## Artist's statement

**Annalaura di Luggo** comments: "I dedicated my artistic research to photographing people's eyes to rediscover and enhance the uniqueness of every human being. When I shoot the iris, I develop a very deep interview with the person I interact with that transfers into me a trace of his or her life and enriches my soul.

**Blind Vision** is an important step in my research, because I chose to put myself in the shoes of visually impaired people to try to understand what it means to have the darkness ahead.

Not being able to share a gaze, I established a physical contact with my new friends, and hand in hand they drove me to an exciting journey. It led me to discover alternative ways of perceiving the world.

I wanted this project to stimulate cultural and social inclusion of blind and visually impaired people and to propose a supportive vision.

I was afraid of finding a hopeless darkness, and yet it was a journey of light that enriched my soul.

I was struck by the strong vitality, balance and wisdom I have perceived in many people I met, who have been a source of inspiration for me. They taught me the value of a smile as a weapon to face the difficulties.

They live as everyone else, and they made me understand that the darkness does not exist, because the light, before it is outside, is inside of us.

My choice to photograph the eyes of the blind can be considered an intrusive gesture, but it is a wonderful discovery of alternative worlds, such as the blue and yellow eye of Annaclara, who I have chosen as the symbol of the *Blind Vision* project."

Curator **Raisa Clavijo** comments, "Through *Blind Vision*, **Annalaura di Luggo** continues her artistic research that explores the foundations of human thought and behavior in contemporary society. Her creative process relies on 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."