

WONDERING SUMMER

ADRIANA FERRARESE
SOLO EXHIBITION



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**ADRIANA FERRARESE
VIRTUAL SOLO EXHIBITION**

9TH MAY-29TH MAY 2022

EXHIBITION REVIEW

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BIOGRAPHY

Adriana Ferrarese is an Italian photographer and documentary filmmaker, based in Paris.

After graduating from the prestigious film school La Fémis in Paris, she created the production company CERESA FILMS entirely dedicated to documentary films. Since then, she produced and directed several short and long feature documentaries that were awarded and shown internationally. While working with moving images she develops her passion for photography as an autodidact, embracing a new artistic language yet deeply connected to documenting reality.

Her work often explores the boundary between the natural and the artificial world, with a special attention on human societies and cultures. In 2020 her work is published for the first time by the editor GUP magazine, in the collective book « FRESH EYES » featuring the best emerging European photographers.

book: <https://shop.gupmagazine.com/products/fresh-eyes-2020>

production company: www.ceresa-films.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

Adriana Ferrarese

Artist

The quest of a photographic moment is what drives me. I find myself in situations (wanted or even casual) where I feel this specific moment that deals with what I know. I therefore often need to go to places I already lived in, or that evoke places where I have been. I need to see again, to feel again.

Therefore, my work is related to memory and somehow « the known » but can also embrace the notion of surprise. There is nothing more pleasant than being stunned by an unexpected situation or set that immediately recalls something inside of me. It's therefore a never ending, addictive and naive game that has to be detached by a voluntarily political intention.

Even if the artistic act is almost always (if not to say always) political, to me photography must remain above all an act of instinct, dealing with the intangible, involuntary and emotional part of my person. Coming from the creative documentary field where a reliable authorial piece of creation must stick to a very specific and pre-organized intention or statement about a theory or more generally a point of view, in opposition to that, I find in photography the pleasure of a state of freedom, where I have to deal with the moment, and in a way improvise. The beginning of my projects are always feelings or very general ideas that have to find a development while I'm in the practice. Or it can also be that I don't decide, I just find myself in this photographic moment and what my eyes see, and grab is the product of my past experiences and past emotions that made me who I am.

WONDERING SUMMER

Alessandra Villa

Curator

The strength of the wind, of the sun and of the sea is celebrated into Adriana Ferrarese's photographs like part of a natural and creative instinct which crosses all her works. Beside this powerful and concrete component given by her attention to the landscape, all her pictures are enriched by a nostalgic sense of suspension, enforced especially when the natural element meets the human component. Even if the main character of her pictures is the wind, which acts like a mastermind, playing a strong role of inspirational and artistic element, shaking, and upsetting the life of the people during summertime, is the interaction with people the real fil rouge behind the photographer's eyes.

Influenced by her childhood spent in the South of Italy, especially in Calabria where she grew up, Adriana tries to find again in her artistic experiences, those details whom can bring her back to these time of her life. Moreover, the cinematic narrative style of her images acts like a kind of distinction element that allows to separate her photographic projects into different chapters linked to different places and attitudes. Italy, France, Cuba and Greece is just few countries immortalized in her photographs, which contribute to evoke a precise state of mind connected to summertime and to a general desire of wondering summer.

Through a division of chapters, each one dedicated to a significant place for the artist, the exhibition wants to deepen Adriana's practice with the intention of fixing the steps a journey into suspended scenarios, swimming pools, villages and beaches. The feeling of nostalgia is spread everywhere, mixed with a strong exploration purpose expressed into the curiosity of discovering new cultures and places.

Some selected images are part of the project "The suspended summer", a celebration of the colours of Italy and Calabria, Adriana native country, where even cloudy days were spent at the sea. The movie "Processi (Perturbazione Lucifero)", directed by Adriana itself wants to further underline the sense of belonging and the closeness of the artist to the traditional celebration of Madonna of the Snow.

The pictures from the project "First Wind" are instead an exploration of summer in Normandy, enriched by the smooth of black and white colours, capable of enhancing the effects of sand storms.

The vitality and the free spirit of Cuba is the main character of the third chapter, which has been captured through a reportage made by Adriana Ferrarese in 2019. The last place of the journey is to Milos in Greece, an island distinguished for its volcanic nature and the continuous mix of rocks, wind and sea.

The atmosphere of Adriana's photos celebrate a kind of mystical exchange between humans and nature, and the majesty of wildness and slow living lifestyle. So, the choice of alternating black and white and color photography wants to further underline this melting vibes, this feeling of sweet and slow recklessness proper of summer.

EXHIBITION REVIEW

Erika Gravante

Independent art critic and curator, exhibition manager at M.A.D.S online art gallery, Milan (IT)

Adriana abandoned her soul in the wind. It's like light, elusive and invisible. You feel the wind on your skin, and you hear it whistling, but you can't take it, and you can't see it. It's pure life and energy. It's a powerful force.

Her photographs have a symbolic and questioning value connected with these sudden breezes that have a lot in common with stars, fate and the power of chaos.

A breath of wind seems enough to mess up human fate.

The wind speaks to the soul as the artist's shots are evocative and poetic, trying to stimulate and to tickle thoughts, dreams and emotions.

The images are a window ready to open at any moment, are different steps of a trip, pushing us to open it wide and look at what is beyond.

The wind is the soundtrack of this sweet journey that leads us to the dream of summer.

SELECTED ARTWORKS

Chapter One: The Suspended Summer (Italy)



Ending day by the swimming pool, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2020, 20X30 cm



Girl facing the canal, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2020, 20X30 cm



Vaporetto, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2020, 20X30 cm



Bath in Lago di Lecco, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2020, 20X30 cm



Posh tourists in Venice, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2020, 20X30 cm



The Beach Club, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2019, 20X30 cm



Calabrian Balcony, from the series « The Suspended Summer », 2019, 50X76 cm



Family playing of the beach, 2018, 50X76 cm



Marco in the Hortensias, 2018, 20X30 cm



Ethan, 2018, 20X30 cm



Sunday walk, 2018, 20X30 cm



Eyes conversation, 2019, 50X76 cm

Chapter Two: First Wind (Normandy, France)



Ouistreham landscape, from the series « First Wind », 2018, 20X30 cm



Chars à voile, from the series « First Wind », 2018, 20X30 cm



Little girl facing sand storm, from the series « First Wind », 2018, 50X76 cm



In between, from the series « First Wind », 2018, 20X30 cm



Cliff , from the series « First Wind, 2018, 50X76 cm



Seamus at the beach, from the series First Wind , 2018, 20X30 cm

Chapter Three: Cuban variants (Cuba)



Lada challenging waves, from the series «Cuban Variants, 2019, 20X30 cm



Cuban Escape, from the series «Cuban Variants ,2019, 20X30 cm



Thinker under the palms , from the series Cuban Variants, 2019, 20X30 cm



Cuban Amazon, from the series «Cuban Variants», 2019, 20X30 cm

Chapter four: I left my heart in Milos (Greece)



Home with a view, from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 20X30 cm



Sarakiniko earth storm, from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 50X76 cm



Couple in Sarakiniko, from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 20X30 cm



Open Sea ahead , from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 20X30 cm



Belvedere , from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 20X30 cm



Tourists' mystical call, from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 20X30 cm



Confessions by the church, from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 20X30 cm



In rocks and Sea, from the series « I left my heart in Milos », 2021, 20X30 cm

Chapter five: Processi (Perturbazione Lucifero), movie (Italy)

August, Corigliano Calabro, Calabria. The Fishermen celebrate the Madonna of the Snow, while Italy sweats under an uncommon heat wave called Lucifer.



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www.ceresa-films.com



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