in a multimedial representation ideated and mounted by **Dotdotdot Studio**: the exhibits are articulated by way of a series of large panels placed in each room's space and accompanied by a sound project of **Triennale Milano Teatro** and **Radio Raheem** together with a number of brief texts written by the photographers.

The immersive experience of the installation invites the visitor to perceive and enjoy a faceted visual experience capable of combining a principally sustained collective flow with extemporary moments in which the fundamental intention of the individual photographer emerges. The exhibition retraces the times of the open calls, each of which subdivided into four thematic areas that correspond to the recurrent readings of the reality in the photographer's images: experiences of a diary form together with relational ones tied to the private sphere, 'stories' of landscapes and communities of Italy, linguistic experiments, transfigurations and allegories of reality. The variety of techniques and linguistic approaches, of the traditional way of reporting and meta-photographic experimentation in which one has the alternation of diverse styles and feelings – introspection, fear, the autobiographical, dismay and the sense of feeling lost, hope, waiting and expectation – is representative of the expressive wealth of these young photographers of our contemporary artistic panorama.

The REFOCUS project is accompanied by a **publication** that will be presented in Rome in a few weeks. The book, entitled *Almanac of Suspension* published by **Witty Books**, with its very title constitutes an autonomous publishing undertaking which completes the exhibition, capable of immersing itself in the archive of photographs and of reorganizing the content matter by way of the sensitivity of Nicolas Poll, the book's designer. Thanks to a series of tags, a modality that is truly part of the digital world, the flow of images reconstructs a glossary of the pandemic, working on different visual levels. The volume is completed by way of a second section in which the 40 projects that won are put back together and presented in their entirety.

On the occasion of this exhibition the photographers will produce a printed version of their work which will be acquired by Museo di Fotografia Contemporanea, in this way going towards enriching our public collections.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

REFOCUS. Visual Archive of the Pandemic

20 October – 21 November 2021

Curated by Matteo Balduzzi and Matteo Piccioni

Catalogue: Witty Books

Free entrance

Opening hours of Triennale Milano:

Tuesday-Sunday 11.00 a.m. until 8 p.m. (last visitor allowed entrance at 7.p.m.)



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Triennale
Milano

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