



**Aurelio Amendola**  
***“Happenings” and “Gallery of Artists Portraits”***  
**Opening: January 18th, 2012 from 6 pm**

On January, 18th Fondazione Marconi is very pleased to announce the exhibition *Aurelio Amendola. “Happenings” and “Gallery of Artists Portraits”*.

Aurelio Amendola's work deals with various genres: landscape photography, photos of architectures, reportage, the Italian Renaissance sculptures, documented with marvellous black and white pictures. Amendola focus his attention especially on painters and sculptors from the twentieth century.

The exhibition presents the main characters of contemporary art, captured by the lens of the photographer in their studios, at home or at work.

The first floor of the exhibition space hosts a *Gallery of Artists Portraits*: Giorgio De Chirico sitting on a gondola in Venice, Marino Marini on the beach of Forte dei Marmi with a beautiful horse, César on the side of a huge sculpture, Fausto Melotti portrayed in a garden of Milan, Mario Schifano with a paintbrush to cover his eyes, Piero Dorazio painting and Arnaldo Pomodoro. These photographs were taken from the Seventies to the beginning of 2000.

In the pictures we can read the friendly and trustworthy relationship that Amendola created with the subjects of his photos.

At the second floor *Happenings* shows the steps of the artistic creation: a flame that covers Alberto Burri's face, the artist seems one only thing with the combustion, Emilio Vedova covered with painting, as if he was the full extension of the canvas, Antonio Recalcati, laid down, while he his painting with a bandage on his eyes, Claudio Parmiggiani, in a crystal labyrinth, Marcello Jori, while he is covering himself completely with painting and Enzo Cucchi working in Pietrasanta.

## **Aurelio Amendola, photographer**

In his long career, Aurelio Amendola devoted himself above all to contemporary art, immortalizing its main characters. In time he collected a proper gallery of portraits with the most renowned masters of the twentieth century as De Chirico, Lichtenstein, Pomodoro, Schifano, Kosuth, Warhol, just to name a few.

Thanks to Amendola's work we have been gifted with monographies of the major contemporary sculptors and painters, including Marino Marini, Burri, Manzù, Fabbri, Ceroli, Vangi, Kounellis.

This gallery of portraits was shown at Palazzo delle Stelline in Milano in 1991.

Amendola is very well-known for his photos of the Italian Renaissance sculptures: he took photos of the sculptures by Jacopo Della Quercia, Michelangelo and Donatello, and of masterpieces and monuments as the pulpit by Giovanni Pisano in Pistoia, the frieze by Della Robbia of the Ospedale del Ceppo, in Pistoia, Santa Maria della Spina and the Baptistry in Pisa and San Pietro in Vaticano. This work was the first of many dedicated to important themes of Italian art portrayed from the point of view of the photographer. It is a completely new photographic campaign: Amendola, benefiting from the rare occasion of limitless access to the monuments of Bernini and to the sculptures and architectures that characterized San Pietro, manages to capture venues and the most unexpected particulars.

Nel 1991 exhibition *L'occhio indiscreto* at Palazzo delle Stelline, Milan.

In 1994 his catalogue *Un occhio su Michelangelo* – dedicated to the chapel pertaining to the Medici family in San Lorenzo in Florence, recently restored – was awarded with the "Premio Oscar Goldoni". In 1995 an exhibition dedicated to this subject was organized in Milan, at Palazzo Reale, by the administration of the city.

In 1997 he was awarded with the prize "Cino da Pistoia".

Amendola celebrates the master Alberto Burri with photographic portraits on a large scale that have been shown into various museums, such as the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in Madrid in 2006, at the Fondazione Magnani Rocca in 2007 in Parma and at the Triennale in Milan in 2008 – 2009.

In 2007 he was the first to have a photographic show at the Hermitage Museum in San Pietroburgo; the subject of the exhibition was the sculptural work by Michelangelo.

In 2008 some of his photos have been bought by the Fondazione Gam in Turin to be shown afterwards in a group show at Castello di Rivoli.

In May 2008 the publishing house FMR issued the book *Wonderful, Michelangelo: La Dotta Mano* with photos by Amendola. Later the book will be donated to the city of Bologna, to the Prado Museum in Madrid and to various institutions in America, in Asia and to private collectors.

In 2011 he donated eleven photos to the town of Pistoia and now they are hosted in the permanent collection of Palazzo Fabroni (Roberto Barni, Umberto Buscioni, Agenore Fabbri, Claudio Parmiggiani, Gianni Ruffi, Alberto Burri, Enrico Castellani, Giorgio De Chirico, Jannis Kounellis, Marino Marini, Andy Warhol).

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Opening: January, 18th 2012 from 6 pm

From January, 19th until February, 18th 2012

Tuesday to Saturday from 10,30 – 12,30 am and 3,30 – 7 pm

**Free entrance**

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