

Palazzo Reale – Milan

Un occhio su Michelangelo. Fotografie di Aurelio Amendola / An Eye on Michelangelo. Photographs by Aurelio Amendola

Curated by Aurelio Amendola

12 July 1995 - 17 September 1995

From 1985 to 1992 a long restoration work of opera Basilica of San Lorenzo in Florence has taken place.

After several modifications the Basilica of San Lorenzo, consecrated in 393 by Saint Ambrose, underwent a radical rebuilding by Filippo Brunelleschi on behalf of the Medici family, and again the Medici family commissioned to Michelangelo the building of the Medicea Chapel and its tombs.

The exhibition includes sixty black and white photographs taken by Aurelio Amendola who, after having analytically investigated the results of the restoration of Michelangelo's statues, produced images that document the refurbishment and create a connection between the sixteenth-century artist and the observer.

It offers the opportunity to pierce with the eye and the mind Michelangelo's work in the chapel pertaining to the Medici family (especially in the tombs of Lorenzo and of Giuliano de' Medici) offering an overall and at the same time detailed vision that leads the viewer to admire also the areas more in the shadows and hidden.

In his journey Amendola enters the artworks with outstanding images, unusual visions, glimpses not accessible to the eye of the average visitor.

In Amendola's photographs we can admire the works of Michelangelo unveiled but not transgressed; interpreted but not misinterpreted; new yet easily recognizable; natural and yet stunning.

The eye of the photographer lays on the skin of the sculptures, lingers on the lines left by the chisel, on the *chiaroscuro*, it wanders away to admire the volumes and the overall perspective to get closer again and immerse itself in the details.

The exhibition theme is, then, that of the restoration and its results. A complex and difficult theme that in the rooms of Palazzo Reale, whose rebirth has been started with difficulty, finds an especially suitable location.

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