



Francesco Bosso
(Italian, born 1959)

Biography

Francesco Bosso (Italy, 1959) is one of the leading Italian black-and-white photographers of landscape and the wildness of nature. His meticulous artistic investigation is aimed at isolating natural forms and elements in untouched places, where silence reigns supreme—a mix of “atmospheres” and deep thinking, concepts that he consistently attempts to express in a whisper, rather than a roar, in an attempt to put the observer perfectly at ease.

“A landscape is in reality a vision in which atmospheres and states of mind melt together in something unique”, the artist affirms, inspired by the poetry of Walt Whitman and by an Asian, almost Shintoist approach.

His visual conceptualisation, his extraordinary mastery of large-format photos, and his virtuosity in the darkroom allow him to produce photographic works characterised by intensely nuanced gradations of black and white and exceptional depth of tonal contrasts.

His works reveal a kind of theoretical and creative fundamentalism, in constant tension with analytical depth, the act of creation, and a reductionist spirit. These undergo a process of obsessive subtraction, reducing scenes to their bare minimum, since the superfluous becomes chaos and confusion. The photos subvert our contemporary context, which goes in an entirely different direction.

After years devoted to ethnographic research in China and many African countries—documented in two books of photographs, *Swahili: African Portraits* and *China Crossing*—he turned to the natural world as the foundation for his thinking, of his studies of the effects of light, developing a deep approach to photography and total control of the photographic process that allow him to transfer to the viewer something more that goes beyond a mere image.

In 2014, his works were exhibited at the Museo delle Arti Visive in Spoleto. This impressive show was the culmination of almost eight years of work and represented a magnificent voyage in abstraction, integrating panoramic photography and pictorial subject matter. In 2015, Bosso participated in the 56th edition of the Venice Biennale, in which he presented his imposing triptych "Arrays" as part of the exhibition Present Nearness.

His works are included in important public and private collections, and exhibitions of his photos have been mounted by national and international institutions like Camera Museum in Torino, Pignatelli Museum in Napoli, Pino Pascali Museum in Polignano, Visual Art Museum in Spoleto, Candiani Cultural Center in Venice, National Museum of Photography in Brescia, as well as the Cultural Centre Museum in Hong Kong, and the M50 Space Gallery in Shanghai. He has also had noteworthy solo shows in Munich, Paris, Karlsruhe, and Brussels.

Museum Exhibitions

Villa Pignatelli Museum, Napoli, Italy
Camera Museum, Torino, Italy
Pino Pascali Museum, Polignano, Italy
Centro Culturale Candiani, Venezia, Italy
Museo Delle Arti Visive Spoleto, Palazzo Collicola, Spoleto, Italy
Museo Nazionale Della Fotografia, Brescia, Italy
Cultural Centre Museum, Hong Kong, China
Farmer Civilization Museum, Matera, Italy

Selected Exhibitions

2023

Reflections, SmithDavidson Gallery, Amsterdam, NL
SmithDavidson Icons, SmithDavidson Gallery, Amsterdam, NL

2022

The Photography Show, SmithDavidson Gallery, New York, USA

2021

The Families of Man, Museo Archeologico, Aosta, Italy

2017

Last Diamonds, The Endless Beauty, Paris Photo, Grand Palais
Paris, Paris, France

2015

56th Biennale Arte – 9 Maggio- 2 Nov "Present Nearness",
Venice, Italy
The Beauty between order and Disorder, Centro Culturale
Candiani, Venice, Italy

2014

White Golden Dark, Palazzo Collicola, Museo Arti Visive,
Spoleto, Italy

2007

China Crossing, Museo Nazionale della Fotografia, Brescia, Italy

Selected Art Fairs

KunstRAI Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL
Photo London, London, UK
PAN Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL
Paris Photo, Paris, France