

MAI 36 GALERIE

JACOPO BENASSI

Born 1970 in La Spezia, Italy.
Lives and works La Spezia, Italy.

Over the years, he has developed a personal style in which depth of field is eliminated and the light of the flash becomes a signature, a stylistic limit that he self-imposes to achieve photos that are raw and without any mediation. The subjects photographed are highly disparate ranging from the underground and international music scene – starting from his experience at the B-Tomic club, which he manages with some friends – to portraits of models, actresses, artists, designers published in the most important magazines, as well as investigations of the body, including self-portraits, documentation of sexual encounters, and ancient statuary. Benassi is also occasionally a performer and musician. His experimentation with performance is always linked to music and is mediated by the photographic image, the subject and object of his research.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *EDEN*, Mai 36 Galerie, Zurich
 LIBERO!, Palazzo Ducale, Genoa
- 2024 *Sàlvati Salvàti*, Galleria Francesca Minini, Milan
 AUTORITRATTO CRIMINALE, GAM Turin
- 2023 *Vuoto*, Franciscaines Museum, Festival of Photography, Deauville
 Serenata Agitata, Una Boccata d'Arte, Gardone Riviera
- 2022 *MATRICE*, Fondazione Carispezia, La Spezia
- 2021 *PAST*, Francesca Minini Gallery, Milan
- 2020 *VUOTO*, Pecci Centre, Prato
- 2019 *CRACK*, double exhibition at CAMERA – Italian Centre for Photography in
 Turin and at the European Photography Festival, Reggio Emilia
 Bologna Portraits at Palazzo Bentivoglio, Bologna
- 2009 *FotoGrafia* - International Festival of Rome
- 2007 *Vade retro*. Art and homosexuality from von Gloeden to Pierre et Gilles at
 Palazzina Reale, Florence
- 2006/7 *Artissima*, Turin
- 2005 *Aphotography* at the Changing Role Gallery, Napoli

MAI 36 GALERIE

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *Taipei Biennial 2025 – Whispers on the Horizon*, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan
To Vincent: A Winter's Tale, Fondation Vincent van Gogh Arles, France
- 2024 *SilenzioSuono: SoundSilence*, GAM, Turin
- 2023 *THE CHIMERA COMPLEX*, Mai 36 Galerie, Zurich
- 2018 *Facing the camera*, Centro Luigi Di Sarro, Roma
Is It My Body?, Francesca Minini, Milan

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 *Matrice*, Fondazione Carispezia in La Spezia
- 2020 *FAGS*, NERO Editions
- 2019 *Bologna Portraits*, Jacopo Benassi & Antonio Grulli

He has worked with directors and writers such as Paolo Sorrentino, Daniele Cipri, Asia Argento, and Maurizio Maggiani, and with creative director Federico Pepe (for COCO, a music and videoart project, and for publications by Le Dictateur). In 2011 he opened Talkinass - Paper and Records and produced magazines and live CDs of artists on the underground scene. An active self-publisher, he has created limited-edition publications and a magazine produced in real time at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris. He has participated in events such as No Soul for Sale (2010) at the Tate Modern in London, curated by Maurizio Cattelan and Massimiliano Gioni. Recently, he has concentrated on creating performative and photographic displays based on Live Shooting, resulting in the solo show Hunt me down (2021) and collaborations with some protagonists of the Italian performance, visual, and music scene: Lady Maru for Brutal Casual (2020), Kinkaleri for No Title Yet (2017) and ONCE MORE (2020), Sissi for Rollers (2019). In 2009, the 1861 United Agency published The Ecology of Image, a large monograph of Benassi's works. He also published the photographic books FAGS (NERO, 2020), Dying in Venice (Bruno, 2015), Bologna Portraits (Damiani, 2019), Mis Q Lee (Quinlan, 2018), and Gli aspetti irrilevanti (Mondadori, 2016) with Paolo Sorrentino. He released the LPs ONCE MORE with Kinkaleri (Xing, 2021) and Benassi plays Benassi (2019), a sonic and photographic self-documentation of his body, with remix by Khan of Finland and Jochen Arbeit. He has worked with numerous magazines in Italy and abroad, such as: Rolling Stone, GQ, Wired italia, Wired U.S.A, Riders, 11 Freunde, Crush Fanzine, Dapper Dan, Vice, Almaviva/Le Figaro, Gioia, and Purple.fr.