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Massimo Cristaldi was born in Catania (Italy) in 1970. He was awarded in many international photography competitions such as the International Photography Awards, the B&W Spider Awards, the Photography Masters Cup, the Travel Photographers of the Year and the Prix de Photographie de Paris. Massimo has exposed in Europe, US, Canada and Brazil, in solo and group shows and at photography festivals. He is represented by galleries in Belgium, Italy and USA. He lives and works both in Catania and Rome. Massimo's photographs are part of the permanent collection of the George Eastman House, International Museum of photography and Film in Rochester, NY (USA).

Artist Statement: the "Metaphor of limits"

We are living in a time of accelerated change and increasing homogeneity.

One of the unintended consequences of globalisation is the loss of wonder and curiosity: as the world is downsized into pixels of familiarity and uniformity, our towns, cities, and suburban landscapes are all becoming one undifferentiated, monotonous sprawl.

Change on one side, uniformity on another.

In this continuous and frenetic mutation a single image, demarcates, in the moment is taken, a boundary between what was there before, and it is frozen within, and how that place, moment or situation may potentially evolve and change in the Future. This way a photograph, as a physical object, becomes part of my "metaphor of limits": it is a boundary between Before and After. It's the incarnation of the present moment.

There are, however, other confines.

There are other limits.

Or at least we so believe in our never-ending quest to make sense of a complex reality.

Some are easy to catch: those between Earth, Sea and Sky, light and darkness. Boundaries but also dualisms: positive and negative, zero and one, past and present, life and death, me and other people. All concepts and ideas prone to be dissolved by the fraction of reality captured in a photograph.

My interest is focused on depicting those moments in which the Past, including the recent one, becomes an allegory for the Present, capturing, all the while, boundaries and dualisms and suggesting metaphoric ones.

Books

Suspended, 2021, Edizione Gente di Fotografia, Text by Franco Carlisi end Joel Meyerowitz

In Suspended there is a splendid and tragic feeling of emptiness, if those two could be mentioned in the same breath, and surreal as well. I like the scale shifts you are seeing with the cars, people, the houses, and the sun-blasted and burnt color of the landscapes and buildings.

It shows me a kind of painful beauty in desolation, taking us beyond any hope of recovery. This is good work. Congratulations for staying so true.

Joel Meyerowitz

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Awards

- 2017 International Photography Awards 2017
- 2016 Sony World Photography Awards
- 2016 International Photography Awards 2016
- 2014 International Photography Awards 2014
- 2011 Black and White Spider Awards 2010 (6th annual)
- 2011 International Photography Awards 2011
- 2010 Terna Prize 03, Finalist, Roma, Italy
- 2010 PhotoBook NYC, Photo District news, NYC, USA
- 2010 Capture Brooklyn, New York City, USA
- 2010 International Photography Awards USA
- 2010 Imatoria XXI Century Temples, Barcelona, Spain
- 2010 The Black&White Spider Awards 2009, USA
- 2009 Center for Fine Art Photography, USA
- 2009 International Photography Awards,
- 2009 Prix de Photography, Paris, France
- 2009 Depentendency, Venezia, Italy
- 2008 The Photography Masters Cup, Los Angeles, USA
- 2008 Travel Photographer of the Year, London, UK
- 2008 Black & White Spider Awards, New York, USA
- 2008 International Photography Awards
- 2007 Venice International Photo Contest, Venezia, Italy
- 2007 ArteLaguna, Venezia, Italy,
- 2006 Venice International Photo Contest, Venezia, Italy

Main Publications

Lensculture, 2012, 2015 / DPReview.com, 2014 /
Lenscratch.com 2014 / Acurator.com, 2014 / Le Journal De La
Photographie, 2012 / FotoCULT, 2011 / PDN Photobook NYC,
2011 / New York Times, USA, Insulae, 2010 / Journey Three,
The Travel Photographer of the Year, UK, 2010 / The Photo
Paper, USA, 2010 / PDN Photo of the Day, 2009 / New York
Times, USA, Lens Blog, Simulacra, 2009 / Gazeta (Moscow),
Russia, The Final Cut, 2009 / Next Exit Magazine, Italy, 2009 /
Fotocult, Italy, October 2009, Italy / EOS Magazine, UK, /
British Journal of Photography, UK / Frammenti di Sicilia, Italy /
Young Blood 2009, Italy / Young Blood 2008, Italy / Corriere
Della Sera, 2009, Italy / Canon CPN magazine, 2009 /
Lensculture, USA, 2011

Exhibitions

- 2022, "Humans of China", Trieste, Italy
- 2021, "The New Sicilian Topographics" Philadelphia, USA
- 2020, 45 Days @Space Gallery, Portland, USA
- 2019, Med Photo Fest 2019, Catania
- 2019, Stiamo al Sud, Realmonte, Agrigento
- 2019, Suspended, Philadelphia, USA
- 2018, Frammenti di Architetture, Noto,
- 2017, Etna Photo Meeting, Aci Bonaccorsi (Catania)
- 2017, MIA Art Fair, Gente di Fotografia Gallery, Milan, Italy
- 2017, Closer, Taranto, Italy
- 2017, Closer, Bologna, Italy
- 2017, Due South, Philadelphia (US)
- 2015, La Quatrieme Image 2015, Paris, France
- 2015, La Forza Delle Rovine, Palazzo Altemps, Roma, Italy
- 2015, Immagini Dal Paese dove fioriscono I limoni, Canada
- 2015, Animaleries, 11-07 11-09, Aubeterre sur Drone, France
- 2015, Artisti di Sicilia, curated by Vittorio Sgarbi, Catania, Italy
- 2014, Sicily in Color, San Paulo, Brasil
- 2014: 'S', collectinve Show, Paris, 12-June/12 July, France
- 2013: Italy in Motion, March 8 June 23, 2013, Miami, USA
- 2012: Je & un autre Paris, France
- 2012: Insulae in the collection of the George Eastman House
- 2012: Sicilia Fotografia Contemporanea, Alcamo, Italy
- 2012: Spin8: Put a Tree on It HCP in Houston, USA
- 2012: Festival Photomed 2012, 24-05/17-06, France
- 2011: Catania, Italia Fotografie: 2006-2011, Arte Club
- 2011: Paris. France Chic Art Fair (21-24 Oct. 2011)
- 2011: Festival Savignano Immagini 2011 (9.10.11 Sept 2011)
- 2011: Galerie Images De Fer Paris, France
- 2010, Lineart, Gent, Belgium
- 2010: Farmani Gallery/Lucie Foundation New York City
- 2010: Samuel Maenhoudt Gallery, Belgium
- 2010: Capture Brooklyn New York City, USA
- 2010: VI Giornata del Contemporaneo, Catania, ITALY
- 2010: Fresh Fairs, Los Angeles, USA
- 2010: Affordable Art Fair, London, UK
- 2010: New Visions The Center For Fine Art Photography, USA
- 2009: Lineart, Gent, Belgium
- 2009: Depentedency, 2009 Biennal of Art Venezia, Italy
- 2009: Focus on Imaging, Birmingham, UK
- 2007: VIPC Exibition, Venezia, Italy
- 2007: Esplorazoni, Galleria Vecchio Bastione, Catania, Italy
- 2007: Best of VIPC 2006, Venezia, Italy
- 2006: Regards sur la France, Padova, Italy

Galleries

- Samuel Maenhoudt Gallery, Knokke, Belgium, http://samuelmaenhoudt.com
- Gente di Fotografia, Modena, Italia, http://www.gentedifotografia.it
- Gravy Studio, Philadelphia, USA https://www.gravy-studio.com/