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**MUSEI DI NERVI**

**Gallery of Modern Art of Genoa**

**Cose di Natura/Things of Nature**

**Luisa Menazzi Moretti and Marco Maria Zanin**

*curated by Fortunato D’Amico and Maria Flora Giubilei*

**26 April – 22 June 2014**

**Grand Opening on Friday 25 April at 5pm**

**Conference on Friday 25 April at 5.30pm**

*Press release, 10.03.2014*

From 25 April to 22 June the **Gallery of Modern Art of Genoa**, one of the four **Musei di Nervi**,hosts the photographic exhibition **Cose di Natura. Luisa Menazzi Moretti e Marco Maria Zanin/Things of Nature.**  **Luisa Menazzi Moretti and Marco Maria Zanin** with different *site specific works*, as the result of the exchange created on location between the museum collections and the surrounding landscape.

The event is the sixth one of the series “Natura ConTemporanea/ConTemporary Nature” devised and curated by Fortunato D'Amico and Maria Flora Giubilei for the two museums of Genoa Nervi - the Gallery of Modern Art and the Frugone Collections - and focuses on the interpretation of the artists' different ways of expression in relation to the displayed collections and the evocative natural context of the historical parks and coast.

The exhibition examines in depth the theme of nature and creates a connection between contemporary art and the works of the nineteenth/twentieth century on display in the permanent collections of the Gallery of Modern Art, especially those linked to the landscape theme.

The snapshots on display highlight the strong dichotomy between the two ways to look at reality.

The lens of **Luisa Menazzi Moretti** is quick to captureimages where generally one lets his/her gaze slide. The artist expresses herself through details and her frames highlight the harmony of shape, the geometrical balance and highly evocative colours, as it is clear from the works on display, *Alberi e specchio/Trees and mirror*, *Sfere/Spheres*, *Serre* e *Terra e cielo/Greenhouses and Earth and sky*. Symbolic elements, almost abstract, lead to a metaphorical realm rich in references to the real world.

**Marco Maria Zanin** favours the overall view, he describes the reality of places through a poetic and pensive narration, where architecture and landscape become symbolic, as signs through which it is possible to recognize the soul of the person that inhabits them. Reflective and melancholic hues are brought back in a countryside buried by fog, which the artist has widely documented in the series of photographs named *Cattedrali rurali/Rural cathedrals* or of seemingly empty cities, where the architectural structures prevail prominent in the frame. Relevant to this topic are *Luz* and *Rua General Carneiro*, created in Sao Paolo Brazil.

On the agenda at the launch of the exhibition is the attendance of the landscape architect Paolo Mighetto (Aiapp, Piedmont and Valle d’Aosta branch), who will analyze the theme of the show in relation to the architecture of the landscape, and Renucio Boscolo, who will deal with nature in its symbolic and multidisciplinary characteristics, which are linked to archaic, mythological and Renaissance cultures, with references to Leonardo da Vinci, Sigismondo Fanti and Nostradamus.

Two explanatory catalogues on the works of Luisa Menazzi Moretti and Marco Maria Zanin complete the exhibition.

**Short Biographies**

Luisa Menazzi Moretti

Born in Udine in 1964, she was 13 years old when she moved to the United States. Her passion for photography started after graduating; during those years she attended a few courses especially about the printing and development in black and white. She moved back to Europe; she graduated in Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures; she worked in London and after three years moved back to Italy.

In 2012 her solo exhibition *Magic Mirror* opened in Naples, curated by Denis Curti, and later it was presented in Palermo, Bologna and Venice. In the same year she attended the group exhibition *Obiettivo la Ricerca/Target: Research* organized by Ail in Rome, and the exhibition of Italo Zannier *La Sfida della fotografia/The challenge of photography*. In 2013 she attended the event *Art Night Out,* organized by the Affordable Art Fair for Ail in Milan. In May her new project *Words* was presented at the MIA Art Fair Milan 2013 after which the exhibition at the Spazio Paraggi Gallery of Milan followed; in Leghorn she attended the group exhibition of the *Combat Prize* as finalist and one of her works was again selected among the finalists for the Obiettivo Venezia Prize. At the end of 2013 and at the beginning of 2014 Luisa took part in two group exhibitions organized by the Spazio Farini6 Gallery: *Holidays Pictures* and *And They Call It Winter*. She launched the solo exhibition *Words* at the Literature Festival *PordenoneLegge* at City Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art Parco2 of Pordenone, which was later on display at the Tina Modotti City Gallery of Udine. [www.luisamenazzimoretti.it](http://www.luisamenazzimoretti.it)

Marco Maria Zanin

Born in Padoa in 1983, he was an eclectic humanist who graduated in Philosophy and Political Sciences, dedicating a lot of his time to an unrelenting exploration of the human universe, studying different cultures, the practice and the deep analysis of holistic disciplines, doing numerous journeys in several parts of the world, always in contact with nature, the person and his or her soul. Photography is the preferential instrument to relate to the world. It especially becomes the path to an inner searching and the knowledge of the self and, in this way, according to the calling of the most intimate of arts, an instrument of human and social transformation.

Between 2010 and 2012 he made many solo exhibitions, among which there were "Re-Shaping Vita Urbana/Re-Shaping Urban Life" (October 2010) in Dortmund, "Corrispondenze/Correspondences" (December 2010) at the Biosfera Gallery of Padua and "Cattedrali Rurali/Rural Cathedrals" (October 2012) at the La Salizada Gallery of Venice. He also took part in "Arte Padova 2012/Padua Art 2012" (November 2012). In 2013 he exhibited in Bologna at Spazio9 Plan B with the solo exhibition "Terra Interiore/Inner Earth". Some of his works are present in the permanent collections of the private museum Salsali of Dubai, of the Italo Zannier Archive of Venice and in the Anna Rosa e Giovanni Cotroneo collection of Rome. [www.marcomariazanin.com](http://www.marcomariazanin.com)

Musei Di Nervi

The cultural centre of the Musei di Nervi, of which Maria Flora Giubilei is the director, consists of four museums, opened to the public between 1946 and 2005, which preserve a rich heritage of visual and decorative art from Italy and abroad from the sixteenth to the twentieth-century.

The house-museum of **Villa Luxoro** - surrounded by a wonderful park positioned on the Genovese gulf - with antique pieces of furniture, night clocks and ceramics it is well known for the collection of eighteenth-century figurines of the Genovese and Naples nativity. The **Frugone Collections** preserved at Villa Grimaldi Fassio host an exceptional series of the most important works by artists from the nineteenth-century and the Belle Epoque (from Fattori to Signorini, from Fontanesi to Favretto, from Boldini to De Nittis, to Segantini) purchased by the brothers Lazzaro G.B. and Luigi Frugone and donated to the city of Genoa between 1935 and 1953. The **Gallery of Modern Art of Genoa**, located in the sixteenth-century Villa Saluzzo Serra, includes almost 400 works among paintings and sculptures which date back from the early 19th Century to today: from Barabino to D’Andrade, to Cabianca and Monteverde, from Nomellini to Depero, Messina, Martini, De Pisis, Casorati, Guttuso, Mafai, Cagli and Zao Wou Ki. The **Wolfsoniana**, which has a scientific independent direction and an international reference in the Wolfsonian-FIU Museum of Miami (Florida, USA), is the first Italian museum of decorative arts of the 19th and 20th Century, especially focused on the themes of propaganda and on important paintings and sculptures. Among the silverware, ceramics and glassware there is on display the beautiful furniture completely refurbished that goes from Esotism, Liberty, Art Déco, Futurism and the Twentieth Century.

[www.museidigenova.it](http://www.museidigenova.it/) - [www.wolfsoniana.it](http://www.wolfsoniana.it/)

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**Details**

**Name** Cose di Natura. Luisa Menazzi Moretti e Marco Maria Zanin/

Things of Nature. Luisa Menazzi Moretti and Marco Maria Zanin

**Curated** by Fortunato D’Amico and Maria Flora Giubilei

**Venue MUSEI DI NERVI - Gallery of Modern Art of Genoa**

**Villa Saluzzo Serra,** Via Capolungo 3, Genoa - Nervi

**Dates 26 April – 22 June 2014**

**Grand Opening Friday 25 April at 5pm**

**Conference Friday 25 April at 5.30pm**

**Opening Hours** Tuesday-Sunday 10am-6pm

**Entrance Fees** Full €6 - Reduced €5

**Info and guided tours bookings** 010 3726025 / 010 5574739-18

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