

ISOLE

documentary photography workshop

by Gabriele Cecconi
and Marco Zorzanello

7th to 14th of May 2023

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Discovering the Italian archipelago in the Adriatic Sea, a place of borders, rugged beauty and deep sea.

And Diomedes cast three gigantic boulders, from which the Tremiti islands were born.

'How deep the sea is,' wrote Lucio Dalla. He, one of the most talented and inspired Italian songwriter, who had established his personal retreat on the Tremiti islands, managed to describe with great intensity 'that joke of a land' where human beings have laboured for millennia to defend that isolated rock. The three islands of San Nicola, San Domino and Capraia almost touch each other, but then their strips of land run off in three opposite directions and show each other their differences. These three rocks thus encapsulate the intense beauty, melancholy and harshness of the Mediterranean in a single archipelago.

A workshop in the middle of the sea

The Tremiti Islands are an archipelago in the Adriatic Sea, 22 km north of the Gargano promontory and 45 km east of Termoli. These islands, although in a marginal geographic position, have their own unique epic that has spanned the history of our country. The island of San Nicola was colonised as early as the first millennium B.C., but it was only in Roman times that it became a permanent settlement. The stratification of cultures and societies spanned the centuries, bringing to us an abbey perched and defended by high bastions overlooking the sea. That sea from which the British and the Turks attempted an assault, that same

sea from which the confined Sandro Pertini could see the heel of Italy in the distance.

"These islands are so rich in history, culture and legends that it is worth getting to know them in order to enjoy them to the full."
Lucio Dalla (May 2002).

This ensemble of legend, history and culture, combined with the beauty of the Mediterranean landscape, makes the Tremiti Islands the ideal setting for documentary photography workshops, where you can learn the strategies for telling the story of an incredible place: the islands of the Mediterranean.

Designing is easy when you know how

During this immersive experience participants will have the opportunity to confront themselves with tutors in order to realise a well-structured personal project, telling the story of the territory where our work will be developed. The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with the basic tools for constructing a story through images, helping everyone to develop their own photographic identity and find their own visual language. Starting from the assumption that "creativity does not mean improvisation without method" (Bruno Munari), we will understand how instead a solid method can stimulate our creativity and help us get in touch with our inner world. Planning, therefore, as a path to knowledge of the sensitive and subtle worlds, of one's own work and self.

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PROGRAMME

The proposed programme represents a general indication, but due to the very nature of the topic of this workshop, the life in the Tremiti Islands, it may be subject to last minute changes and modifications.

Sunday 7 May

Arrival and meeting on the island of San Nicola

Monday 8 May

Presentation of the workshop, theoretical introduction to the island and visit to the village of San Nicola

Tuesday 9 May

Visit to the houses of the Tremiti inhabitants and to what remains of the places of the "Confinati". We will work on the photography of the architecture of abandonment, interiors if possible, details, portraits.

Wednesday 10 May

The uninhabited island of Capraia; telling the story of a landscape, using all the tools at our disposal, from the camera to the drone. At the end, a circumnavigation of the three islands will be made.

Thursday 11 May

Visit to the tourist island of San Domino. The theme of tourist places without tourism will be addressed, and we will enter into the daily life of the islanders, who divide their time between fishing and tourism.

Friday 12 May

Although tourism now pervades everything, the soul of these islands is still fishing. We will therefore dedicate the fifth day of the workshop to telling the story of the fishermen of the Tremiti. workshop of documentary photography

Saturday 13 May

The last day will be dedicated to the final editing and production of the participants' projects. The workshop will end with the presentation of their work.

Sunday 14 May

Departure from the island

WHAT TO BRING

A camera, a notebook, a laptop and an external hard disk. If participants have already created a work or photographic project, they can bring it in digital or printed form.

OBJECTIVES

Through this course we will try to develop a vision of photography as a form of language in continuous relationship with the inner world of the photographer and the outer world. We will try to understand how to move within these two horizons: the first of a more intimate, spiritual nature, the second linked to the aspects of reality on which the photographic process depends and to which it is directed. Looking at photography from a design perspective, we will therefore attempt to provide the basic tools through which, on the one hand, to understand the need for a path of inner knowledge capable of nourishing one's awareness and sensitivity, and on the other to reveal how the interrelation between the two planes is a constant part of the photographic process.

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HOW TO REACH THE TREMITI ISLANDS

There are different ways to reach the Tremiti Islands. By sea, mainly by the scheduled boats of the company Navigazione Libera del Golfo (NLG - <https://www.na-vlib.it>) departing from the ports of Termoli, which is the main port of call for the archipelago, or alternatively from Vieste.

REGISTRATION

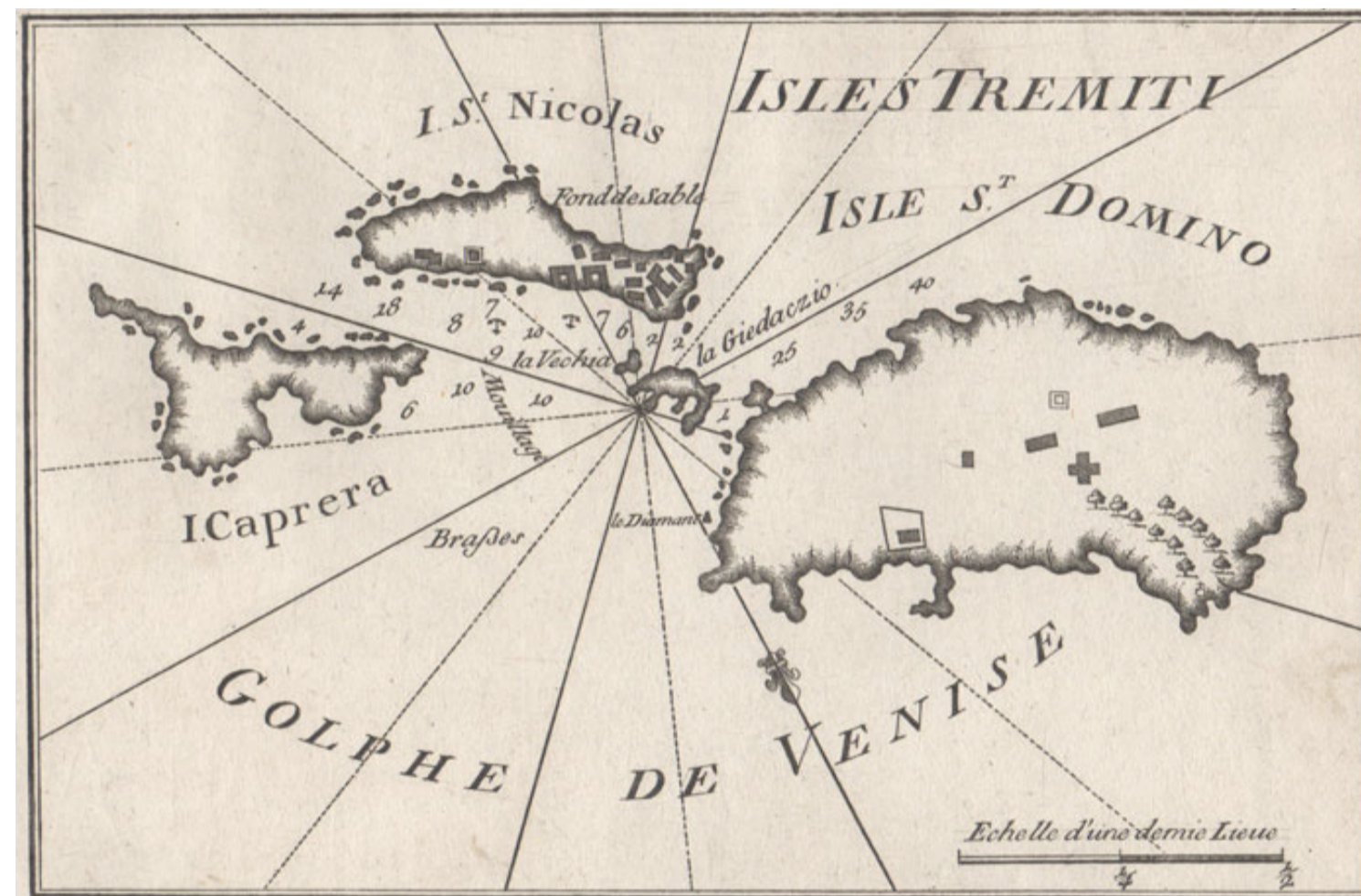
The workshop is open to all persons over the age of 18 or accompanied minors. The workshop will only be held with a minimum number of participants. In the event that this condition is not met, any deposits already paid will be refunded in full.

COSTS

The registration fee for the workshop is € 1000.00 and the number of places available will be limited to 10. A deposit of €300.00 will be required to confirm the registration. In the event of cancellation of the workshop, the deposit will be refunded.

What is included: Participation in the workshop, all boat trips and guides who will accompany us on our project; printouts

What is not included: Board and lodging and travel expenses to the island of San Nicola in the Tremiti Islands. Bed places on the island of San Nicola are limited, but there will be the possibility of staying in single and double rooms. For better management, bookings will be made by the teachers, to whom please confirm attendance.



CONTACTS

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GABRIELE CECCONI is a documentary photographer interested in cultural, political and environmental issues. He approached photography after a law degree and in 2015 he was selected by Camera Torino and Leica for a masterclass with Magnum photographer Alex Webb. Since then he made several reportages until 2018, when he started working on long-term projects.

His project on the environmental impact of Rohingya migration in southern Bangladesh has received numerous international awards, including the Yves Rocher Photography Award at the Visa pour l'Image, the POY, the Andrei Stenin Grand Prix, the PX3 Photographer of the Year and the LUMIX Sustainability Award.

His work has been exhibited internationally in museums, festivals and galleries including the State Hermitage Museum, the United Nations Headquarters, Photo Vogue Festival, Festival della Fotografia Etica and has been published by Italian and international newspapers and magazines including National Geographic, The Guardian, Internazionale, L'Espresso, Newsweek and Courier International. At the same time, he researches the relationship between culture, power and representation and the spiritual and pedagogical aspects of the visual arts.

MARCO ZORZANELLO is a documentary photographer born in Vicenza in 1979. After a degree in Archaeology from the Cà Foscari University of Venice and several years of fieldwork as an archaeologist, he devoted himself to the study of reportage photography with a diploma from the John Kaverdash Institute in Milan and an advanced course promoted and organised by the MoMa in New York.

Since the end of 2015, he has turned his photographic investigation to the theme of Climate Change, in particular its effects on the tourism industry. With the long-term project "Tourism in the climate change era", he has collaborated with all the major magazines on the Italian publishing scene and obtained many international acknowledgements, publishing with the major global media, such as Time, National Geographic, The New York Times, Newsweek Japan and many others.

This work has been awarded by the 'Yves Rocher Photography Awards and the 6mois prize pour photojournalisme, as well as exhibited at some of the main photo festivals on the European scene. Since 2020, he has been collaborating with the Ministry of Culture and MuFoCo on the production of the Italian Atlas of 20th Century Architecture.