

## **Edoardo Montaina**

### **Biografia**

Edoardo Montaina (b. 1954) is one of Italy's foremost photographers. Author of some renowned photographic books in which he interprets some of the most important works of art and architecture in Italy, Montaina's creative vision has mostly been expressed through high-profile industrial and corporate photography commissioned by global companies operating in a wide range of sectors: services, constructions, aerospace, defence, transport infrastructures, biotech, energy and shipbuilding. His trademark style - the ability to focus on a single detail and project it into a different time and place – makes it possible to recreate an original and unique vision of reality, modelled on an inspired balance of shape and colour.

Thanks to his ability to translate new and affirmed brands into a unique and distinctive style, Montaina's work is an essential component of the corporate identity of institutions and global corporations, notably: Presidency of the Italian Republic, Ferrari, Finmeccanica, Ford, Fiat, Eni, Agusta, Fincantieri, Telecom Italia. Further, Montaina collaborated with the Italian fashion legend Roberto Capucci, for whom he created the photographic book "Capucci al Teatro Farnese di Parma". He also worked with large television networks - Sky, Rai Radiotelevisione Italiana, RTI (Mediaset), LA 7 and the German network Zdf - as well as top international advertising agencies such as J.W. Thompson, Saatchi & Saatchi and Young & Rubicam.

He is a frequent lecturer at seminars and workshops held by the Federation of European Photographers. He collaborated for several years with Mamiya Digital Imaging in the promotion of professional photography products. In Italy, Mamiya promoted its professional cameras using his name and images while Kodak included him among the outstanding photographers in the field of artistic interpretation in industrial photography.

With a reputation for the highest aesthetic standards, his work is often cited for its excellence in prominent magazines in the field of art and visual culture. He has been awarded a number of prestigious prizes; among others, he won the jury prize for "Best environmental photographer" at the 17th International Film Festival "L'uomo, la Natura ed il suo Ambiente". In May 2007 he was voted best Italian photographer by the Italian Rotary Club, with his work exhibited in Rome in the "Museo delle arti e tradizioni popolari dell'Eur".

Invited by the Presidency of the Italian Republic to interpret the image of the Quirinale Palace, he

realized the book "Invito al Quirinale" (Mondadori, 2002). The same happened with the portrait of the most important Museum in Rome in the book "Galleria Borghese". The following books are "I Fori Imperiali" and "Light for Art". All these books have been published by Museal Projects Publisher, Rome.

On May 2012 he held a solo exhibition in Mexico City in the Lourdes Sosa Gallery on the occasion of the publication of his latest book "The Delicate Hints of Our Life". On March 2013 the book has also been presented in Rome with an innovative multimedia event held at the Maxxi – National Museum of the 21st Century Arts. On June 2013 his works have been exhibited for two months in Genova at the Fondazione Ansaldo in the occasion of the exhibition "Visioni Industriali": an artistic interpretation of the most significant moments in the history of Italian industry. On October 2013 he hold a solo exhibition in Copenhagen in the occasion of the "Italian Language in the World Week", named after the photographic book "The Delicate Hints of Our Life". From October to December 2013 his pictures have been exhibited at the Palazzo Ducale in Genova for the event "Edoardo Montaina. L'arte della fotografia industriale", where he has been chosen as the most representative exponent of the contemporary Italian industrial photography.

On May 2015 Montaina, in collaboration with the famous fashion designer Roberto Capucci, held his latest international art exhibition in Beijing, titled "The art of two contemporary masters. Edoardo Montaina interprets Roberto Capucci". His works have been exhibited in Beijing's Parkview Green, in the prestigious atelier of NE TIGER, one of the top brands of Chinese Haute Couture. The same series has also been exhibited in Beijing on October 2015 on the occasion of "Beijing Design week".

His industrial works have been at the center of his latest international event, as his series "Vision of beauty" was exhibited in the prestigious Beijing Exhibition Hall on November 2015 in the occasion of "China Instyle Expo 2015". On November 2015, the spectacular photographs by Edoardo Montaina that tells the emotional story behind the epic construction of the New Panama Canal by Salini Impregilo have been exhibited in Triennale di Milano (in the occasion of "Beyond: delivering the future for the past 110 years" by Salini Impregilo Group) and now collected on the highly visual book *The New Panama Canal. A journey between two oceans* published on February 2017 by Rizzoli New York.

In 2018 the global company Ferrero of Alba wanted Montaina to interpret the historical values of the brand, which was followed by the publication of the photographic book "Ferrerità".

Prestigious guest of the Red Dot fair in Miami 2019 (where he exhibited some appreciated shots of Fine Art), Montaina is currently working on new photographic projects: he was recently invited by Banca Intesa Sanpaolo to interpret the exhibition event organized by Gallerie d'Italia : "Canova | Thorvaldsen, the birth of modern sculpture".

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## Press Review

*“Each of Montaina’s pictures tells us a story. His images reveal a unique vision in which the artist speaks to the viewer through the ability to project a single detail into a different dimension, giving it an unexpected artistic value”.*

**(La Repubblica, 17 th October 2012)**

*“Edoardo Montaina: a photographer, an artist, a visual poet. His pictures of ships, trains and helicopters captivate the viewer with vivid colours, unexpected geometries and a fascinating sense of motion. Being well aware of the intimate link between image and imagination, in his pictures Edoardo Montaina shows what cannot be seen. What we do see are examples of great photography and memorable visual art”.*

**(Il Messaggero, 5 th January 2014)**

*“Can industrial photography be art photography? It certainly seems so by looking at the work of Edoardo Montaina. His inspired balance of colours and shapes gives an undoubtedly fascinating and original take on the creative power and vital energy of the industry world”.*

**(Il Sole 24 Ore, 23th June 2013)**

*“The human presence becomes part of the pictures in a very quiet, almost unintentional fashion. The strength of Montaina’s art is in the ability to follow the delicate hints the contemporary homo faber leaves on his creations: hidden signatures otherwise destined to indifference and oblivion”.*

**(Corriere della Sera, 11th April 2013)**

*“The artist changes the viewer’s perspective with colours and shapes that give a new meaning to familiar places. Montaina captures ordinary scenes of working men but the centre of his work are not the people themselves nor their work. The real beauty of it is in the quiet passing of time. The ambitious goal of Edoardo Montaina is to gently show how unreal is to let life pass us by”.*

**(Il Tempo, 1ST March 2013)**

*“Edoardo Montaina presents his latest photographic volume: The Delicate hints of our life at the MAXXI Museum in Rome. His camera skillfully portrays the delicate shades and reflections of our life”.*

(Class, February 2013)

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### Notable Publications

***Galleria Borghese***, photographic book, 600 pages, full-colour (book series “Luce per l’Arte”, sponsored by ENEL, published by Progetti Museali Editore Roma, 1994).

***Fori Imperiali***, photographic book, 400 pages, colour and black-andwhite (book series “Luce per l’Arte”, sponsored by ENEL, published by Progetti Museali Editore Roma, 1996).

***Capucci al Teatro Farnese di Parma***, photographic book, 180 pages, full-colour (book series “Luce per l’Arte”, sponsored by ENEL, published by Progetti Museali Editore Roma, 1998).

***Scuderie Papali***, photography boxed set containing 30 black-andwhite photos signed by the author, limited special edition for the 2000 Jubilee, 50 numbered copies (commissioned by the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, 2000).

***E luce fu...***, photographic book, 204 pages, full-colour. Sponsored by ACEA (book series “Energia per la Cultura”, published by Baldini e Castoldi, 2003).

***Invito al Quirinale***, photographic book, 225 pages, full-colour, foreword by Cesare De Seta. Project realized under the High Patronage of the President of the Italian Republic (book series “Omaggi”, published by Mondadori, 2005).

***Cavour***, photography boxed set containing 15 full-colour photos signed by the author, limited special edition, 100 numbered copies (sponsored by Fincantieri, published by Fontegrafica, 2007).

***The delicate hints of our life***, photographic book, 100 pages, fullcolour (sponsored by Gruppo Tecno, published by Fontegrafica, 2011).

***Blu***, full-colour photographic book on the naval division of the Italian Guardia di Finanza. On the sea, full-colour photographic book on the most remarkable luxury ships worldwide.

***The New Panama Canal: A Journey Between Two Oceans***, highly visual book that documents the progression and construction of the Canal (published by Rizzoli - New York, 2017).

***Ferrerità***, monographic color volume 272 pages pub. Ferrero, Alba 2018