

In the breath of the elements

Ivana Boris' mode of photographic creation is influenced by a direct, intimate encounter with nature, understood as a coherent, organic system of forces, elements and forms of life. As an international artist, explorer and indefatigable traveller, she constructs her poetics on the basis of air, earth, water and fire in a diversity of permutations. She traverses seas and mountains, forests and glaciers, the human body and trees. [...] They illustrate the infinite longing of romantic "Sehnsucht" which is central to her oeuvre. [...]

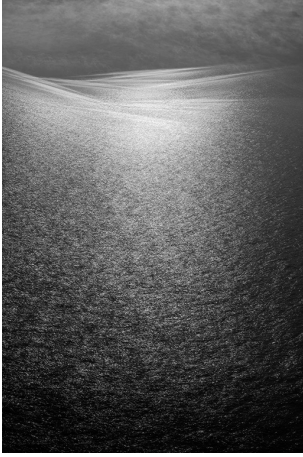
Unlike the formalistic, objective approach taken by the landscape photographer Ansel Adams, Ivana Boris' modus operandi is resolutely subjective, deriving from ongoing physical and spiritual immersions in virgin environments. In her confrontations with landscapes, she seeks the sort of respiration that gives a pulse to each of her images. It may be calm, profound, long, or, in some cases, rapid, syncopated, breathless. [...]

Photographic works from different periods, drawing on investigations into light, cyclical temporality, a connection to the elements and, in particular, trees and the sea. For Boris, trees are the leading actors in the great epic of nature. They are "warriors of light" which, like spiritually mature individuals, reach up to the sky and stretch out their branches to capture the light they need for their survival and beauty. Their breath is also ours, in that, for hundreds of millions of years, they have been enriching the atmosphere with oxygen through the biochemical process of photosynthesis. [...]

Our advanced technologies have led us to believe that we can control and dominate the natural world. We forget that we are, and remain, "children of Mother Nature". Ivana Boris' photography of love constantly reminds us that, contrary to what the naive humanism of the Renaissance would have had us believe, we do not occupy centre stage; rather, our breathing follows the collective rhythm of organisms and natural forces.

Nicola Davide Angerame,
Philosopher, independent exhibition curator
Excerpt from the text, *In the breath of the elements*, October 2021

Iconography, Iconographie, Iconografia



Biographical note

Ivana Boris, artist and photographer. Her work resonates with nature, communing with the elements in osmosis with what cannot be seen by the naked eye, but can be felt.

The great spaces and the beings that inhabit them, the seas, the mountains. Her photographs question the interdependence of the elements, a source of extraordinary energy according to her.

Her images are the result of a concept, they are neither entirely documentary nor purely contemplative. Sometimes enigmatic, they show something other than what is, and the mind gradually discovers what is hidden behind them.

From 2018, Ivana Boris' experimental research related to "Mother Earth" and light has led her to develop new photographic projects, installations and performances, in interaction with other artists, architects and craftsmen.

Born on 15 March 1969 near Milan, Ivana Boris lives in Monaco, her life evolves between land and sea.

Solo exhibitions (selection)

- 2021 *In the breath of the elements*, CFM Indosuez Wealth Management – Monaco
- 2021 *Plantes Stars*, in collaboration with Henri Olivier and Ellia Ascheri : *Jardins d'artistes* (Festival des Jardins de la Côte d'Azur, Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat)
- 2019 *Métanoïa*, Espace photographique de l'Hôtel de Sauroy, Paris
- 2018 *La Vie secrète des hauts*, Autour du Col de Turini, Charles-Nègre Museum of Photography, Nice
- 2018 *Thru Sandhya, Memory of the sea*, De l'air, Nice
- 2016 *Il battito del tempo*, Oceanological Observatory, Villefranche-sur-Mer
- 2016 *Regarder les sons*, Saint-Hospice Chapel, Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat
- 2016 *Il battito del tempo*, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn Museum, Naples
- 2016 *Rituels originels*, Musée international de la Plongée Frédéric-Dumas, Sanary-sur-Mer
- 2015 *Desire for beauty*, Caisse d'épargne Côte d'Azur-Sept Off, Nice
- 2014 *Ivana Boris, Photographies*, Le Cabinet d'images, Draguignan
- 2012 *Visual Sensations*, Espace Asia, Paris
- 2011 *Libya, December 2010*, Espace Soardi, Nice

Group exhibitions (selection)

- 2021 Nocturnes Photographiques. Sept Off – Charles-Nègre Museum of Photography, Nice
- 2020 MonArtisteEtMoi, Maison Abandonnée (Villa Cameline). Nice
- 2018 AIAP UNESCO, Monaco
- 2017 Salon de la Photo, Paris
- 2016 Dramatis Personae, Castel dell'Ovo, Naples
- 2015 Personal Structures, European Cultural Centre, Palazzo Mora, 56th Venice Biennale
- 2013 Sept Off, Mediterranean Photography Festival, Nice
- 2013 MedPhoto Festival, Palazzo Platamone, Catania
- 2012 Premio il segno, Palazzo Zanobio, Venice
- 2011 Potsdam Museum, Potsdam
- 2010 UMAM, Mediterranean Union for Modern Art, Château-Musée Grimaldi, Cagnes
- 2009 Fondazione Rudh, Milan
- 2009 L'Atelier Soardi, Nice
- 2008 Galerie Mendès, Paris
- 2005 Théâtre de la photographie et de l'image, Nice

Prize

- 2019 Artist selected to exhibit at the Monaco Pavilion, Dubai 2020 World Expo
- 2018 Unesco Prize – AIAP Committee for Unesco, Monaco
- 2016 Dramatis Persona Prize Il volto e la figura nell'arte italiana contemporanea, Edition Mondadori, Castel dell'Ovo, Naples, Italy
- 2015 Lucien-Clergue Prize, Sept Off, Mediterranean Photography Festival, Nice
- 2015 Consul'Art Prize – Maison de l'Artisanat et des Métiers d'Art (MAMA), Marseille
- 2014 Prize of the Professional Jury of the Art World – AIAP Committee for Unesco, Monaco
- 2010 Unesco Prize of the AIAP Committee for Unesco, Monaco

Publications

- *La Vie secrète des hauts, Autour du col de Turini*, Éditions De l'air, des livres, 2018
- *Monaco sous la pluie*, Éditions De l'air, des livres, 2018
- *Carnet de voyage*, in collaboration with the Port of Nice, Éditions Medina, 2018
- *Libya, December 2010*, self-published

Art residency :

- 2021 Musée Museum Départemental de GAP – *Restoring the Museum between spirit and matter*
- 2021 Lighthouse Wrac'h Island – IPPA Association. Finistère. Bretagne
- 2022 Lighthouse Wrac'h Island- IPPA Association. Finistère. Bretagne – Sentinels of Light project