

# Marco Delogu

## *Cattività/Captivity*

**Opening:** Thursday October 7, 2004 6 p.m.  
**Studio Stefania Miscetti**  
**Via delle Mantellate 14**  
**tel/fax: 06 6880 5880, e-mail: mistef@iol.it**

**close:** **Saturday Novembre 6, 2004**

**open:** **from Tuesday to Saturday 4p.m. • 8p.m.**

Studio Stefania Miscetti presents a selection of works from *Cattività/Captivity*, a project by the Italian photographer Marco Delogu.

*Cattività* is a series of photographic portraits taken inside Rebibbia, a Roman jail, from 1998 to 2003.

The exhibition at Studio Miscetti will also feature the most recent colour portraits of female prisoners.

Marco Delogu lives and works in Rome, where he was born in 1960.

Delogu's research focuses on groups of people who share the same experience and language. The subjects of his works come from the artist's personal experience. Thus, the cardinals' portraits (shown within the exhibition *Cardinali/Cardinals*, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Roma, 2001) are inspired from his archbishop uncle and his alienation from his own family that abandoned the catholic community to embrace communism; portraits of jockeys come from his passion-obsession for horse races (exhibited within the show *I Trenta assassini / The Thirty Murderers*, Palazzo Pubblico di Siena, 2000); the interest for countrymen's portraits comes from the tales on Delogu's grandfather, a Sardinian farmer, and from his father's studies on malaria (*Testa-Tera*, Studio Mezzaluna, Roma, 1994). Finally, his photographs featuring contemporary composers inspired by the uniqueness of modern musical language, hardly understood by most people (*Portraits de compositeurs/Compositors' Portraits*, Centre George Pompidou, Paris, 1996, and *Villa Medici*, French Academy, Rome, 1997).

The project of *Cattività* starts from the Seventies' obsession for jail, when a great number of people experienced prison for political reasons. The jail code blends with all the different prisoners personalities.

The entire cycle of *Cattività* will be published by **Bruno Mondadori**, with a text by Edoardo Albinati.

*Marco showed me his shots taken in jail. I know very well at least half of the prisoners he photographed. Looking at them through Marco's eyes, they look older than they really are, or, at least, to me they look that way. Probably his camera captured something really close to their true existence, faithful to reality because detached, neutral, silvery, a truth that I was unable to perceive in my day-to-day connection with them.*

*The warmth, the movements, the immediate vitality deceive us, producing an illusory twist. It is the same mental distortion that brings some people to believe that prison is a place of strong, sane healthy, and true feelings (nothing is more mistaken than this). Who really are this characters with grey hair, shaved at two millimetres from the skull? With hallucinated face, cut by the blackness of the eyebags? They are ghosts more than men, middle-age phantoms, or spectres that are all too human, dressed in jogging suites, trained to obtain nothing, prematurely buried, old without the dignity of old age. Surely, from these pictures they look what they will be in the future. They must appear as they really are right now. These portraits disturb me greatly with the coexistence of distance and closeness to the subjects: they are premonitions, prophecies.* Edoardo Albinati

## Marco Delogu

Marco Delogu was born in Rome in 1960, where he lives and works.

### Solo shows

2003	"SPQR", Fabio Sargentini, L'Attico, Rome
2002	"Senex", Ala Mazzoniana, Rome
2001	"Cardinali", Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome
2000	"I trenta assassini", Palazzo Pubblico, Siena
1999-2000	"Cattività", Galleria Comunale Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Rome
1999	"I dieci assassini", Galleria Equilibri Precari, Rome
1997	"Mare o Monti ", Galleria AAM, Rome
	"Compositori", Accademia di Francia, Villa Medici, Rome
1996	"Portrait de compositeurs ", IRCAM, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris
	"Ritratti Etruschi", Museo Etrusco, Grotte di Castro
	"Fuori Tutti", Galleria Colonna, Rome
1995	"Ritratti Romani", Warburg Institute, London
	"Nature", Galleria Acta International, Rome
	"Marco Delogu", Istituto Italiano di Cultura, London
1994	"Ritratti Romani", Galleria La Nuova Pesa, Rome
	"Testa-tera. I contadini veneti e la bonifica laziale", Studio Mezzaluna, Rome
1991	"Marco Delogu", Ambasciata di Francia, Palazzo Farnese, Rome
1989	"Mémoires d'Hadrien", interpretazione fotografica del libro di Marguerite Yourcenar, Galleria Navona del Centro Culturale Francese, Rome, and Galleria del Centro Culturale Francese, Palermo
1987	"Frammenti di un discorso amoroso", photographic interpretation of Barthes Galleria Navona, Centro Culturale Francese, Rome

### Collectives

2002	"L'antenato", a cura di Philippe Daverio con Sandro Chia, Daniel Spoerri, Sebastian Matta, Galleria Phenix Etrusca, Capalbio, settembre-novembre
1995	"Photographing Sculpture: from Fox Talbot to the Present Day", The Strange Print Room, University College (London), and Henry Moore Foundation, Leeds
	"Comme dans un Miroir/As in a looking glass", Musée de l'Elisée, Losanna

### Selection of Publication

"Marco Delogu" (Fazi, Roma 1994), "Fuori Tutti"(Einaudi, Torino 1996), "Compositori" (editions IRCAM-Centre Georges Pompidou, Roma-Parigi 1997), "Cattività" (Stampa Alternativa, Roma 1999), "I trenta assassini"(Graffiti, Roma 2000), "Nature"(Graffiti&Stampa Alternativa, Roma 2000), "Cardinali" (Bruno Mondadori, Milano 2001), "Senex"(Leonardo International, Milano 2002)\_Libri/Books, "Photofinish"(a cura di M. Delogu e M. Reale) vol.2 (Punctum, Roma 2004),"I trenta assassini/The thirty assassins", (Punctum, Roma, 2004).