

INSULAE



SIMON ROBERTS

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP IN VENETIAN ISLANDS

Venezia 4,5,6 July 2014

PROJECT

In the final scene of Papillon, unforgettable film starring Steve McQueen, the protagonist take sto the latest estreme flight from the prison of the penal settlement of the Island of Devil, in the french Guyana. The desperate attempt of escape reveals the strong desire of freedom and an indomitable search of himself. Also in the case of Calipso the isle symbolizes a prison. In other events she appears to us as a destination to reach (Itaca), an evasion from reality, a submerged world (Atlantide), or the isle which does not exist...

The isle lies on the waves, on the instable, on temporary balances. Physical place and, at the same time, psychological abstraction. Place of the soul, conceptual representation or an intimate refuge. Real and imaginary isles, observed now by the reassuring position of those who find themselves in the “middle”, now through the distorting and desacralizing mirror of marginality. This phenomenal and contemporary object sometimes crystallized in peculiar and unchangeable relations. Privileged observatory as regards the transformations which are taking place in the lagoon city.

The photographic workshop may be developed in Venice and in the surrounding numerous minor isles. It will offer room to different photographic interpretations: the lagoon eco system and the military defensive works; the representation of the landscape, of the city and of the different insular realites, whether like “human landscape” or from an architectonic, urbanistic and naturalistic point of view; the portrait as research on the public, identity and social relations and at last the personal story through indications, signs and fragments.

File under:

Mobility, shifts, flows of people, density, Mose, tides, Iosif Brodskij, Fondamente Nuove, San Michele, cemetery, San Pietro di Castello, Sant’Elena, Sant’Erasmus, kitchen-gardens, Torre Massimiliana, San Francesco del Deserto, Le Vignole, Certosa, San Clemente, Poveglia, San Giorgio Maggiore, La Giudecca, Fondamenta delle Zitelle, Sacca Fisola, Santa Maria della Grazia, Mazzorbo, Murano, Burano, Torcello, Cavallino, Treporti, San Servolo, monastery, cloister, San Lazzaro degli Armeni, George Byron, Lido, Ignazio Gardella, Grand Hotel Des Bains, sandbanks, dunes, sand, Thomas Mann, Luchino Visconti, Pellestrina, casoni, mussels, peociere, naturalistic oasis, lagoon fauna, Chioggia, Crevan, Treporti, Le Mesole, Lio Piccolo, Saccagnana, deerb water, lagoon, fort, walls, military towers, submerged topography, zenithal maps, boundary, limit, harbour, tracks, stations, bridges, hotels, wharfs, sluice-gates, shipyards, locks, pedestrians, public transport, Jonathan Franzen, Michel Huelbecq, James Ballard, tourism industry, social systems, urban concentration, environmental bearableness, wait times, loss, perception, passages, connexions, collective events, routes, speed, collisions.





TEACHER

Simon Roberts (b. 1974) is a British photographer whose work aims to deconstruct conventional interpretations of landscapes and people, whilst making meaningful commentaries on current social and cultural issues. The projects and commissions he undertakes often deal with our relationship to physical landscapes and notions of identity and belonging.

He has exhibited widely and his photographs reside in major public and private collections, including the **George Eastman House, Deutsche Börse Art Collection and Wilson Centre for Photography**. In 2010 he was commissioned as the **official Election Artist by the House of Commons Works of Art Committee to produce a record of the General Election on behalf of the UK Parliamentary Art Collection**. In 2012 he was granted access by the International Olympic Committee to photograph the **London Olympics** and most recently was made an **Honorary Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society**.

He has published three critically acclaimed monographs, Motherland (Chris Boot, 2007), We English (Chris Boot, 2009) – voted as one of the best photography books of the past decade – and Pierdom (Dewi Lewis Publishing, 2013).

Read the interview with Simon Roberts on Landscape Stories:
<http://www.landscapestories.net/interviews/simon-roberts?lang=it>

www.simoncroberts.com

LOCATION

The **Basilica of Saints John and Paul** is an amazing example of **Venetian Gothic** and is the largest church in the city after the Basilica of San Marco.

It is considered **the Pantheon of Venice** because of the large number of doges and other important people were buried there since the thirteenth century. Called *San Zanipolo* in Venetian dialect, houses inside the works of **Paolo Veronese, Giovanni Battista Piazzetta, Francesco Bernardoni**.

www.basilicasantigiorgiopaolo.it

PROGRAM AND PURPOSE

The workshop aims to promote the culture of photography in Italy, and aims to provide participants with the conceptual and methodological tools necessary for the creation and implementation of a photographic project.

A key part will be devoted to the most important aspects of the research and of the profession, such as the auto production of a portfolio: the planning phase, structuring and development of the narrative system, the care of the editing. Participants will develop their project in line with the themes of the workshop.

The program is structured in **three days** during which members will have the opportunity to interact constantly with teacher 'till the composition of a photo sequence. The intention is also to transform the **photographic practice**, individual and often solitary, **into a tool that is based on mutual relate. Not only unidirectional expression of a series of content by the teacher, but an opportunity to dialogue and constructive criticism.** The goal is to create a unified body of work in which the views of individual participants, different in term of concepts, subjects, styles and techniques, become the preferred tool to explore the theme.

You can use both **analog** and **digital** equipment. **A selection of photos of each individual member will be published in the following months in a section inside the contemporary photography magazine Landscape Stories.**

Friday, July 4

11.30 Meeting point/ registration

12.00 Presentation of the project.
Introduction by Simon Roberts

2.00 pm Start Photo Campaign

7.15 pm Meeting

Saturday, July 5

8.00 to 4.00 pm Photo Campaign

4.00 pm to 8.00 pm Reading, discussion, comparison of participants' portfolios

Sunday, July 6

8.00 to 3.00 pm Photo Campaign

3.00 pm to 6.00 pm Reading test: discussion and comparison.

Conclusion of workshop

The program of three days could be modified.

INFO

The workshop will be held in English with translator. The workshop has a limited number and will be activated with a minimum of 10 and up to a maximum of 20 participants.

THE SUBMISSIONS CLOSE WITH TWO MONTHS IN ADVANCE, TO EXPRESS REQUEST BY SIMON ROBERTS.

PLEASE SEND APPLICATION FORM BY APRIL 30, 2014.

The fee for the workshop is 250 €. Once you have confirmed your registration, you will be required deposit of 90 €.

APPLICATION FORM: Please send up a maximum of 10 pictures sent in a folder in low resolution, in a pdf, or visible online (website, facebook, istagram, flickr...). The organizers reserve themselves the right to select candidates on the basis of their curriculum and/or according to the order of submission of the application form. Applications must be received at landscape.stories.workshop@gmail.com

ABOUT US

The workshop is organized by Giorgia Sarra, through the Cultural Association HAT Studio and Gianpaolo Arena, publisher of **Landscape Stories**, an online magazine founded in 2010 dedicated to contemporary photography.

LS regularly publishes themed works performed by Italian and international photographers, supporting the work of already known artists and emerging ones. The publications are presented as thematic monographs that reflect the many facets of different cultures and different ways of interpreting the world around us.

Photo projects, book reviews, interviews, news, reports are published daily. **LS is followed by more than 90 countries worldwide, has published images of over 1000 photographers and after only 15 numbers is one of the most important online photo magazine.**

www.landscapistories.net

CONTATTI

Giorgia Sarra +39 347 978 0123 | landscape.stories.workshop@gmail.com



LANDSCAPEStories

All images © courtesy of Simon Roberts

