

2018



2023

Perspicere

Fabio Barile

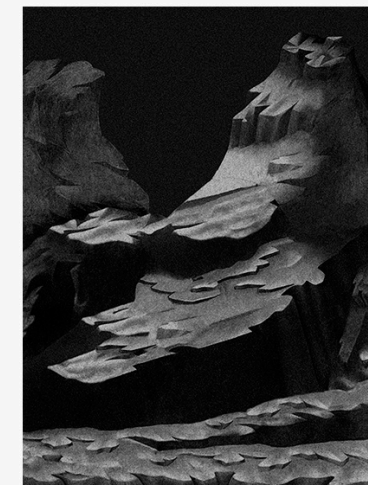
The series focuses on the representation of nature in some history’s most iconic Artworks. Starting from frescoes by Paolo Uccello, Beato Angelico and Giotto, where rock formations and landscapes are depicted as a background for religious representations. I manipulated digitally the works, eliminating the main subjects in the foreground and reconstructing the landscape behind it; thus making it the sole subject and redirecting the reading of the artwork towards geology.

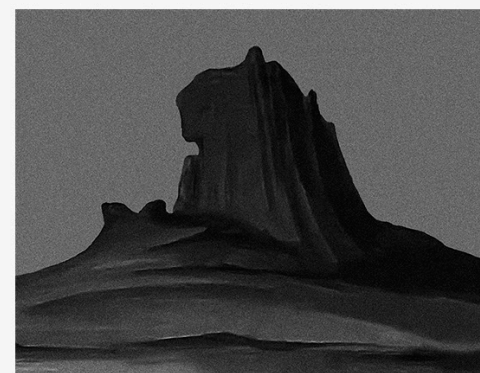
The first time I saw the Annunciation by Leonardo Da Vinci at the Uffizi, my gaze did not focus on the Angel or on the Madonna, but on the natural elements present in the painting. The perspective leads the eye unequivocally towards the mountains in the background. The trees and plants in the painting seem to be catalogued and analysed by type and form; an aspect also evident in the work “Art forms in nature” by Karl Blossfeldt.

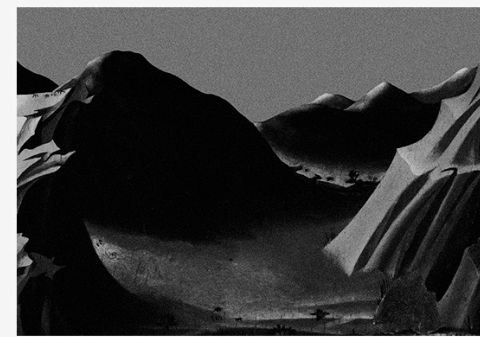
Leonardo uses the Annunciation and many of his works as a vehicles to express and deepen his studies on geology, botany, anatomy and meteorology. During the Renaissance, perspective represented a new philosophical method and approach to nature. Persipecere, from the Latin “to see trough”, expresses the intention of going visually beyond the subject, encouraging a deeper reading and analysis of history and our relationship with landscape.

Subsequently to my digital manipulation, the works return to the cornerstone of my photographic practice by being re-photographed with a large format camera.

The result are small poems dedicated to the relationship between imagined and objective geology.

















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Graduating from FSM in Florence with a degree in photography in 2007. He started his photographic research in 2005 with a project about coastal erosion, which affects 1500 km of Italian costline. The resulting project, “Among” aimed to investigate natural processes of the landscape. Over the last few years Barile’s work has been driven by an interest in science in relation to art - both conceived as tools for a better understanding of reality. His long-term project, “An Investigation of the Laws Observable in the Composition, Dissolution and Restoration of Land,” examines the manner in which geomorphology acts upon the land, serving as testimony to the vastness of geological time. The work employs photography to stimulate a deeper understanding of the landscape and our connection with the natural environment.

“At first glance, Fabio Barile’s practice could be said to follow in the long tradition of Italian landscape photography which includes practitioners such as Luigi Ghirri, Guido Guidi. On closer inspection, however, the images in An Investigation hew to a tight conceptual framework that belie their simplicity, asking deeper questions about the nature of Time, and geologic time questions whose philosophical implications underpin scientific endeavor, human perception, and the unknowable forces of creative destruction at work in Nature”I. I.Naomi Itami

Selected exhibitions

- 2024

The Secret of the Deep Time,
Verwey Museum, Haarlem, The Netherlands
Works for a Cosmic Feeling,
Witty Books, Turin
- 2023

Tre-di-ci ,Sguardi sui musei di Lombardia (Group exhibition)
Palazzo Reale, Milano, Italy
- 2022

Fabio Barile & Domingo Milella — Le Forme del Tempo
Terme di Diocleziano, Museo Nazionale Romano, Rome, Italy
Regeneration (Group exhibition)
American Academy in Rome, Italy
Di Roccia, fuochi e avventure sotterranee (Group exhibition)
MAXXI, L'Aquila, Italy
- 2021

Di Roccia, fuochi e avventure sotterranee (Group exhibition)
MAXXI, Rome, Italy
Works for a Cosmic Feeling
Matèria, Rome, Italy
- 2020

Group exhibition, On Earth - Imaging, technology and the natural world

FOAM Museum, Amsterdam.

- 2019

Group exhibition, On Earth - Imaging, technology and the natural world
50th edition of the Rencontres d'Arles, in collaboration with FOAM Museum.
Fabio Barile & Domingo Milella - The shape of time
Centro Arti visive Pescheria, Pesaro, Italy
- 2018

Osservare la terra — a dialogue between contemporary photography and the historical archive of ICCD about photography as a tool for observation
ICCD — Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo e la Documentazione, Rome, curated by Benedetta Cestelli Guidi
- 2017

An Investigation of the laws observable in the composition, dissolution and restoration of land,
Matèria, Rome
- 2015

Homage to James Hutton
Matèria, Rome, Italy

Publications

Works for a Cosmic Feeling — Witty Books 2024
Di roccia fuochi e avventure sotterranee — Quodlibet/Ghella, 2020
Fabio Barile & Domingo Milella, The shape of time — Fondazione malaspina edition, 2019
Fabio Barile & Francesco Neri, Middle-Earth a journey inside Elica — Fondazione malaspina edition, 2014
Vision And Documents Box, — Documentary Platform, 2010
Diary N° o - Things that do not happen — 3/3, 2009