

Founded in Paris in 2002 by Giorgia Fiorio, Reflexions Masterclass is an international workshop investigating the evolution of the language of visual representation and contemporary photography and an intercultural observatory upon our times. Over 10 years and 30 meetings RM has been hosted by 25 different institutions and has accompanied the formation of 61 award winning young artists-photographers issuing from 23 countries from the world over.

### **Master-guests**

The two-year masterclass permanent curators are Gabriel Bauret and Giorgia Fiorio as art director; also invited to participate in each of the meetings are two master-guests from the international cultural scene. Past master-guests include: Ricardo Davila Wood, Bernard Plossu, Mimmo Jodice, Giovanna Calvenzi, Sylvaine Lecœur, Zeynep Gursel, Laurence Leblanc, Robert Y. Pledge, Lia Nalbantidou, Don McCullin, Renata Ferri, Mario Peliti, Roberta Valtorta, Christian Caujolle, Margot Klingsporn, Gabriele Basilico, Marco Finazzi, Stephen Dupont, Régis Debray, Benoît Rivero, Jean-Luc Monterosso, Ferdinando Scianna, Klavdij Sluban, Martin Bethenod, Joan Fontcuberta, Dewi Lewis.

### **Artistic orientation and themes assigned**

Each meeting unfolds as a collective interactive review session of each of the works presented, in a dialectical discussion between master-guests and students. Students present the evolution of their ongoing projects and the execution of an assigned theme, which differs each time. Students work freely on the themes, according to their own sensitivity and expressive language. The themes assigned are to be developed over the four months between each of the meetings and may either be integrated with the projects under way, or carried out as independent works.

Past themes have included: "Fear," "Vertigos", "The Mirror Image", "The Five Senses", "Violence", "Time", "Space: Where are You? Where is Where", "The Event", "Freedom", "Fake", "The Human Body", "Even", "H2O", "Faces", "Borders", "Utopia", "Identity", "NO", "Silence".

### **How it works**

The masterclass unfolds over six meetings – one every four months – over a two-year period, i.e. three meetings lasting two days per year; meetings take place in February, June and October.

The course is free and acceptance is exclusively by nomination and contest. No more than fifteen students are accepted; students must be of legal age, and there are no restrictions as to provenance. Candidates may be nominated for examination by the selection jury, which is made up as follows: the artistic direction GF and GB, invited past and present master-guests, a representative of the host institute, former students and/or second-year students, members of the Board of Directors and/or members who have been awarded with this privilege.

## **Institutions**

Meetings of the masterclass do not have a permanent venue and are hosted at European locations, which differ each time, and include: museums, theatres, public institutions, schools, festivals and other sites, sharing its same intents. Each of the institutions receives a photographic essay of its structure and all those operating there, produced by the students in the masterclass.

To date, RM has been hosted at Contact Press Images Photojournalistic Agency in Paris, France; Festival Rencontres Photographiques de la Sud Gironde in Bordeaux, France; Museo Castello Ducale in Corigliano Calabro, Italy; Pinacoteca Provinciale di Bari, Italy; Archivio Parisio in Naples, Italy; Thessaloniki Photobiennale, Thessaloniki, Greece; Accademia delle Belle Arti di Lecce, Italy; Ostkreuzschule, Berlin, Germany; Museo di Fotografia Contemporanea Cinisello Balsamo, Italy; Italian Institute of Culture in Paris, France; Provincia di Roma Palazzo Incontro, Rome, Italy; Reportage Atri Festival, Italy; Gran Teatro La Fenice, Venice, Italy; Actes Sud Editions, Arles, France; Novartis AG Basel, Switzerland; Maison Européenne de la Photographie MEP, Paris, France; Fondazione di Venezia, Venice, Italy; Istituto Nazionale per la Grafica – Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Palazzo Poli / Fontana di Trevi, Rome.

## **Conditions**

The two-year masterclass offers each of the hosting institutions a collective photographic essay concerning the host structure. Institutional work is carried out by volunteer photographers during the 2/3 days successive to the masterclass. The institutions receive from 3 to 5 photographs for each of the participating students. The institutions may make whatever use of a cultural nature they wish of the photographic material, but they cannot use it for commercial purposes. As compensation the institutions will cover expenses for board over the 2 days of the masterclass, and the 2/3 days successive to the seminar during which the institutional work is carried out. Those students who do not take part in the institutional work must pay for their own expenses.

The images are selected by the artistic direction GF and GB; they are then presented to the institutions in the form of digital files, and a presentation book layout – IW (Institutional Work) mini-book – by RM's Artistic Direction. Anything further – photography exhibitions, books, multimedia, and so on – shall involve an agreement between the institutions, the art director and the permanent curator, in consideration of deadlines and funding available.

Should any form of collaboration with educational institutions arise, the RMNPO will offer two visiting students the opportunity to take part in the meetings and activities of the seminar.

## **Photographers**

Ying Ang, Salvatore Arnone, Martina Bacigalupo, Marc Beckmann, Guia Besana, Fabrizio Bonfanti, Loran Bonnardot, Marina Cavazza, Virginie Chibau, Gianni Cipriano, Pierre Clauss, Melania Comoretto, Anne-Lise Cornet / Modi, Martin Cregg, Annalisa D'Angelo, Sumit Dayal, Daniele Delaini, Alexandra

Demenkova, Edouard De Pazzis, Anna Di Prospero, Walter D'Ottavi, Laura El-Tantawy, Torkil Faerø, Bruno Fert, Arianna Forcella, Simona Ghizzoni, Stefano Giogli, Federica Giorgetti, Nicolò Giudice, Chiara Goia, Hirotaka Hashimoto, Olga Hoffman, Yian Huang, Emilie Hudig, Marinde Hurenkamp, Alessandro Imbriaco, Ikuru Kuwajima, Minny Lee, Sean Lee, Emile Loreaux, Sirio Magnabosco, Giovanni Melillo, Patrick Mourral, Francesco Patriarca, Pietro Paolini, Alice Pavesi, Elena Perlino, Franco Pierno, Giovanni Presutti, Grégoire Pujade-Lauraine, Alisa Resnik, Marta Sarlo, Leslie Searles, Yusuf Sevinçli, Miki Soejima, Ali Taptik, Leah Tepper-Byrne, Achilleas Tilegrafos, Gianfranco Tripodo, Gihan Tubbeh, Cristina Vatielli, Francesca Vergnano, Saana Wang.

### **Represented Countries**

Australia, Canada, China, Korea, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Japan, Kazakhstan, India, Ireland, Italy, Lebanon, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Turkey.

### **Next Meetings 2011**

**October 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Lugano, Switzerland**, the masterclass is hosted by the Dicastero Giovani ed Eventi Università di Lugano; Master guest: professor Victor Stoichita and in wait for confirmation of the Artist Master guest.

### **Next Meetings 2012**

**February 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 2012 Paris, France**, the masterclass is hosted by Palais de Tokyo; Master guest: professor Carlo Ossola and in wait for confirmation of the Artist Master guest.