**VANITAS GALLERY**

Via Revere 6, Milan

**TRACCE DEL XX SECOLO /**

**TRACES OF THE 20TH CENTURY**

**Shots by Demarchelier, Díaz, Sieff, Thomas, Wolman…**

*curated by Paride Retenari*

**March 6th – 28th 2013**

Opening ceremony on Wednesday, March 6th, at 6:00 pm

*Press Release, February 25th 2013*

Vanitas Gallery opens its first exhibition, entitled **Tracce del XX secolo. Scatti di Demarchelier, Díaz, Sieff, Thomas, Wolman… / Traces of the 20th Century. Shots by Demarchelier, Díaz, Sieff, Thomas, Wolman…**

This photo exhibition, open to the public from March 6th through 28th, offers an **extraordinary selection** of shots - made ​​by **great masters of the twentieth century** – which are aimed at sketching the historical outline of the last forty years from a “pop” point of view, between lighter moments, linked the world of cinema and fashion, and others - much more intense - linked to wartime events or worlds far away from the west.

These are images that have made the history of photography, on the covers of magazines such as Life, Vanity Fair, and National Geographic; faces of celebrities and historical testimonies; original shots that combine high technical quality with a strong aesthetic and creative taste.

Each photograph and author tell intense and exciting stories, as testified by the shots entitled Passion of Christopher Thomas, who in 2010 became fascinated by the representation of the *Passione* *(Passion)*, by Cristo from Oberammergau - a small town in Bavaria - which the artist immortalized using only the camera supported by a tripod, conveying the spirit of the event and catching masterfully eyes, faces, shadows, and bodies full of spirituality. The celebration of this representation has been held every ten years, in the vicinity of Holy Week, since 1633, the year when a violent epidemic of plague broke out: since then the ritual has been repeated regularly for, to stop the plague, the country vowed it would celebrate the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Very touching and expressive are the images of the reportage on the war in Vietnam by Jean**-Claude Sauer**. We can also admire naturalistic and documentary views, such as a rescue on the rope in an icy crevasse, among the peaks of the French side of Mont Blanc, by **Christian Brincourt**, as well as extreme life experiences of those who challenge nature by descending deep crevasses and shots of giants Himalayan bees in search of their precious nectar, immortalized by **Eric Valli.**

A strong impact is made by the many faces, portrayed by **Stephen Vaughan**, of world famous film directors and Hollywood actors, such as the popular *Joker in Jail*. *The Dark Knight* of 2007; or of well-known creatives of the world of fashion and music immortalized by **Jean-Marie Périer**, whose shots standing out in the show include the photos of the famous Bob Dylan, 1966, and John Galliano, 1994. Interesting and charmful is the photograph of Che Guevara by **Venacio Díaz Márquez** Castro,’s official photographer, accompanied by the book “Guerra de guerrillas: un metodo” (“War of Guerrillas: a Method”), from 1964, a book that soon became a point of reference for Latin American guerrillas following the Cuban revolution.

Other important international artists present in the exhibition are **Jean-Loup Sieff, Demarchelier, Wolman and Benno Graziani.**

Vanitas Gallery and Vanitas Vanitatum

Located in the centre of Milan, and Vanitas Gallery and Vanitas Vanitatum are two neighbouring spaces attentive to art in which you can immerse yourself in an absolutely peculiar cultural and decorative universe, where each element is a balance between history, originality, and aesthetic quality.

**Vanitas Gallery** in Via Revere 6 offers the public a cultural space in which alternate temporary thematic exhibitions concerning photography, painting, sculpture and design, while **Vanitas Vanitatum** in Via Vincenzo Monti 41 prefers the display of international art objects, interior design and rarity of high artistic value.

**Exhibition details**

**Title: TRACCE DEL XX SECOLO/TRACES OF THE 20th CENTURY. Shots by Demarchelier, Díaz, Sieff, Thomas, Wolman…**

**Curator**: Paride Retenari

**Venue**: Vanitas Gallery – Via G. Revere, 6 (near V. Monti) - Milan

**Period**:March6th -28th 2013

**Opening ceremony**: Wednesday, March 6th, at 6:00 pm

**Opening hours**: Tuesday – Saturday from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

**Admission**:free

**Visitor Information:** 02 87073099 - milano@vanitasvanitatum.it - [www.vanitasgallery.com](http://www.vanitasgallery.com)

**Press Office Irma Bianchi Comunicazione**

Phone: +39 02 8940 4694 (PBX system) - Fax 02 8356467  info@irmabianchi.it

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