



Is pleased to announce

Roberto Salbitani
VENEZIA - CIRCUMNAVIGAZIONI E DERIVE

September 21st - November 2nd 2024

Cartacea Galleria
Via San Tomaso, 25 - Bergamo



Roberto Salbitani, *Venezia - Circumnavigazioni e derive*, 1971-2007

From **September 21st to November 2nd**, the spaces of **Cartacea Galleria** will host the exhibition "**VENEZIA - CIRCUMNAVIGAZIONI E DERIVE**", a showcase of **photographs by Roberto Salbitani** taken **over more than thirty years**, from **1971 to 1997**. In these images, **Venice** is captured through an original and deeply emotional perspective, in stark **contrast** to the standardized view traditionally offered by illustrators and tourists.

On the day of the **opening**, at **4:00 PM**, the artist will be present in the gallery to describe to the public, in his own words and emotions, the **shots** from this **intense photographic body of work—singular black-and-white** circular images that capture the essence of **Venice** through dreamlike and symbolic transfigurations. What the artist slowly constructs and defines only once he is far from the lagoon city is a deliberate sequence of enveloping emotions, an attempt to convey the **deep structure** and the invisible abysses of the city—**its true soul**.

Between stones, waters, and sky, what emerges is a **rich and complex organism** rather than a simple place, a continuum of stimuli for the traveler's senses.

As the images unfold, thanks to an extremely **intimate** language, visitors will have the chance to **immerse themselves in the Venetian lagoons** with the heart of a traveler, experiencing Venice not as a city on a map, but as a **timeless, magical place** to be explored in a **personal** and evocative way.

To Salbitani, La Serenissima appears like a kind of circular iceberg. The part that emerges proudly displays the splendors of the past—vestiges of an era fading into the mists of the present. But as we wander through areas like Giudecca, one of the “submerged” parts where the artist once lived, we can sense the city's imminent sinking, made audible through the awareness of the traveler.

Roberto Salbitani

Photographer, teacher, and writer on photography, Roberto Salbitani was born in Padua on June 7, 1945. In 1971, his deep connection with photography began, and during the 1970s he dedicated himself entirely to it, traveling and exploring places in Italy and abroad (France, Spain, USA). The themes that most characterize his work are the dimensions of travel and discovery, and the visual representation of places, accompanied by a strong critique of the consequences and effects of consumerism on modern cities. His major projects include "La città invasa" (1972–1984) and "Viaggio" (1974–1982), followed by numerous other photographic works such as "Dalle mille e una notte (passate al cinema)" (1973–1980), "Viaggio in terre sospese" (1975), "Viaggio nel sud-Italia" (1981–1982), "Lettera dall'ex manicomio S. Giovanni di Trieste" (1986), "Il punto di vista del topo" (1986–1992), and "Incontri con animali straordinari" (1992). Among his most important publications are *La città invasa* (1978), a seminal book in the history of Italian photography, *Venezia. Circumnavigazioni e derive* (2012), Roberto Salbitani. *Storia di un viaggiatore* (2013), a biography curated by Roberta Valtorta and published on the occasion of the retrospective dedicated to him by the Museum of Contemporary Photography, and *Il viaggiatore parallelo* (2019). Salbitani also collaborated with major photography magazines such as *Progresso Fotografico* (1972–1978) and *Fotologia. Quaderni di storia e critica della fotografia*. He founded the Centro Fotografia Giudecca (Venice) in 1980 and the School of Nature Photography (Mogginano, AR) in 1985, institutions where he conducted courses, exhibitions, meetings, and projects focused on local areas and historical archives. In 1993, he received the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Prize, and in 2011 he participated in the 54th Venice Biennale. His works are held in various private and public collections, including the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Study Center and Archive of Communication at the University of Parma, the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Cinisello Balsamo, and the Alinari National Museum of Photography in Florence. The restless and open spirit of the traveler permeates Salbitani's entire life and work. His artistic research has never been driven by the pursuit of success, but rather by the desire to cultivate a sensitive and profound gaze, one that does not rely on prepackaged formulas but is nourished by personal experiences, memories, and impressions.

INFORMATION

Inauguration

Saturday, September 21st, 2024, from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Artist presentation at 4:00 PM

Date

From September 21st to November 2nd, 2024

Timetable

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Contact

Via San Tomaso, 25 Bergamo - Italy

T +39 334 3997916 T +39 340 2837653

<https://cartacea.net/>

Press contact

info@cartacea.net