Blind Vision by Annalaura di Luggo

The Istituto Statale d'Istruzione Superiore Paolo Colosimo, an educational center for blind and visually impaired people in Naples, Italy, will inaugurate the photo-performative project **Blind Vision**, by artist **Annalaura di Luggo**, on Thursday, April the 27th at 5 p.m. The project, curated by **Raisa Clavijo**, is part of *Maggio dei Monumenti di Napoli* 2017 official program, and received the patronage of Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Unione Italiana Ciechi NPO (Napoli) and the *Matronato* ("Matronage") of Fondazione Donnaregina per le arti contemporanee in Naples.

The artist worked with 20 people from the Associazione Teatro Colosimo and the Italian Union of Blind and Partially Sighted People (UICI) in Naples to explore, through physical and tactile approaches, the inner universe of individuals who use an alternative way to perceive the world.

For many years, **Annalaura di Luggo** has focused her artistic research on rediscovering and emphasizing the uniqueness of each human being through a creative process that involves photography and social research techniques. She starts with a performance in which she uses macrophotography resources to capture the image of the iris of each of the subjects who takes part in her interactions. The iris, which is unique to each human being, becomes a symbol of identity in di Luggo's iconography. Then, she develops a close and empathic conversation with the subject, in which she delves into his or her personality, feelings, thoughts and points of view about different topics.

Blind Vision aims to sensitize the whole community towards who have been deprived of sight in order to promote social and cultural integration.

"Through **Blind Vision**, **Annalaura di Luggo** continues her artistic research into exploring the foundations of human thought and behavior in contemporary society," curator **Raisa Clavijo** said. "Her creative process rescues photography not only as a resource to document reality but also as a tool to develop visual metaphors. The results of **Blind Vision** shouldn't be perceived only as 'works of art,' as they lead us to a sublime experience of personal growth based on human interaction."

The project includes:

- The multimedia installation *Blind Vision* by Annalaura di Luggo (sound design Paky Di Maio, curated by Raisa Clavijo)
- **Essence**, a tactile, three-dimensional artwork created by **Analaura di Luggo** to be perceived by blind and visually impaired people
- The photography exhibition "A Journey of Light", which documents the artist's creative process (photos by Sergio Siano, curated by Raisa Clavijo)
- The documentary *Blind Vision* directed by Nanni Zedda, subtitled in English. It includes a piano performance by Ivan Dalia (watch the teaser at https://youtu.be/ZIXcgYwm6YI). Screenings will take place at the baroque theatre of Istituto Colosimo.
- The book *Blind Vision*, which describes the journey of Annalaura di Luggo and the people she worked with. A section is focused on the history of the Institute Colosimo from 1916 to today. (Edited by Raisa Clavijo. Italian and English languages. It is also available as an audio book.)
- Blind Vision educational materials

Program

 Press Preview: Wednesday, April 26, 11 a.m. Istituto Colosimo, Via Santa Teresa degli Scalzi 36, Napoli. Guided tours of *Blind Vision* by the students of the Istituto Colosimo and screening of the eponymous documentary. Journalists are invited to a Blind Cocktail (cocktail in total darkness) served by the students of the Istituto Colosimo. Vernissage: Thursday, April 27, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Istituto Colosimo, Via Santa Teresa degli Scalzi 36, Napoli. By invitation only. Free admission. Guided tours. Each tour includes a visit to the multimedia installation *Blind Vision*, led by the students of Istituto Colosimo, and a screening of the eponymous documentary. Tours hours: 17:30 / 18:15 / 19:00 / 19:45 / 20:30 / 21:15. Reservations required.

 <u>Blind Dinner: April 28, 8:00 p.m. Istituto Colosimo</u>, Via Santa Teresa degli Scalzi 36, Napoli. For vernissage guests (maximum 60 people). Dinner will be served by the students of the Istituto Colosimo. Reservations required.

Vernissage and Blind Dinner reservations before April 18: Through the registration form at the website www.annalauradiluggo.com, adiluggoart@gmail.com, or Tel. + 39 342 0848384.

<u>Exhibition open to the public: Entire month of May.</u> Istituto Colosimo, Via Santa Teresa degli Scalzi 36, Napoli. Admission by donation. All proceeds will be used to support the Associazione Teatro Colosimo. Each tour includes a visit to *Blind Vision*, led by the students of Istituto Colosimo, and a screening of the eponymous documentary.
Tours are available Monday to Friday mornings for booked groups and schools, as well as at 17:00 and 18:00; Saturday mornings at 10:00 and 11:00, as well as at 12:00, 16:00, 17:00 and 18:00; and Sunday mornings at 10:00 and 11:00, as well as at noon. Reservations required.

A program of **Blind Dinners** is scheduled during the month of May. The meals will be served by the students of Istituto Colosimo. Hours: Friday evenings in May and varied for special programs; capacity: 30 to 50 people; **reservations** accepted until seven days before the exhibition. On May 10 "**Blind wine tasting**" in cooperation with Wine&Thecity and Ais Napoli.

For reservations, email adiluggoart@gmail.com or call +39 342 0848384.

Press contacts:

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Artist's Biography

Annalaura di Luggo (1970) was born in Naples, Italy, where she lives and works.

Solo Shows: USA, New York, Kennedy, show and shooting private event; Italy, <u>Castellammare Medieval Castle</u> "MOVIsion" Gala Cinema Fiction; Italy, <u>Genoa 56th International Boat Show</u> "Sea Visions, 7 Viewpoints"; Germany, <u>Museo Università di Heidelberg</u>: "Change Stimulus" Italy, <u>Naples, Juvenile Nisida prison - permanent exhibition</u>: "Never Give Up. The Donation" curated by Guido Cabib; Principality of Monaco, <u>Monte-Carlo Salle des Etoiles</u> curated by Guido Cabib; USA, <u>Miami White Dot Gallery</u>; Italy, <u>Milan, Monte Paschi di Siena</u>; Expo event; Italy, <u>Milan, Fondazione Le Stelline</u>; vernissage and conference "occh-IO/Eye-I mirror of the soul, a journey between science and faith";

Italy, <u>Milan, The Format Gallery</u>, curated by Guido Cabib;

Italy, <u>Turin, The Others Fair</u> "Never Give Up"/, Special Project, curated by Guido Cabib;

Group Shows:

USA, <u>New York Scope Art fair</u> curated by Naif International gallery

USA, Mami Art Basel - Scope Miami Beach curated by Naif International Gallery

USA, Boca Raton, Florida, "Journeys," curated by Raisa Clavijo;

Italy, <u>Reggio Calabria</u> "Questa casa non è un albergo" curated by Giuseppe Capparelli