

LOOKING FOR UTOPIA

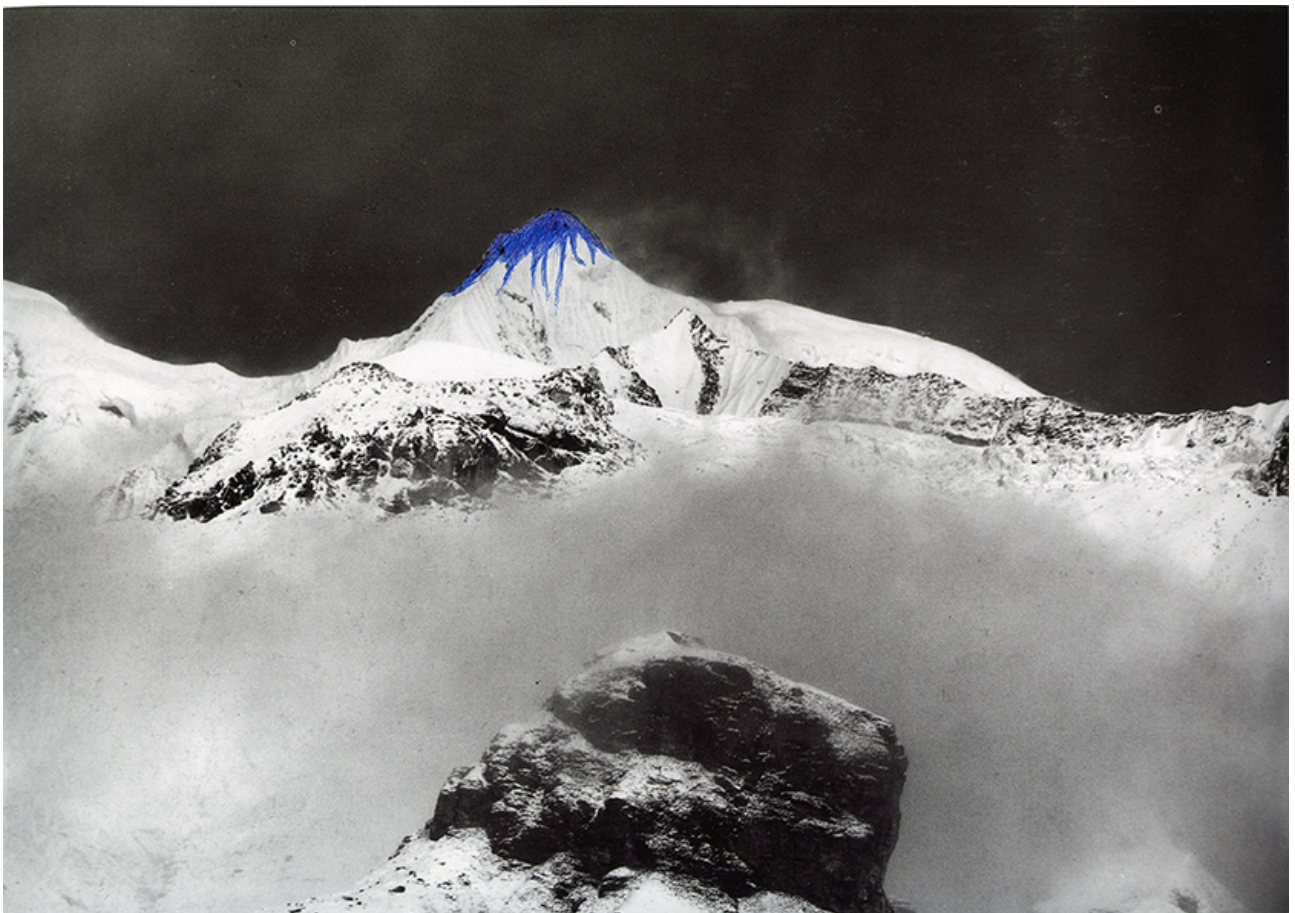
Curated by Bianca Cerrina Feroni and Melania Rossi

Francesco Arena - Jean Bedez - Hans Bellmer - Elisabetta Benassi - Gérard Berréby - Elvio Chiricozzi - Félicie d'Estienne d'Orves - Jan Fabre - Sophie Ko - Damien MacDonald - Maud Maffei - Simone Pellegrini - Cécile Reims - Pietro Ruffo - Delphine Valli - Antonello Viola

Novecento, San Marco 2683/84, nearby Campo San Maurizio, Venice

Opening in presence of the artists: May 9th, 6.30PM, by invitation only

Exhibition: May 10th - July 8th, free entry, open every day 11.00AM - 7.00PM



Jan Fabre, Vallnord, Pyrenees, Andorra (1989). © Angelos Bvba

"An artist's best projects are the ones that haven't actually seen the light of day".

Jan Fabre

An exhibition that displays the utopias of the artists, the works that never reached completion, the dreams of projects that will never see the light of day, or whose concept is the idea of the undone, of the impossible. The deepest and most precious soul of the artist's mind.

A dwelling hidden like a gem within the fascinating heart of Venice, far from the crowd and off the beaten path, unveiling its astonishing secret one glance at a time. Here, visitors are welcomed by eclectic halls, priceless fabrics, ethnic decorations and interiors recalling Mariano Fortuny's unique style.

From the encounter of these elements comes the exhibition project "*Looking for Utopia*", with the partnership of Institut français and curated by Bianca Cerrina Feroni and Melania Rossi, working hand in hand for the first time to create an itinerary from the communal areas on the first floor to the Nocevento's noble floor upstairs. An exhibition consisting for the most part of unpublished works, some even site specific, opening its doors to the public during the Biennale and allowing access to one of the Venice lagoon's most authentic and distinctive interiors, owned by Heiby and Gioele Romanelli, already known for their Hotel Flora and Casa Flora.



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Drawings, collages, photographs, maquettes and small sculptural models are just a few of the media the forms of expression that the exhibition's selected artists have been employing to "cease" and "create" ideas.

The works exhibited in "*Looking for Utopia*" are all linked by the project and inspiration moments that gave rise to them, the parallel world where these

works reach the highest sublimation: the lack of concreteness, the undone, the pure idea still lying in the universe of endless possibilities.

The visionary space, as well as this exhibit that aims at exploring it, also hosts some finished works that reflect on the theme of utopia through contemporary challenges: frontiers, migrations, communication, and the fugacity of images in the age of immediacy.

A limited selection of modern works borrowed from private collections adds value to the project, broadening its perspective and creating a link between the cultural revolutions of the twentieth-century and today. Amongst the historical pieces we find Hans Bellmer's incisions, showing his paradoxical intent to give shape to desire, and those of Cécile Reims, who imagines mutating bodies.

The impulse behind all these utopian projects shows simultaneously the possibility and the impossibility of a new relation with the world. Visionary places where we can reflect on our ever-changing society, and that inspire action and discussion with reality, to imagine new possibilities.

Information

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Special thanks to

