

LIS10

Mario Macilau

Rituals, Spirits and Sea

opening Thursday 14 November 2019 | 6.00 pm 14 November, 2019 | 10 January 2020

Lis10 Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of its exhibition site, born from the idea and the need to investigate today's contemporary art with the public. The exhibition proposal includes a series of personal and collective exhibitions of artists, creatives and performers, many of which are renowned to the public, many others known only to those most closely related to the industry, with the aim of creating a meeting place and cultural incubation. The emerging trends and influences of the international and Italian market will be presented, with the objective of contextualizing them, understanding their real quality, and (re)discussing their value.

Lis10 Gallery inaugurates its physical location within the ecosystem of the galleries of *Lambrate Design District*, a post-industrial cultural district of Milan which, having creativity as a development asset, immediately became the perfect location.

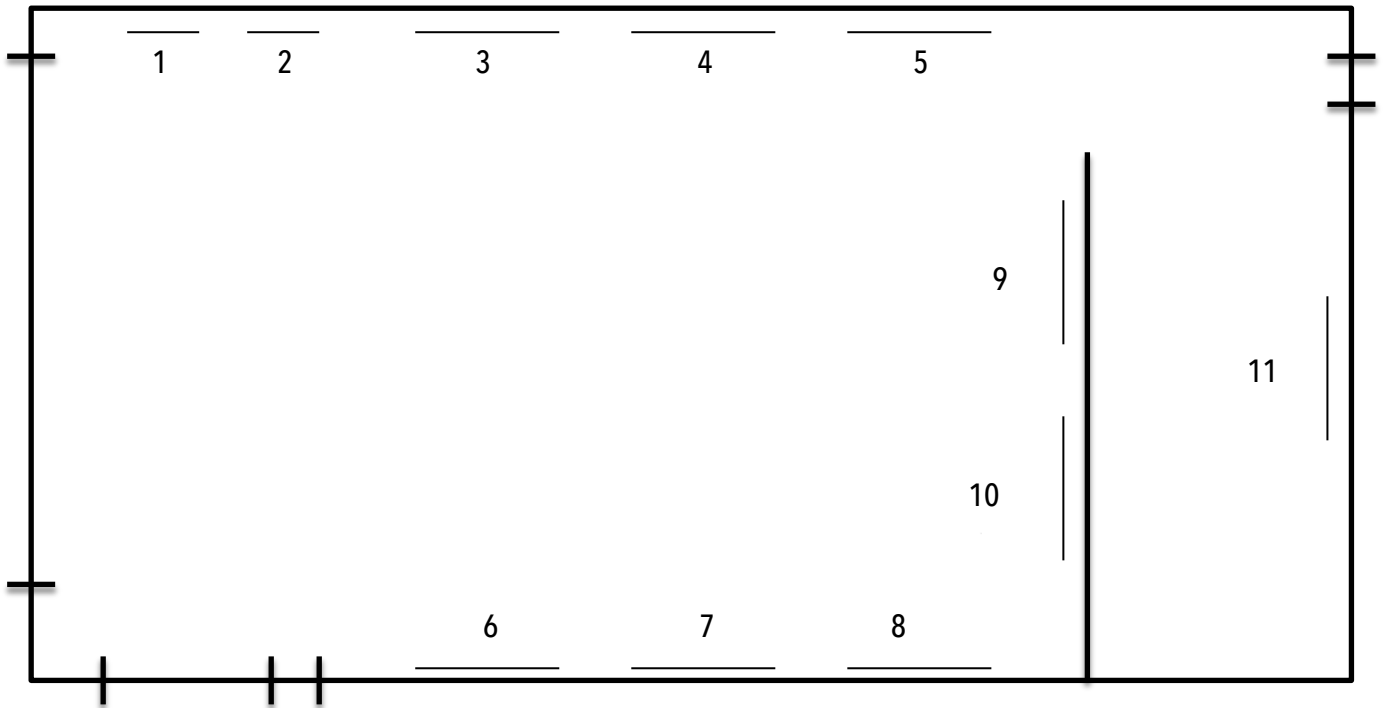
Thursday 14 November 2019 at 6.00 pm the gallery invites the public to its first exhibition which will have as its protagonist the African Art, a young art for the market but in full development and which, after London and Paris, also intrigues museums in Italy, collectors and others, making people discuss.

The artist that we chose is Mario Macilau, a photographer from Mozambique, who through his works restores the dignity of socially isolated groups. Immortalize faces and inhabited places by marginalization and suffering, with the aim of restoring their esteem and respect, as inalienable values. He returns several times to places and people before photographing them, to be able to connect with the subjects and themes that interest them. Through this process, when he photographs, he not only creates images, but transmits a state of mind, that which is perceived beyond injustice.

The exhibition is divided into 10 large-format black and white photographs aimed at investigating the inalienability of hope and dignity. *The Faith* series and a new cycle on water, focus on the *animism* that still exists in Mozambique. In these photos there is no distinction between the object and the man, each element is not random and acts as a link with other dimensions: this is why his photographs show an alternative social complaint, less provocative but more icastic. A real anthropological study about the social abandonment, and not only, that those communities face. A way to protect one's own culture, spreading it in a globalized environment that tends to neutralize origins, folklore and diversity. A multi-purpose reflection that concerns everyone, not just socially isolated groups.

Mario Macilau (born in 1984 in Maputo, Mozambique) He lives and works in Maputo, where he grew up and where since he was a boy he worked on the street and among the faces he is now photographing. His career as a photographer begins in 2003 and becomes professional when in 2007 he exchanges his mother's cell phone with his first camera, then enrolling in the Centro de Formação and Documentação Fotográfica in Maputo. His work has been exhibited in many solo and group exhibitions: in 2016 he was invited to participate in a program and an exhibition with the *United Nations Office* in Geneva, *World Press Photo* and *Universal Rights Group*; only in 2015 he was present at the *56th Venice Biennale*, was included in the *Making Africa exhibition: A Continent of Contemporary Design* by the *Vitra Design Museum*, curated by Amelie Klein with Okwui Enwezor, and was presented at the *Guggenheim Museum* in Bilbao, Spain. Other noteworthy exhibitions are *Pangea: New Art from Africa and Latin America*, at the Saatchi Gallery in London in 2014; *Tempo Galeria Belo-Galsterer*, Lisbon, 2013; *Dak'art Biennial OFF*, Dakar, 2012; *Rencontres de Bamako*, Bamako 2011. Macilau's work has also received numerous awards including the *European Union Award for Environment* (2015), *UNESCO-Aschberg Bursary for Visual Arts* (2014).

DIDASCALIE



1
Untitled
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x80

2
Shiman Khan
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x80

3
Boys with fish I & II
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

4
Cacilda Mavie, 63
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

5
Jojo Alfredo
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

6
Zacarias and Raul Chibanza
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

7
Faith in the school
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

8
Untitled
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

9
A Crucifix Chest
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

10
A Candle Man
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120

11
Carla Ferreira, 36
2015/2019
pigmented inkjet on cotton paper
cm 80x120