



Art is love.  
Art is truth.  
Art is freedom.

Art is alive.

The Modulnova Art Project celebrates beauty and creativity.

It is a cultural project allowing people to meet and exchange ideas, seek new perspectives, and explore the link between art, architecture, and design. These human expressions communicate emotions, concepts, and representations of the world; they generate movements and revolutionise forms and dialectics to share messages and values.

Today, we step into the silence of suspended places, listen to the poetic story of artist Patrizia Mussa, and experience that nostalgic desire for proximity to eternal beauty.

Modulnova Art Project

## PHOTOPASTEL - The Timelapse

The theatre is not only a physical space but also a place of imagination.

Patrizia Mussa's photography beautifully captures this duality. She photographs theatres or rooms and corridors of Italy's most beautiful royal palaces, with scenographic architecture. Then, she prints them with very light shades and selectively colours details by hand with pencils and pastels, enhancing their beauty and the dreamlike sense that characterises both these places and her work.

The "PhotoPastel" series goes beyond the simple photographic nature of the original shot through Patrizia's hand-painted work, which she uses to reinterpret reality and create an authentic mental picture. These places become an idealised projection of the architecture that has marked Italian history and represents its artisanal and aesthetic tradition. The Teatro alla Scala, the Olimpico in Vicenza, the Regio and Farnese theatres in Parma, the San Carlo in Naples, the Royal Palace in Caserta, and the Palazzina di Caccia in Stupinigi are just a few examples of the most famous architecture in the world.

The so-called 'Italian-style' theatre was born many centuries after the Greek theatre, which has its roots in antiquity. Italian comedy gained popularity between the 16th and 18th centuries. This led to the emergence of public theatres, which were highly coveted by Renaissance academies, as well as by kings and princes, as culture and beauty were considered measures of power and wealth.

Patrizia's work showcases not just the famous halls but also the small local theatres scattered throughout Italy, which are considered gems of craftsmanship and taste and have fortunately survived the test of time and history.

La fotografia è dunque un pretesto per l'artista per costruire una propria visione che rende omaggio a tutta la magia del teatro come rappresentazione di vita, con la sua ricchezza di emozioni, storie e parole. Pieno di quel tempo sospeso, tra storia e immaginazione, tra palco e realtà, dove siamo da sempre liberi di immaginare di essere chi vogliamo.

Let the show begin.

Claudio Composti



**Patrizia Mussa** is a photographer based in Turin and Paris.

She graduated in Philosophy and specialized in Cultural Anthropology in Milan in the 1970s. Patrizia started her career in the advertising sector as a producer, director of photography, and documentary director. Since 1985, she has been working as a picture editor for Studio Livio and the Pacific Press Service in Tokyo. Patrizia creates photographic services for important architecture and interior design magazines and collaborates with editorial groups such as Condè Nast, Taschen. She is also a contributor to AD France.

Patrizia's professional activity and research focus on architectural, interior, and landscape photography.

- **Teatri Photopastel** - a series that reinterprets and revisits Italian theatres with skillful hand-colouring, transforming them into imaginary places where dreams and poetry coexist.

Her personal exhibitions have been held in various locations, including the Ettore Fico Museum in Turin, curated by Andrea Busto in 2022, Galerie XII in Paris, curated by Valerie-Anne Giscard d'Estaing and in Pietrasanta with Paola Sosio Contemporary Art, curated by Claudio Composti, in 2020, and at the Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation in Turin in 2019.

- **WarlessTheatres** - a project dedicated to the landscapes of Afghanistan, Yemen and Ethiopia, with images taken when these places were still accessible and served as reserves of culture and resources. They have now been reworked with new sequences and colours created by hand. The project was selected and exhibited at the Biennale du Monde Arabe Contemporaine in Paris in 2019 at the Institut du Monde Arabe/La Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris.

- **Le Temple du Soleil** - the project provides a unique perspective on the utopian architecture of philosopher architect Jean Balladur. It has been exhibited at various venues, including Palazzo Morando in Milan, in Montpellier-Pierres Vives with a project by Zaha Hadid, at Villa Savoye-Le Corbusier in Poissy Paris, and the Wilmotte Gallery at Lichfield Studios, London.

- **La Buona Ventura Etranges Etrangers** -featuring portraits of Italians in Paris, the project was commissioned by Jean Luc Monterosso and exhibited at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie de Paris, with a solo exhibition during 'Un été Italien,' dedicated to Italian photography. She participated in numerous Contemporary Art and Photography Fairs with Paola Sosio Contemporary Art and with Galerie XII Paris-Los Angeles-Shanghai.

Patrizia's photographs are part of important museum collections, such as the Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation in Turin, the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris, the Museum of Photography in Moscow, and the Palais des Beaux Arts in Lille. Her work is also present in prestigious public and private collections in Europe, the United States and the Far East.

“I use photography as a tool to observe, reflect, and reveal. My photography is the result of extensive periods of time, pauses, reflections, and research. Capturing time through photography is a challenge. Light is time and speed; to stop time means to capture the traces left by its passage. Photography serves as a reminder, a collection of notes, thoughts, and reflections of a certain period that can be interpreted differently at different times. Contrary to popular belief, photography is always a work in progress.”

Patrizia Mussa



Stupinigi Hunting Lodge - Turin



Royal Palace of Caserta - Caserta

“Amidst life’s chaos, I find peace in the solitude of unfrequented landscapes. The images I collect serve as witnesses to this suspension, expressing my desire for silent nostalgia and closeness.”

Patrizia Mussa



Royal Palace of Caserta - Caserta



Diana Gallery - Royal Palace of Venaria Reale



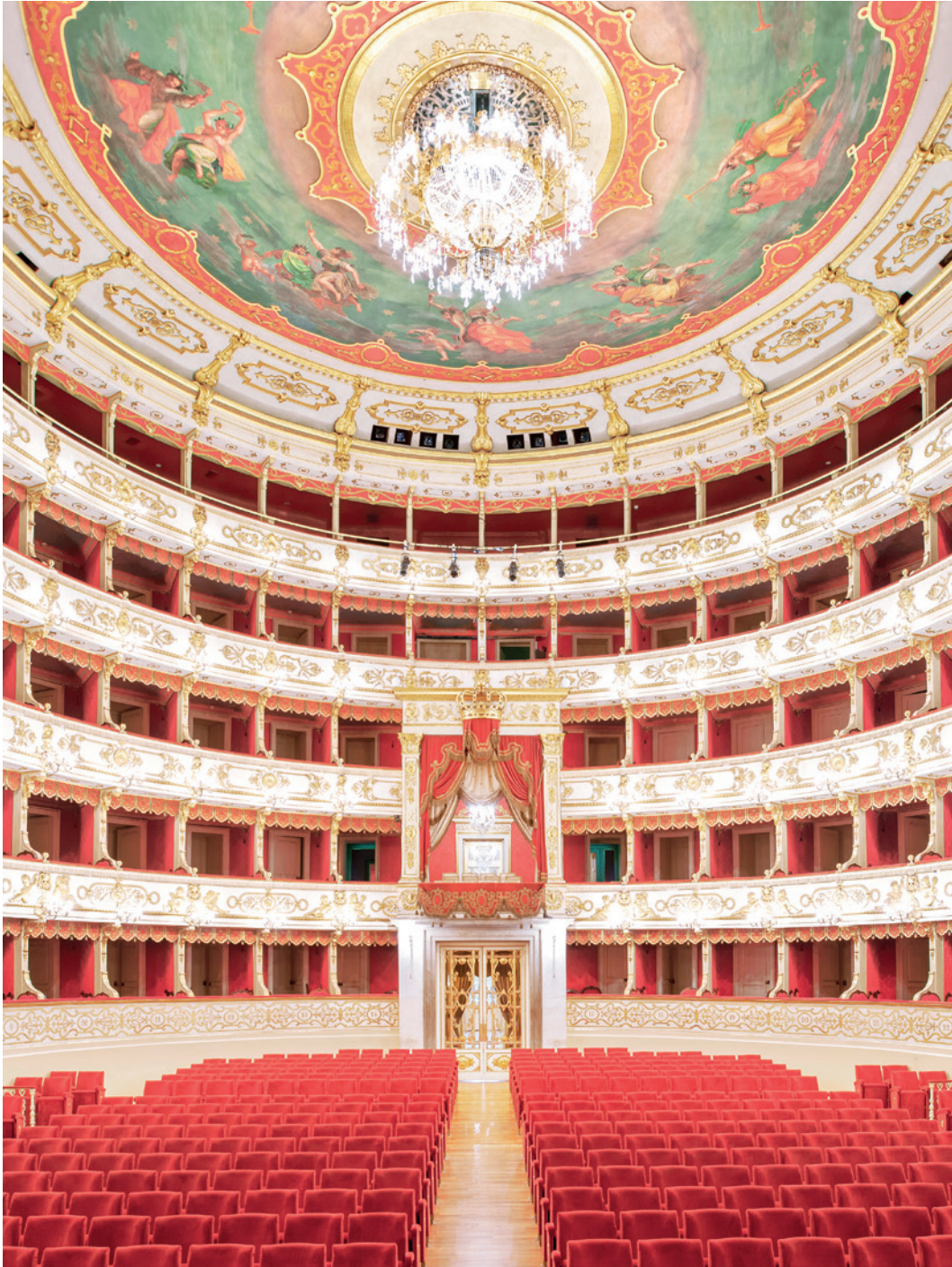
Church of Sant'Uberto - Royal Palace of Venaria Reale

“I found myself touching, scratching, and mixing colours with pigment sticks. I used pastels to blend the image created by my mind and technique. This game becomes a form of reflection, rethinking, and investigation through new spectrums.”

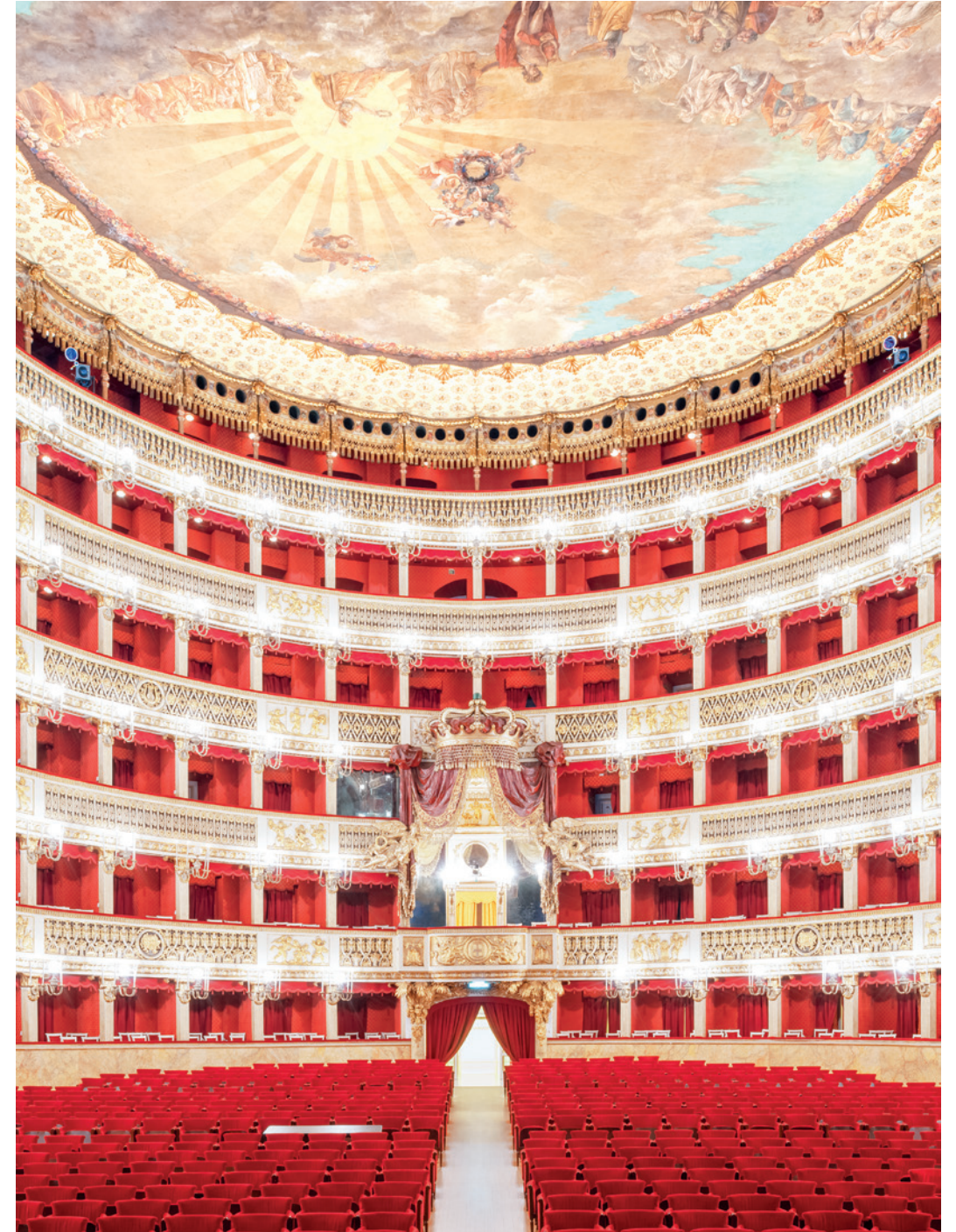
Patrizia Mussa



Italia Theatre - Valenza, Alessandria



Regio Theatre - Parma



San Carlo Theatre - Naples

Curated by Claudio Composti in collaboration with Paola Sosio Contemporary Art Gallery  
Artistic project coordination by Serena Cassissa  
Photo courtesy of Patrizia Mussa / Paola Sosio Contemporary Art Gallery

