

San Vigilio - Garda

RIVIERA

RESTAURANT

ART, HISTORY AND DESIGN

The Riviera restaurant is located in a long, narrow house that used to accommodate servants in the long-ago heyday of the aristocracy. Today, three centuries later, after a sublime restoration, this unique place in the world is once again resplendent, happy to be back at the centre of the lives of all the guests who choose it. Alongside the chef's constant search for excellent raw materials, works are sought by extraordinary artists and artisans, some still to be discovered and celebrated, for exhibition here at the Riviera.

The two rooms house an art collection that unfolds through three great themes and symbols: vessel, memory and texture.

The artefacts are linked with respect and eclecticism to the beauty of the place, with the aim of making it a crossroads of artistic disciplines that are usually far apart: ancient Greek and Roman sculpture, literature, contemporary photography, crafts, fibre art and wood art.

THE VESSEL

At the Riviera Restaurant:

Photo by **Gianni Berengo Gardin**

The studio of Giorgio Morandi

Morandine by **Salvatori di Querceta**



Riviera restaurant above: Gianni Berengo Gardin - The studio of Giorgio Morandi, Bologna 1993 - silver salt print - 30 x 40 cm - signed, titled, dated and stamped on the back. In the fireplace: Salvatori di Querceta's Morandine.

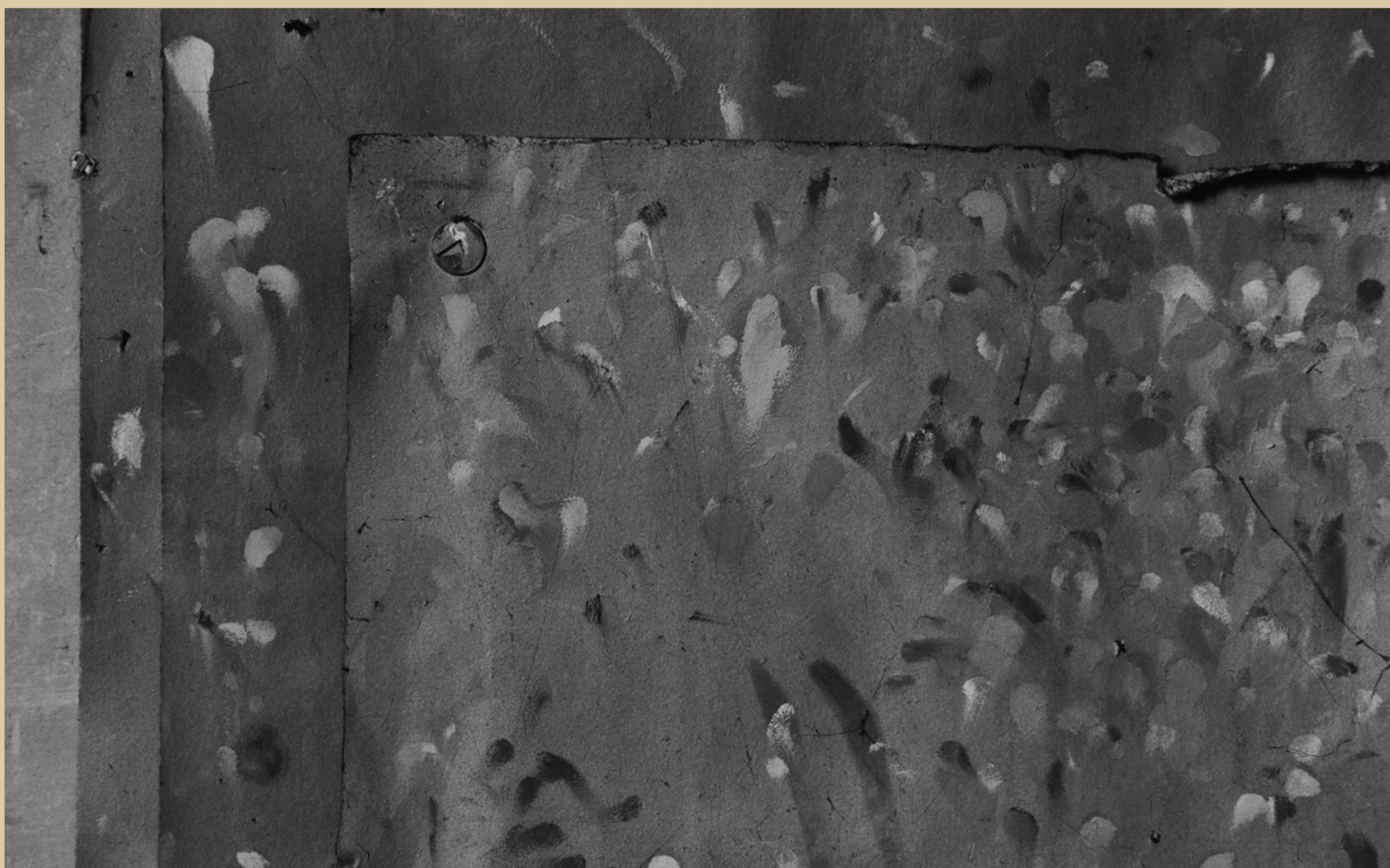
The theme of the vessel immediately takes us back to the dawn of humanity and the first attempts to preserve, collect and defend from time and decay what is precious, an ingredient, a medicine, the remains of those who are no longer with us. This is why, in the fireplace of the Riviera Restaurant, there are the splendid Morandine, conceptual works in the style of Giorgio Morandi, created in the most precious marble by **Salvatori di Querceta**, vessels that pay homage to the great painter, whose studio was immortalised for eternity by the lens of **Gianni Berengo Gardin**. Like a conversation suspended in time, the exciting shots of the photographer (Venetian but born during a holiday in Liguria!) are hung on the walls of the rooms, giving guests the feeling of being in the studio where Morandi created his inimitable pictorial poetry.



Gianni Berengo Gardin
 The studio of Giorgio Morandi - Bologna 1993
 silver salt print
 30 x 40 cm
 signed, titled, dated and stamped on the back



At the Riviera restaurant: Gianni Berengo Gardin - The studio of Giorgio Morandi, Bologna 1993 - silver salt print - 30 x 40 cm - signed, titled, dated and stamped on the back.



Gianni Berengo Gardin
 The studio of Giorgio Morandi - Bologna 1993
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THE MEMORY

At the Riviera Restaurant:

First Italian edition of the book
“The Memoirs of Hadrian the Emperor”

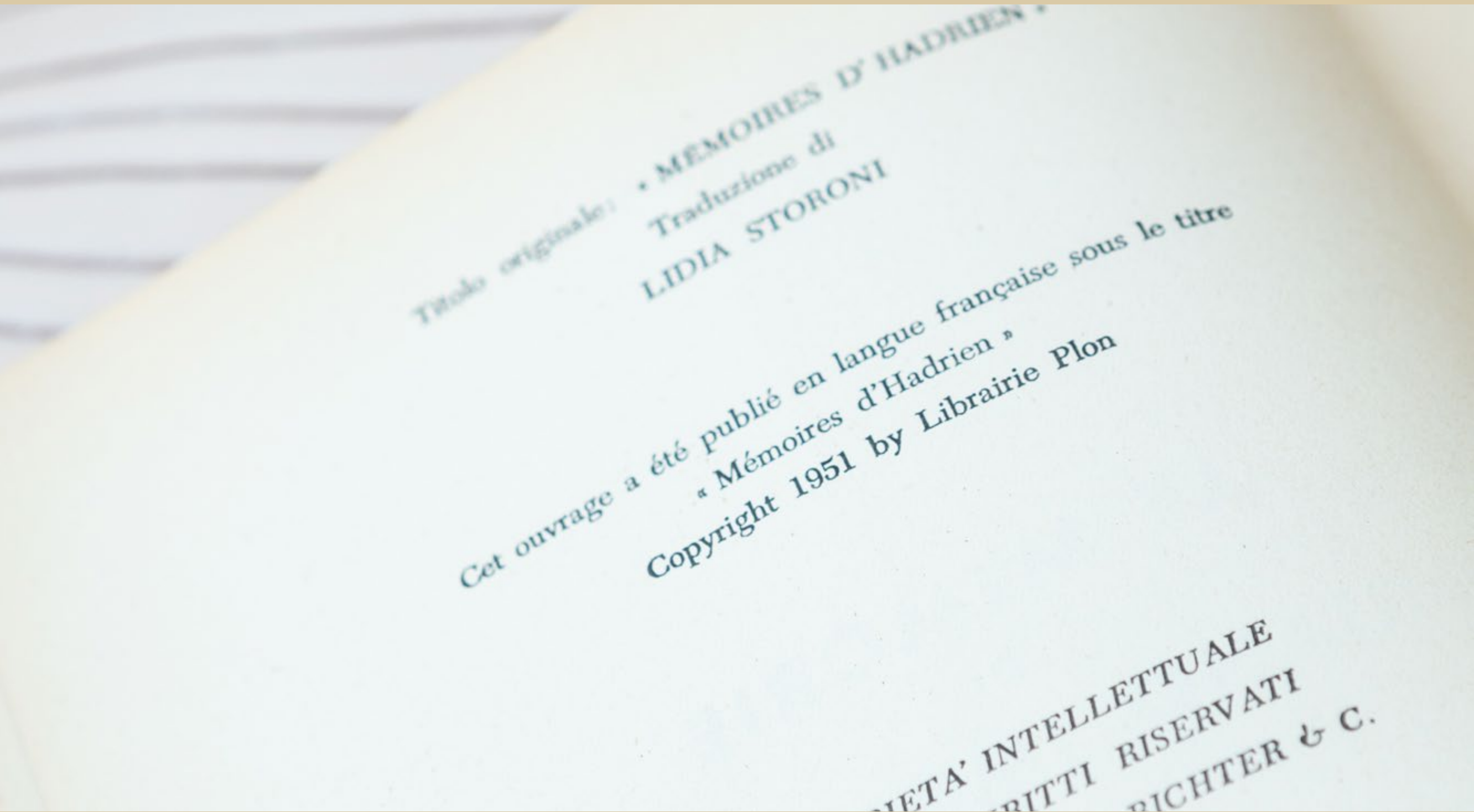
Marguerite Yourcenar photographed by **Paola Agosti**

Marble Head of Hadrian

Works of **Cantieri Creativi** from the
“Deconfinement” collection

Mario Dondero, *The Man Who Wanted to Reach the Moon*,
May Festival, Accettura-Lucania 1993

Memory – understood as the root, the living witness to the spirit of life but also nourishment of the future – is expressed with a reference to the emperor Hadrian, whose face is sculpted in a marble head from the second century A.D. Nearby, the smiling gaze of Marguerite Yourcenar, portrayed in black and white by **Paola Agosti**, alights on the pages of the first Italian edition of the book that gave voice to her and the wisest and most contemporary emperor of all time, *Memoirs of Hadrian*.



At the Riviera restaurant: Marguerite Yourcenar, *The Memoirs of Hadrian the Emperor*, Richter, 1953 (first Italian edition).



Paola Agosti

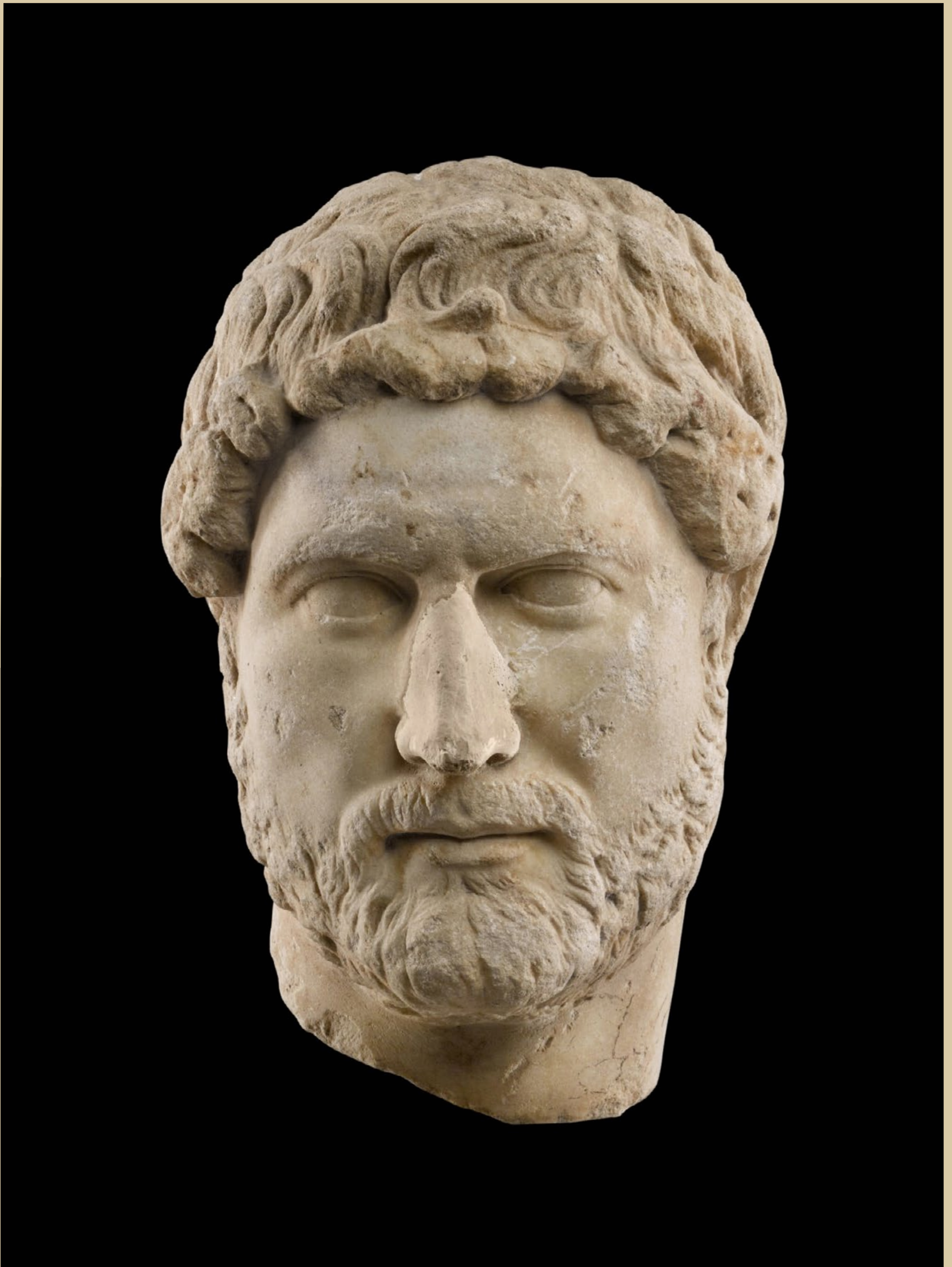
Marguerite Yourcenar, Venice 1982

silver salt print

cm. 30 x 24

nr. from an edition of 10 + 2

signed, titled, dated and numbered by the artist on the back



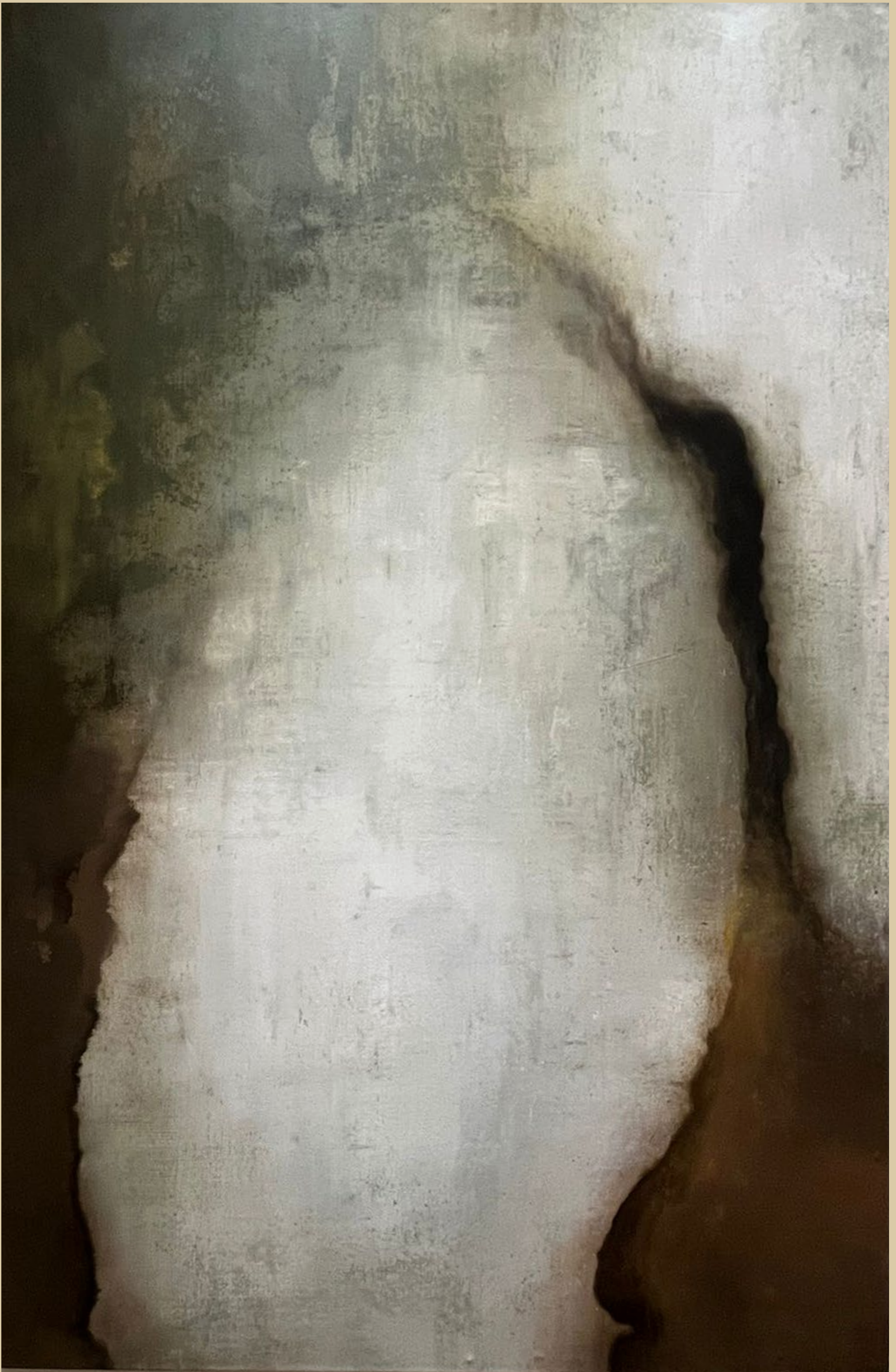
Marble face of Emperor Hadrian, 2nd century B.C.

Head of a Roman Antonine man in marble, mid 2nd century A.D. Life-size face, looking to the right, with powerful neck, short beard, moustache, high cheekbones, eyes with incised iris and pierced pupils and furrows above the eyebrows, short hair falling in overlapping curls on the forehead and receding above the temples. Height 28.5 cm.



At the Riviera restaurant: "La Guna" by Cantieri Creativi.

The thread of memory continues in the two internal rooms, among tables made of light and dark blue marble in honour of the unexpected movements of water, on walls painted in a milky colour with fast, abundant brushstrokes, in contrast with the hexagonal handmade terracotta floor, painted one tile after another in an unrepeatable warm amaranth hue by **Cantieri Creativi**.



Cantieri Creativi

Collection “Deconfinamento”

Artwork: La Guna

Natural oils and mixed techniques on linen and hemp canvas.

Made by four hands by Ludovica and Giulia Vando, Cantieri Creativi



Cantieri Creativi

Collection “Deconfinamento”

Artwork: Atokos

Natural oils and mixed techniques on linen and hemp canvas.

Made by four hands by Ludovica and Giulia Vando, Cantieri Creativi



Cantieri Creativi

Collection "Deconfinamento"

Work: Bonifica del se

Natural earth and mixed media on linen and hemp canvas.

Made by four hands by Ludovica and Giulia Vando, Cantieri Creativi



Mario Dondero, *The Man Who Wanted to Reach the Moon*, May Festival, Accettura-Lucania 1993

The photograph “*The Man Who Wanted to Reach the Moon*” by the extraordinary Milanese photographer **Mario Dondero** was taken during the Festa del Maggio in Accettura, Lucania, in 1993.

A man climbs a pole, with the Moon in the background. It is a visionary and poetic work that tells the story of the ancestral desire to go beyond, perhaps even to reach the sky, overcoming one's limits despite fears and dangers, suspended in nothingness, needing to believe in one's dreams.

His photographic eye succeeded in translating a physical gesture into a universal reflection, merging myth and reality into a single image. An immortal message, one that runs through human history and unites us all.

THE NATURE

At the Riviera Restaurant:

Works by Diana Sherer

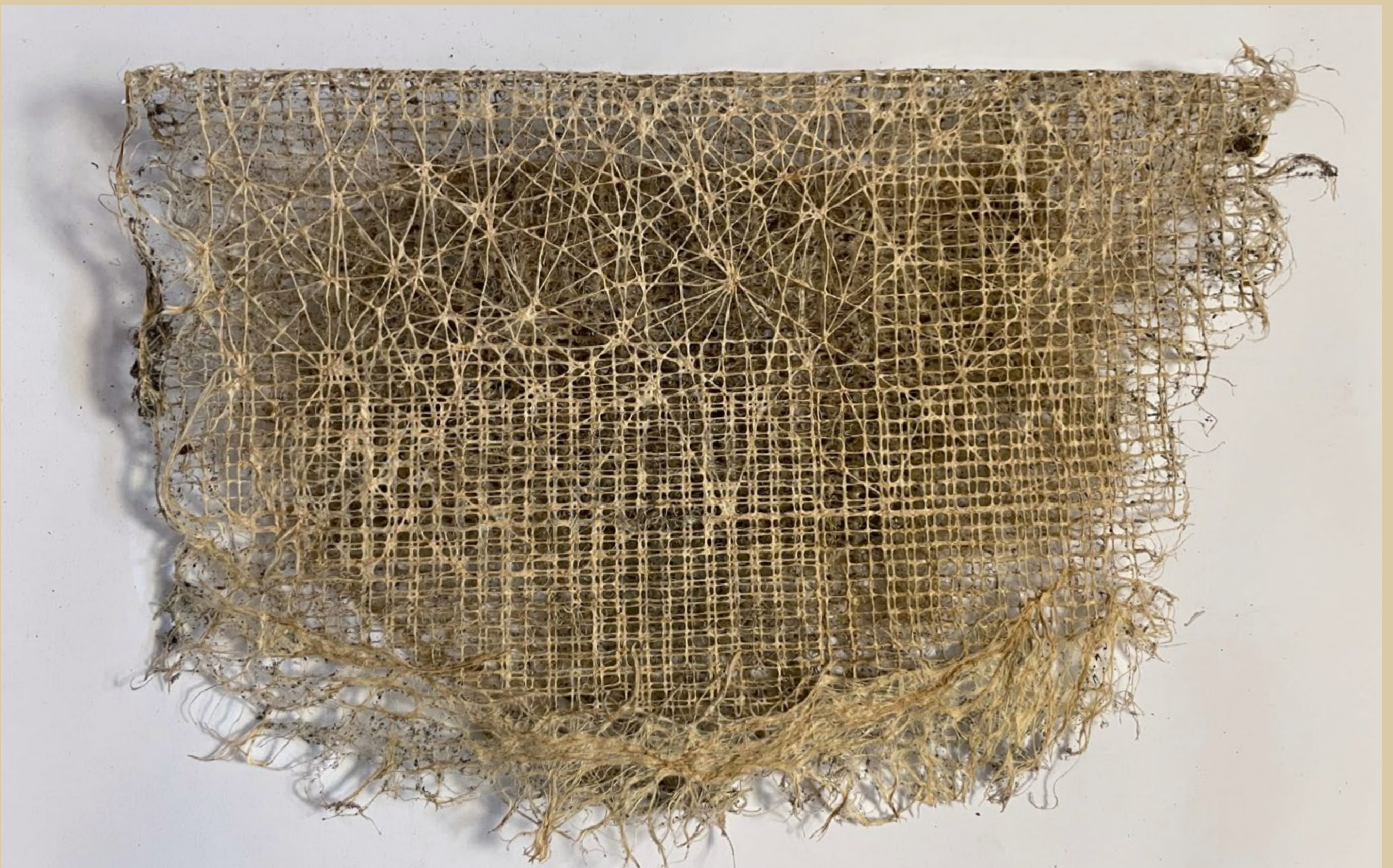


At the Riviera restaurant: “Hyper Rhizome #2, 2023” by Diana Sherer.

But this thread is not only symbolic: two surprising works by **Diana Sherer**, a contemporary German artist, show us the wonder of nature: unrepeatable artefacts, the works were created using the roots of plants to recreate “botanical materials” in cream tones, becoming natural tapestries that question the symbiotic relationship between humankind and roots.



At the Riviera restaurant: “Hyper Rhizome 02-24” by Diana Sherer.



Above:
 Hyper Rhizome #2, 2023
 Root-grown fabric
 Unframed and unframed - 185 x 120 cm
 Edition of 5 specimens. Each with unique growth formations.

Bottom:
 Hyper Rhizome 02-24, 2024
 Plant root textile
 Unframed 55 H x 38 W cm

LINES AND WAVES

At the Riviera Restaurant:

Work by Wycliffe Stutchbury

Statue of a Greek Maiden

On the restaurant's internal walls, there is also one of the evocative birch wood panels by **Wycliffe Stutchbury**, a British sculptor whose works are inspired by the countryside, a place that he fetishizes and where he has spent most of his life. The panels display imaginative landscapes and scenery, guided by lines and waves.



Wycliffe Stutchbury - The Hill 6, 2020
Felled common holly, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire.
180 H x 120 W cm / 70.8 H x 47.2 W In

Lines and waves that are also found carved in marble on the statue of a young Greek woman, dating from the period between the 4th and 2nd centuries B.C., wrapped in a robe carved in stone that seems to converse with the wind.



Statue of a Greek girl in marble, circa 4th-2nd century BC.

The figure is standing on a rounded plinth, with the weight on the left leg. She wears a finely pleated sleeveless chiton, cinched at the waist. Height 62 cm.

THE TEXTURE

At the Riviera Restaurant:

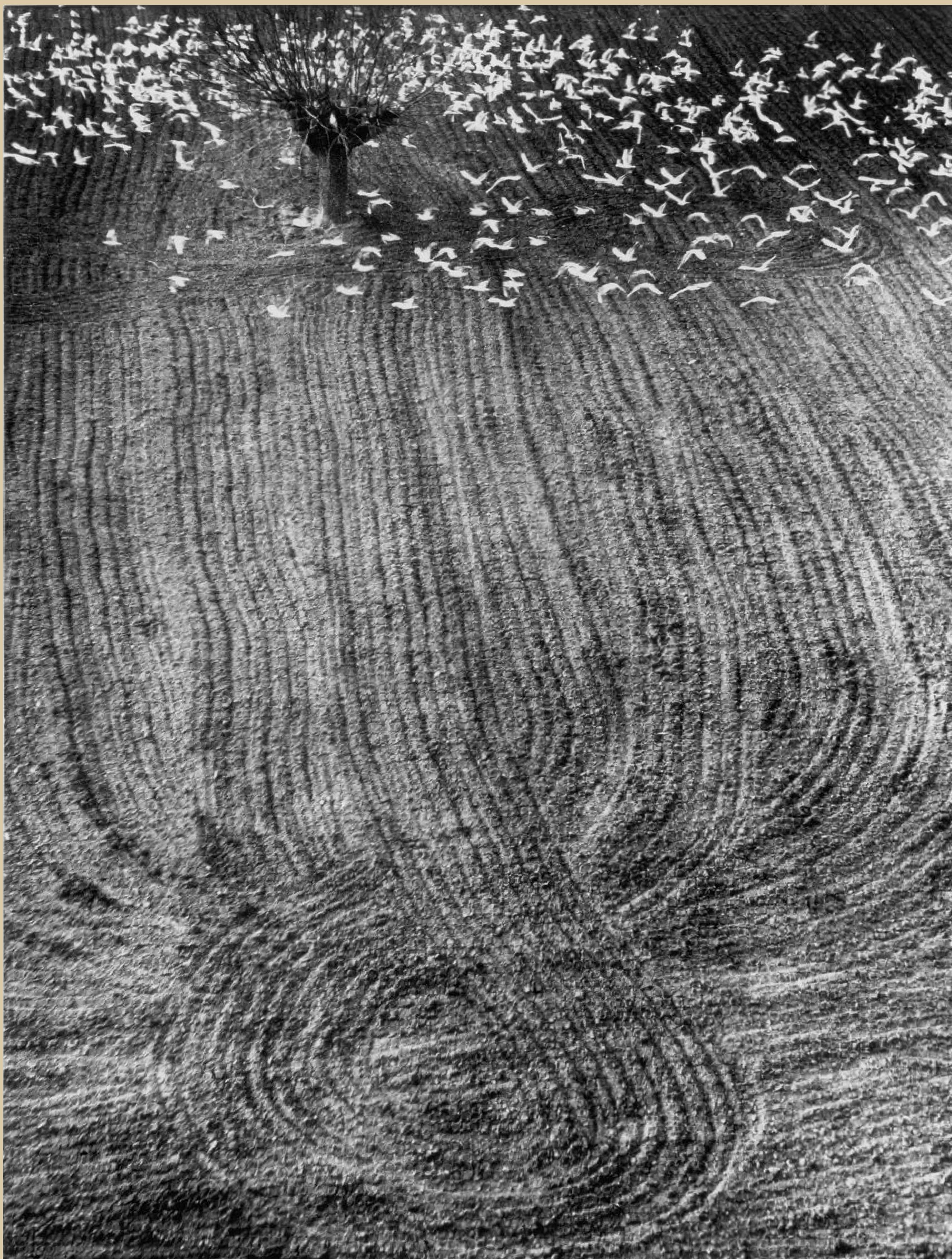
Mario Giacomelli's
“Presa di coscienza sulla natura” photography



At the Riviera restaurant: Mario Giacomelli's photographic work "Presenza di coscienza sulla natura", 1977-2000.

Not far from her light, eternal garment, in a striking echo, there is a splendid photographic work by **Mario Giacomelli** entitled "Studies on nature". Photographed from above, the bare earth, with its deep, sorrowful furrows, displays the same folds as the Greek robe. Here, then, is the hypnotic and mystical theme of texture, which goes far beyond the canonical fabric to explore the interweaving of arts, centuries, existences.

As in a refuge protected from the erosion of time, the works preserved at the Riviera combine different arts, languages and historical periods, tying everything to the question of the real nature of eternity and how it is in dialogue with beauty.



Mario Giacomelli

Presa di coscienza sulla natura, 1977-2000

silver salt print

cm. 40.3 x 30.1

signed on the back;

black stamp Presa di coscienza sulla natura,

black stamp Mario Giacomelli on the back