

A MATTER OF LIGHT
Nine photographers in the
Vatican Museums

Photographs by Bill Armstrong, Antonio Biasiucci, Peter Bialobrzeski, Alain Fleischer, Francesco Jodice, Mimmo Jodice, Rinko Kawauchi, Martin Parr and Massimo Siragusa

Curated by Micol Forti and Alessandra Mauro

from 24 May to 1 July 2018

**Palazzo Reale in Milan
Piazza Duomo 12**

Free entry

The exhibition *A Matter of Light. Nine Photographers in the Vatican Museums (In piena luce. Nove fotografi interpretano i Musei Vaticani)*, curated by **Micol Forti** and **Alessandra Mauro** and conceived by the Vatican Museums, will take place in the **Palazzo Reale** in **Milan** from **24 May to 1 July 2018**. The exhibition forms part of the rich programme of events for Milan Photoweek 2018.

Promoted and produced by the **Municipality of Milan – Culture Office**, **Palazzo Reale** and the **Vatican Museums**, in collaboration with **Contrasto**, the exhibition derives from the plan to constitute the first photographic collection within the **Contemporary Art Collection of the Vatican Museums**.

To achieve the ambitious goal of creating a new collection, it was decided to offer an opportunity to reflection and experimentation: to transform an historic, social, multicultural, “ritual”, or rather, fully symbolic location such as the Vatican Museums into the object-subject of the creative work of a group of international photographers, diverse in terms of research perspectives, education, origin and style.

“The splendid halls of the Palazzo Reale make this first presentation in a public institution even more special”, states the Assessor for Culture for the Municipality of Milan, Filippo Del Corno, “recounting in images one of the most well-known and significant museums in the world. Nine masters of photography, Italian and foreign, take an original approach to a place that is unique

An exhibition

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and precious in terms of art, history and architecture: the Vatican Museums”.

The photographers chosen to work within the Vatican Museums are **Bill Armstrong, Peter Bialobrzeski, Antonio Biasiucci, Alain Fleischer, Francesco Jodice, Mimmo Jodice, Rinko Kawauchi, Martin Parr** and **Massimo Siragusa**. Each one of them has worked in distinct moments and on different aspects of this multiple museum, producing nine autonomous works that document and interpret the interior and architectural space of the halls, the flow of visitors and the memories that daily animate the people and spaces, the works on display and those conserved in the deposits, signs of wear and tear, and bodily traces.

It is the **first time that a Museum has commissioned a production of this type**, aimed at constituting a new photographic collection inseparably linked to the museum itself, which becomes both its subject and its recipient. *“To commission from a group of “voices” and “eyes” from the international art scene a sort of reportage that opens the doors of the Vatican Museums, showing them in their complexity, is a bold operation that demonstrates the vitality of a unique place, not without contradictions”*, writes Barbara Jatta.

The project *A Matter of Light. Nine photographers in the Vatican Museums* is intended to construct a series of pathways between imagination and memory, documentation and interpretation, composing a collection of images that may become an archive of the present, a tool for understanding and observation, a key allowing access to future studies, through visions that, though diverse, are all current and necessary in different ways.

The exhibition is accompanied by a book edited by **Edizioni Musei Vaticani** and **Contrasto**, with essays by David Company, Giovanni Careri, Micol Forti, Barbara Jatta, Johanne Lamoureux, and Alessandra Mauro.

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Milano



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NOTES

Title

*A Matter of Light
Nine photographers in the
Vatican Museums*

*(In Piena Luce
Nove fotografi interpretano i
Musei Vaticani)*

Curated by

Micol Forti and Alessandra Mauro

An exhibition by

*Municipality of Milan – Culture Office
Palazzo Reale
Vatican Museums
in collaboration with
Contrasto*

As part of

Milan PhotoWeek 2018

Open

24 May – 1 July 2018

Location

*Palazzo Reale
Piazza Duomo, 12*

Opening hours

*Monday 14:30 - 19:30
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday 09:30 - 19:30
Thursday and Saturday 09:30 - 22:30
Last entry: one hour before closing time*

Free Entry

Info

*www.palazzorealemilano.it
www.museivaticani.va*

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*Edizioni Musei Vaticani
Contrasto*

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Exhibition Design

Roberto Pulitani

Production and Graphics

Carli Produzioni Srl

Video

Alessandro Prinzivalle

Transport and Assemblage

Apice Roma Srl

Insurance

Cattolica Assicurazioni

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