

Contacts

DISCIPULA
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About

Our Identity

Discipula is a collective operating in the field of contemporary visual research founded in 2013 by MFG Paltrinieri, Mirko Smerdel and Tommaso Tanini: one social psychologist, one visual artist and a photographer. As Discipula we create image based art projects, we design, self publish and distribute printed matter, and we offer lectures and workshops.

Our Research

Discipula work focuses on the exploration of the role and uses of images in the contemporary mediascape. Driven by the rise of communication technologies, images invade and expand our world and our perception of it. They transcend representation, embodying transient desires and needs. This way they become gateways to the ideology that creates them. Discipula refers to images as political and economic tools, means of power and control whose ambiguous nature can be controlled to determine shifts in the perception of reality. With regard to this, Discipula pays particular attention to the role of the viewer as well as to the act of looking as a form of political conscience.

Our Method

The majority of Discipula projects revolves around the appropriation, postproduction and analysis of images captured from the flow of production and consumption. Stock photos, renderings, advertising, are manipulated and immersed in new networks of signs, languages and cross references in which the original function of each image is subverted, thus creating space for new interpretations, meanings and uses. Each work can be compared to a dynamic system, where ideas are laid out and negotiated through the interaction between matter, forms, values and ideologies. By highlighting the fluid and mutable nature of contemporary images, our ultimate goal is to invite the viewer to look at and reflect on what is hidden beyond the glossy surface of the visible.

Discipula books can be purchased from our online store and in selected bookshops worldwide.

CV

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 How Things Dream – Spazio Gamma, Milano, IT
- 2018 How Things Dream: Morpheus – Je Vous Propose, Zurich, CH
- 2017 H. said he loved us – Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Belgrade, Serbia
- 2015 Stream Control Resistance – MLZ Art Dep Gallery, Trieste, IT
- 2015 H. said he loved us – Format Festival, Derby, UK
- 2015 The Looking Game – Format Festival, Derby, UK
- 2015 H. said he loved us – Sifest, Savignano Sul Rubicone (FC), IT
- 2014 H. said he loved us – Kunsthalle Mélycsarnok, Budapest, HU
- 2014 The Looking Game – Jarach Gallery, Venice, IT
- 2013 The Looking Game – RED Gallery, London, UK

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Everyday Life: economia globale e immagine contemporanea, Galleria Civica Trento, Trento, IT
- 2019 Moving the Image: photography and its actions - Camberwell Space, London, UK
- 2018 Bloody Blast Show - Paratissima 19, Torino, IT
- 2018 Omologia, Base, Milan, IT
- 2018 Talking (About) Images Pt.2, Kunsthalle Graz, AU
- 2018 Talking (About) Images, Galerija Kortil, Rijeka, Croatia
- 2017 Postfail, Fotomuseum Winterthur, CH
- 2017 Neoglobalidad, Centre Photographie Genève, CH
- 2017 No Fly Zone #2, Ncontemporary Gallery, Milan, IT
- 2017 POIUYT. Point Zero, MLZ Art Dep Gallery, Trieste, IT
- 2016 A Fictional Narrative Turn, JimeiXArles, Xiamen, CHN
- 2016 Good Night and Good Luck, A plus A Gallery, Venice, IT
- 2016 Teatrum Botanicum, PAV, Turin, IT
- 2016 Niche Display, Unseen Photo Festival, Amsterdam, NL
- 2016 Imagineering-(Re)activating the Photographic, Krakow Photo-month, Krakow, PL
- 2016 Tage der Fotografie, Darmstadt, DE
- 2016 What's this book? – Belgrade Photo Month, Belgrade, Serbia
- 2016 Photolia Festival, Reggio Calabria, IT
- 2016 Dedans – Galleria Ricci, Carrara, IT
- 2016 Photo50 – Feminine Masculine, London Art Fair, London, UK
- 2015 NIDA International Art Photography Symposium, Nida, Lithuania
- 2015 Boundaries / Organ Vida Festival – Galerija Klovićevi Dvori, Zagreb, Croatia
- 2015 ArTS, Piazza dell'arte pubblica, Trieste, IT
- 2014 Truths, Facts, Fictions, Lies – PhotoIreland, Dublin, IE
- 2014 The Italian Photobook – Sifest, Savignano Sul Rubicone (FC), IT

- 2014 Photobookshow – Tokyo Institute of Photography, Tokyo, JP
2013 Dall'archivio al libro – Sifest, Savignano Sul Rubicone (FC), IT

COMMISSIONED PROJECTS

- 2018 TRASMISSIONE[26052018], Galleria Civica di Modena, IT
2017 STRATA – Flâneur/Format Festival, Derby, UK

PRIZES & AWARDS

- 2018 Combat Prize – Photography Category
2017 Level 0 – ArtVerona
2016 Premio Fondazione Francesco Fabbri per le Arti Contemporanee
2015 The Anamorphosis Prize (Shortlisted), NY
2015 Lucie Awards – Book Publisher of the Year Limited (Nomination)
2015 Le Prix du Livre de Les Rencontres d'Arles, Author Book Award
2015 Premio Marco Bastianelli – Best Italian self published photobook
2015 Vevey International Photography Award (Shortlisted)
2014 Premio Marco Pesaresi per la fotografia contemporanea
2014 GD4PhotoArt (Shortlisted)

COLLECTIONS

- Fondazione Francesco Fabbri per le Arti Contemporanee
Library of MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, NY

TALKS, LECTURES & EVENTS

- 2017 Talk – “Photography, Politics and Change in the Age of Madness”, Gazebook Sicily Photobook Festival, Puntasecca, IT
2017 Guest Lecture at IUAV, Venice, IT
2017 Guest Lecture at UAL: Camberwell, London, UK
2017 Lecture – STRATA, Conference, Format Festival, Derby, UK
2017 Plat(t)form – Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, CH
2016 Talk – Camera con vista – Incontri di Fotografia, GAMEC – Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Bergamo, Italy
2016 Installation and talk – ‘Persona’, Twenty14 Gallery, Milan, IT
2016 Lecture – ‘L'arte e la fragilità del digitale. Discipula e il progetto Just Like Arcadia’, Sala Convegni Archivio di Stato di Milano, Milan, IT
2016 Guest Lecture at Southampton Solent University, UK
2015 Round Table – ‘New publishing strategies for bringing publishing closer to the artistic practice and books closer to the audience’, coordinated by Natasha Christia, Read or Die – Independent Publishing Festival, Barcelona, SP
2015 Lecture – ‘Art, photography and the end of time or how to survive the mass production of images’, Generazione Critica #3, Metro-nom Gallery, Modena, IT

- 2015 Round table – ‘On the role of publishing as a means of knowledge sharing’, coordinated by Barbara Meneghel, Forum on Italian Contemporary Art, The Luigi Pecci Center for Contemporary Art, Prato, IT
- 2015 Talk – ‘Self publishing e lo stato del fotolibro’, curated by Irene Alison, SIFEST – Savignano Immagini Festival, Savignano sul Rubicone (FC), IT
- 2015 Talk – ‘La nuova editoria indipendente’, curated by Chiara Oggiogni Tiepolo, Gazebook, Manifestazione Internazionale del Fotolibro, Ragusa, IT
- 2015 Lecture – ‘Images as strategy: the visual research of Discipula’, 38th International Art Photography Symposium, Nida, LT
- 2015 Talk – ‘Living Monuments’, curated by Francesca Lazzarini, with Pablo Chiereghin and Aldo Giannotti, MLZ Art Dep Gallery, Trieste, IT
- 2015 Talk – ‘Picturing Discipline, Tracing Control’, curated by August Verlag, Bernhard Knaus Gallery, Frankfurt, DE
- 2014 Book launch and talk – H. said he loved us, Spazio 001, Rome, IT
- 2013 Talk – ‘The Archive & Fiction’, curated by Federica Chiocchetti, RED Gallery, London, UK
- 2013 Book launch and talk – The Looking Game, Photographers’ Gallery, London, UK
- 2013 Book launch and talk – The Looking Game, MICAMERA, Milan, IT

ESSAYS

“L’arte alla fine dei tempi, ovvero come sopravvivere alla mass produzione di immagini” in AA. VV. ‘Generazione Critica’. Danilo Montanari Editore, Ravenna.

Un’Arcadia Neoliberista – www.lucandreoni.com

CRITICAL TEXTS

Clements, L. (2015) “Curating the Hyperimage”, Archivo #13, August, pp. 4-11.

Knoppers, K. (2017) “Appetizing”, Foam Magazine #47

Lazzarini, F. (2015) “La responsabilità delle immagini come operazioni” in AA. VV. ‘Generazione Critica: La fotografia in Europa dopo le grandi scuole’. Danilo Montanari Editore, Ravenna.

PRESS & FEATURES

2017

Feature on Artribune

Interview on Flash Art

Feature on Der Greif Online

Feature on EspoArte #98

Interview on Almagazine/The Art Review Summer 2017 issue

Interview on Modus Operandi

2016

Interview on Objektiv Magazine “The Flexible Image pt.2” issue

Deep Cut, Episode #18 on meural.com

The Looking Game, feature on Dave Magazine #23

Interview on Il Fotografo #279

2015

Discipula Secret Thirteen Mix 164, secretthirteen.org

“The Looking Game” and “H. said he loved us”, feature on Landscape Stories #21: crime

The Looking Game, feature on Archivo Zine #13 (print edition)

Endframe, Federica Chiocchetti on “H. said he loved us” for the British Journal of Photography (print edition, February 2015 issue)

Book of the week, Valentina Abenavoli (AKINA) on “H. said he loved us” for Photo-eye

2014

Tommaso Tanini – H. said he loved us, exhibition report on Vogue Italia

H. Said He Loved Us, feature on The Photocaptionist

The Looking Game, interview with MFG Paltrinieri and Mirko Smerdel for ATP Diary (Italian only)

Il doppio oltre lo sguardo, review by Arianna Testino for Artribune (Italian only)

The Looking Game, Wall Street International Magazine

2013

Have Books Will Travel, interview with MFG Paltrinieri and Mirko Smerdel