

Matèria

Mario Cresci

I luoghi del possibile

03.10.2026 -

05.12.2026

I luoghi del possibile marks Mario Cresci's second solo exhibition with Matèria, realised in dialogue with People I care about, presented at Large Glass gallery in London. Bringing together a selection of previously unseen works spanning mixed media, drawing, sculpture and photography - reflecting the full complexity of his artistic practice - the exhibition focuses in particular on a lesser-known dimension of Cresci's work, tracing the role that objects, forms and gestures have played as a constant presence throughout his research.

The starting point of the project is the artist's studio, understood not simply as a place of work but as a space where visual thought settles and accumulates. Materials, objects gathered over time, fragments and images coexist within an ever-evolving domestic landscape, from which many of the exhibited works originate. Rather than revealing what lies behind the image, the exhibition moves through the very place in which the image takes form, tracing the continuity between everyday experience and the construction of the artist's visual language.

The title I luoghi del possibile refers both to the threshold between the material world and its representation, and to access into that space - physical and mental - where images take shape. A threshold that coincides with the artist's studio, but also with that territory of passage in which an object becomes an image, a fragment becomes a composition, and experience is translated into visual language.

Through a body of work that extends beyond the photographic medium, I luoghi del possibile reveals the deeply interdisciplinary nature of Mario Cresci's research. Photography emerges not as an autonomous discipline, but as one of the possible manifestations of a broader reflection on memory, time and the formation of the image, in a continuous movement between presence and representation.

Throughout his career, Cresci has continually questioned the boundaries of photography, conceiving the image as an open process rather than a definitive outcome. His research has developed through an ongoing dialogue between different languages, in which photography, drawing, object and sculpture contaminate one another, giving rise to a system of relationships in constant transformation. In Mario Cresci's work, the object is always a form in becoming, never simply the subject of the image: it is a presence capable of activating new relationships between memory, perception and representation. Drawings, assemblages, sculptures and photographs give rise to recurring forms that run through the artist's entire body of work, resurfacing time and again in different configurations, and outlining an ongoing reflection on the ways in which reality is observed, interpreted and reconstructed.

Mario Cresci (b. Chiavari, 1942) is an Italian artist whose work since the 1960s has contributed to the development of an innovative and experimental approach to photography. His multidisciplinary practice combines photographic research with anthropology, graphic and urban design. Throughout his career, Cresci has investigated perception, memory, archives and the relationship between images and time.

After studying in Venice, Cresci moved to Rome in 1969, where he encountered leading figures of Arte Povera. That same year, he created the first Environment fotografico in Europe at Galleria Il Diaframma in Milan. He participated in the Venice Biennale in 1970, 1978, 1993 and 1995.

In the 1970s, he settled in Matera, where he explored photography through cultural anthropology and developed projects that expanded the role of the photographic medium in Italy. His 1975 publication *Matera, Immagini e Documenti* is considered a pioneering work of urban anthropology in southern Italy.

His work has been exhibited internationally and is held in major collections, including MoMA in New York, MAXXI in Rome, GAMeC in Bergamo and CSAC in Parma.

He teaches at Fondazione Fotografia in Modena and ISIA University in Urbino. He lives and works in Bergamo.

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. 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, Karen Knorr, Mario Cresci, Chen Xiaoyi, Giuseppe De Mattia, Sunil Gupta, Marta Mancini, Joachim Lenz, Francisca Valador, Stefano Canto, Bekhbaatar Enkhtur, and Maïmouna Guerresi.

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03 October 2026 - 05 December 2026

Matèria
Via dei Latini, 27 - Roma
materiagallery.com

Matèria

Opening hours
from Tuesday to Saturday
11am - 7pm

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