

Matèria

Fabio Barile  
Works for  
a Cosmic Feeling  
15.05.2021 -  
10.07.2021

Matèria continues its exhibition programme in the new space, recently opened in via dei Latini 27 in Rome, with Works for a Cosmic Feeling, a solo show by Fabio Barile (Barletta, 1980), curated by Alessandro Dandini de Sylva (Roma, 1981).

Fabio Barile's practice is an expanding universe. A cosmos of images that attempts to grasp the comprehensive and total flux of evolution through photography, a medium by definition partial and fragmented.

Works for a Cosmic Feeling is a collection of photographic works that when grouped, function as an immersive journey through interconnectivity. The 229 images exhibited - produced from 2018 onwards and inspired by the oceanic sentiment described by the French writer Romain Rolland in a 1927 letter to Sigmund Freud - explore multiple trajectories in the artist's enquiry, taking on the characteristics of a complex and evolving organic system.

Within the grayscale of Barile's photographic multiverse, a photograph of his wife's back becomes a fragment of deep time containing celestial bodies. A blurry image transforms the model of a helium hydride molecule into a mysterious representation of a black hole. Branches and leaves organise in an intricate forest, two-dimensional surfaces burst into the third dimension and articulated experiments conducted in the studio imitate architectures created by animals or geological events such as the tectonic compression and the earth's magnetic field. Using photography as a stratigraphic tool, the artist attempts to understand, connect and depict reality, capturing the interaction between apparently distant elements and timeframes.

Incoherence and imperfection are the driving forces of the work as a whole, and play a central role in animating the exhibition project conceived by the curator and designed by Etaoin Shrdlu Studio. Five projectors mark the tempo of the exhibition, generating an asynchronous and dynamic flow of images. The dilated succession of countless visual combinations plunges the viewer into a continuously unresolved present. To this point, no one observing a landscape in the countryside can grasp the idea of evolution in progress, just like no one, looking at the sky full of stars, can grasp the idea of the galaxy's full size. What simultaneously contains the entire corpus of images is a large exhibition sheet available at the gallery entrance, functioning as a map and constellation of all possible exhibition scenarios.

Fabio Barile (Barletta, 1980) studied photography at Fondazione Studio Marangoni. In 2007 he is selected as one of the finalists for the 'Atlante Italiano 007' Award and exhibits his work at MAXXI in Rome. In 2009 he presents his body of work Diary n°0 - Things that do not Happen at Fotografia Festival di Roma and the project Among in two group shows, Tempi Osceni at Athens Photo Festival and Moments de la photographie contemporaine italienne II at Centre d'Art Dominique Lang. In 2010 he joins Documentary Platform - A Visual Archive. In 2012 his book Soli Finti is selected for the Photobook Festival Dummy Award and exhibited at Le Bal in Paris. Nel 2015, he showcases Homage to James Hutton at MACRO in Rome. In 2017 his body of work, An investigation of the laws observable in the composition, dissolution and restoration of land, is exhibited at the National Archive for Cataloguing and Documentation in Rome (ICCD), in dialogue with the photographic archive. Recent group shows include On Earth at Les Rencontres d'Arles and FOAM Amsterdam, and Le forme del tempo at Fondazione Pescheria in Pesaro. His works are part of Italian and international collections including Fondazione MAST Bologna, the National Archive for Cataloguing and Documentation in Rome (ICCD) and FOAM Museum in Amsterdam. In 2020 a portfolio of his most recent works was published on FOAM Magazine n. 57 "In Limbo" and in the same year was selected as one of five artists who work with photography to be chosen by UNESCO to work on the most recent Italian sites that have joined the UNESCO world heritage. In 2021 the book Works for a Cosmic Feeling is among the finalists of the MACK First Book Award.

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Based in the neighbourhood of San Lorenzo in Rome, Matèria opened its doors to the public in 2015. The gallery proposes an exhibition programme that touches upon all aspects of Contemporary Art, with a particular focus on the role and use of the photographic medium. Since its founding, Matèria's purpose has been the furthering and development of the work of its selected group of Artists.

The gallery programme features four exhibitions per calendar year, conceived and produced directly with its artists and often in dialogue with the space through a site specific approach. Matèria's gallery shows strive to further the research and experimentation aspects of artistic practice, with the results of this approach often showcased in a growing list of Italian and international art fairs.

Matèria represents the work of Fabio Barile, Giulia Marchi, Mario Cresci, Xiaoyi Chen, Giuseppe De Mattia, Marta Mancini, Stefano Canto.

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Works for a Cosmic Feeling

Opening  
15.05.2021, 11am - 7pm  
From 15.05.2021 to 10.07.2021  
Matèria | Via dei Latini,27 - Roma  
materiagallery.com

Matèria

Hours  
From Tuesday to Saturday  
from 11 am to 7 pm

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