

IDENTITÀ NEGATE

In Rome from 15 September, two Fabrica photography exhibitions on very topical geopolitical subjects.

Identità Negate ("Identity Denied") is the title of a Fabrica exhibition project at the Galleria del Cembalo in Rome, from 15 September to 26 November. It comprises two photography shows: **Lingering Ghosts** by Sam Ivin and **Foibe** by Sharon Ritossa.

The shows are the fruit of the work of two young Fabrica photographers interested in examining two topics of profound social and historical importance. In *Lingering Ghosts*, Sam Ivin endeavours to express through his pictures the sense of lost identity and insecurity about their future that is typical of people seeking asylum in the UK. For *Foibe*, Sharon Ritossa started from the particular geological structure of the Karst to reflect on how it affected social and historical events in the region.

Uncertain, undefined destinies whose confused trajectories conceal lives and stories worthy of dignity. This is the shared theme of the two exhibitions through which Fabrica takes another step forward in its exploration of sensitive and highly topical issues.

The setting for these shows is **the Galleria del Cembalo**, a particularly beautiful exhibition centre in the ancient heart of the Eternal City. Galleria del Cembalo embraces photography and photography's dialogue with other forms of artistic expression as the fundamental element of its exhibitions.

Fabrica, Benetton Group's communication research centre, was established in 1994. It offers one-year-grants to a very varied group of young creative talents from around the world to allow them to develop research projects in the fields of design, graphic art, photography, interaction, video and music.

Lingering Ghosts

What does it mean to be an asylum seeker in the UK? This was the starting point of Ivin's research, which began at a drop-in centre in Cardiff, Wales and continued all over England.

The result is a series of 28 portraits, where the eyes have been scratched out: once arrived in the UK, these migrants find themselves in a state of limbo, having to await news of their application for asylum for months or even years. They become "lingering ghosts".

Physically scratching the faces of these 28 migrants is a way to powerfully convey the cruel loss of self, and the confusion that befalls them as they wait to learn their fate.

Ivin's work offers a contemplative take, away from the glaring lights of the media. Despite being represented without their eyes, these people do have an identity and we recognise them as fathers, mothers, sons and daughters – human beings, after all.

Sam Ivin was born in High Wycombe near London in 1992. After having graduated in Documentary Photography at the University of Wales, Newport, he was awarded a residency at Fabrica. During his stay he finalised his project *Lingering Ghosts*.

Identità Negate

15 September / 26 November 2016

Galleria del Cembalo
Largo della Fontanella di Borghese, 19 – Rome
Tel. +39 06 83796619

HOURS

Tuesday to Friday: 4.00pm - 7.00pm
Saturday: 10.30am - 1.00pm and 4.00pm - 7.00
or by appointment

www.galleriadelcembalo.it