Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano

via Jan 15, Milan

Fotofanie

109 Fotografie di Italo Zannier

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109 Photographs by Italo Zannier

curated by Andrea Tomasetig

9 - 30 June 2018

press release, 14.06.2018

On **Milan Photo Week 2018**, the **Boschi Di Stefano's Museum House** hosts the exhibition of **never seen before works** called "Fotofanie. 109 Fotografie di Italo Zannier/Fotofanie. 109 Photographs by Italo Zannier", curated by Andrea Tomasetig, from 9 to 30 June.

The exhibition was born out of thousands of photo-shots – called by Zannier "fotofanie", apparitions - taken during a three-year period, 2014-2017, which were preserved in the memory of his Sony compact camera, and from which only 400 made it to print on a single large sized signed copy.
Among these, **109 works** are presented for the first time, born from a careful selection where the viewer can admire some of the most interesting subjects of Zannier's artistic view: such as shadows and reflections of self-portraits made by using a digital camera, in which the author is perceived as a lurking ghost. Poetical moments of glimpses of nature during hours and seasons, where the viewer can make out a special 'pop' attention to shop windows, writings, peculiar objects, and anti-tourist features of some European capitals.
The lay-out is made up of **nine sections** called: *Autoritratti/Self-portraits, Oggetti/Objects*, *Dal treno/From the train*, *Natura/Nature*, *Luoghi dell'anima/Soul places*, *Vetrine/Shop windows*, *Europa/Europe*, *Ritratti/Portraits*, *Frammenti/Fragments.* It develops on two floors of Boschi House: on the ground floor, in the **former school of ceramics** of Marieda Di Stefano, there is the main part of the exhibition; also, on the **third floor** – exceptionally open to the public – there is the section *Frammenti/Fragments* and the projection of Italo Zannier's performance. He is filmed while - coordinated by Saverio Lombardi Vallauri - he sets out his works together with his students, who are the authors of the video.

Andrea Tomasetig highlights in a text in the catalogue that: "the main character is – in spaces and expanded forms – the familiar surrounding world. Zannier's Venetian house in Giudecca with the garden and close-by places, which are the destination of his daily stroll; the train journey from Venice to Latisana; his regular sojourn in the pleasant retreat of Lignano Pineta. Without the need to recognize the place at once, in fact a place very close to abstraction and without the worry of conveying 'committed' messages. […] A radical and minimalist approach combined with a state of grace produced a compact and structured

main core, next to the best photography that once would have been called experimental or avant-guard".

The works, which come from the Pietro Valsecchi collection, are set thanks to the original lay-out by Cristiana Vannini.
Maria Fratelli, director of the Boschi Di Stefano Museum House, says: "Italo Zannier's contemporary exhibition – internationally recognized – is well integrated with the three hundred works already on display. These belong to the almost two thousand pieces collected by Boschis during the Twentieth Century and which make Boschi Di Stefano House a place highly significant in the history of the city of Milan".

The exhibition is promoted by the Department of Culture of the Council of Milan and made possible by the Boschi Di Stefano Museum House, in cooperation with Municipio 3, the Boschi Di Stefano Foundation, and is open thanks to the volunteers of Touring Club Italiano.

Italo Zannier (1932) is considered by many the patriarch of Italian photography, not only for his age, but especially because he worked with great commitment, authoritativeness, and deserved success in all the different roles of that world.
As a "Neo-realist" photographer, at twenty he was already professionally active, later becoming a critic internationally recognized with an immense biography, a university teacher – the first to obtain a teaching post for Photography –, and deviser and curator of dozens of exhibitions, also an important collector and a great scholar.
In regards to his work, **Zannier writes**: "A dart of light can surprise me, a rainbow of signs, a gesture… A gaze that meets mine can amaze me, a fleeting shade on the footpath, the solitude of a leaf left behind by the wind… Ultimately, situations that are often unexpected, random, that seem to wait for an image. A 'Fanìa' (story) of the moment that later the author can transform into a Photograph, if he feels like it".

A **catalogue** is published for the exhibition, with texts by Maria **Fratelli**, Italo **Zannier**, Andrea **Tomasetig**, Stefano **Salis** and Silvia **Paoli,** and graphic design by Leo Guerra.

Exhibition details
Title Fotofanie. 109 Fotografie di Italo Zannier/Fotofanie. 109 Photographs by Italo Zannier
Curated by Andrea Tomasetig
Venue Casa Museo Boschi Di Stefano, via Giorgio Jan 15 - Milan
Dates 9 - 30 June 2018
Opening hours Tuesday - Sunday, 10am -6pm. Monday closed
Entrance free

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