



MICHELE MARTINELLI

DOCUMENTARY & CORPORATE PHOTOGRAPHER

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ABOUT

Born in Pietrasanta (Lucca) on August 29, 1979, I currently live in Lucca. After a long artistic training journey, I work as a **freelance documentary and corporate photographer**, and I am also involved in the **restoration and conservation of cultural heritage**.

Sensitive to communication through artistic forms of expression, I turned to photography in 2009, a passion that, combined with the curiosity of a traveler, has profoundly transformed and given new direction to my life.

In 2015, I attended a **masterclass in photojournalism and documentary photography** at the **Fondazione Studio Marangoni** in Florence. Since then, I have worked as a freelance photographer, creating personal projects and consistently investing in my growth in visual storytelling.

My parallel **experience as a restorer of artworks**, accumulated **over 15 years of work**, has taught me the importance of patience, precision, and aesthetic sensitivity, elements that deeply **influence my photographic approach**, enriching it and allowing me to highlight details and cultural context in my projects.

My research primarily **focuses on anthropological, cultural, and environmental themes**, with particular attention to the essence of the human being in the Mediterranean territories.

Some of my works have been published in various magazines, including **GEOSk, Altreconomia, Messaggero di Sant'Antonio, Credere, Vi Menn, Daily Mail, Prier Magazine, L'oeil de la Photographie, ArtDoc Magazine, Asian Geographic, National Geographic Traveler**, and **National Geographic Italia**, receiving international recognition.

I am currently developing **MEDITERRANEUS**, a long-term project conceived as a contemporary odyssey. The project is divided into chapters that tell stories of land and sea, exploring the plurality of cultures and the current challenges of the Mediterranean area.

Currently, I am working on the chapter **AGRATEARRA**, which narrates the authenticity of rural communities in the high mountains of the French island of Corsica. The first part of this work was carried out thanks to an **artist residency** at the **Centre Méditerranéen de la Photographie** and was exhibited at the **Fotolux Festival 2024** (Italy). In addition, I am dedicating myself to a project that explores an ancient **swordfish hunting** practice carried out by fishing communities in the **Strait of Messina**, Italy.

I collaborate with companies in the **agro-food, tourism, and industrial sectors**, building personal projects that use visual language as a powerful means of expression, in **search of authenticity and essence**, which often remains hidden behind conformity.

EDUCATION and TRAINING

- In 2020, I attended a **portrait photography workshop** led by photographer **Paolo Verzone**.
- In 2018, I attended a **4-month masterclass (Pro-Photographer)** from June 2018 to October 2018, led by documentary photographer **Paolo Marchetti** in Rome.
- **Masterclass in photojournalism and documentary photography** at the **Fondazione Studio Marangoni** in Florence in 2015.
- **High school diploma in Fine Arts** obtained at the **Istituto Superiore Artistico "A. Passaglia"** in Lucca, specializing in painting decoration, in 2001.
- **"Master of Art" diploma** obtained at the **Istituto Superiore Artistico "A. Passaglia"** in Lucca, specializing in painting decoration, in 1999.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Independent Documentary Photographer** 2015 – Present
www.michelemartinelliphotography.com
- **TRICERA ART Gallery – My Shop** - 2022 – Present
- **Parallelozero Agency – Contributor Documentary Photographer** – 2023/2024
<https://parallelozero.com>
- **VI MEN Magazine – Contributor Documentary Photographer** – 2021 to 2023
<https://www.vimennpluss.no>
- **LUZ Agency – Contributor Documentary Photographer** – 2020 to 2022
<https://www.luz.it>

AWARDS and EXHIBITIONS

- 🚩 PHOTOLUX FESTIVAL 2024 – AGRATERRA - Exhibition
- 🚩 PHOCO Photo Art Contest 2024 – FAR SOUTH - 2nd place
- 🚩 Festival Paesaggi 2023 – SOLVAYLAND - Exhibition
- 🚩 Fotografia Calabria Festival 2023 – FAR SOUTH – Exhibition
- 🚩 HIPA 2023 - Finalist
- 🚩 ASISAfoto 2022 - 3rd place
- 🚩 HIPA 2022 - Merit Medal
- 🚩 Residenze Mediterranee PHOTOLUX Festival 2022 - Winner
- 🚩 Mediterraneo Fotografia Special Edition 2021 - Selected
- 🚩 F5.6 Gallery of Lucca – SOLVAYLAND in preview - 2021 - Exhibition
- 🚩 MICROFESTIVAL in Celle di Bellino (CN) - FAR SOUTH - 2021 - Exhibition
- 🚩 MICROFESTIVAL in Velva (GE) – SOLVAYLAND in preview - 2021 - Exhibition
- 🚩 World Report Award 2019 - Finalist
- 🚩 HIPA 2018 - Finalist
- 🚩 Neutral Density Photography Awards 2018 - Honorable Mention
- 🚩 Moscow International Foto Award 2018 - Honorable Mention
- 🚩 Siena International Photo Award 2018 - Finalist
- 🚩 OASIS Photo Contest 2018 - Work Highlight
- 🚩 International Photographer Of The Year 2017 - 3rd place
- 🚩 Travel Photographer Of The Year 2017 - Finalist
- 🚩 World Nomads Travel Photography Scholarship 2017 - Finalist
- 🚩 Prix De La Photographie Paris 2017 - 2nd place
- 🚩 HIPA 2016 - Finalist
- 🚩 International Photographer Of The Year 2016 - 1st place
- 🚩 International Photographer Of The Year 2016 - Honorable Mention
- 🚩 Travel Photographer Of The Year 2016 - Finalist
- 🚩 Neutral Density Photography Awards 2016 - 2nd place

- ✚ Neutral Density Photography Awards 2016 - Honorable Mention
- ✚ Moscow International Foto Award 2016 - Honorable Mention
- ✚ Siena International Photo Award 2016 - Finalist
- ✚ Travel Photographer Of The Year 2015 - Finalist
- ✚ Siena International Photo Award 2015 - Finalist
- ✚ HIPA 2014 – Finalist
- ✚ Wanderlust Travel Photo Of The Year 2014 - 2nd place
- ✚ OASIS Photo Contest 2013 - 1st place

PERSONAL SKILLS

KEY SKILLS

- ✓ Team working
- ✓ Proactivity and problem solving
- ✓ Advanced photo post-production and photo editing
- ✓ Visual storytelling and article writing
- ✓ Basic video shooting and editing knowledge
- ✓ Teaching experience (courses and workshops)

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- ✓ Italian: Native
- ✓ English: Spoken B1, Written B1

DIGITAL SKILLS

- ✓ Windows operating system
- ✓ Internet, email, social media
- ✓ Microsoft Office suite
- ✓ UPDF
- ✓ Adobe Photoshop
- ✓ Adobe Bridge
- ✓ Pinnacle Studio
- ✓ Wondershare Filmora

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Throughout my educational and professional journey as a freelance and independent worker, I have developed excellent communication and interpersonal skills, as I have always interacted directly with clients, stakeholders, and individuals involved in various projects.

ORGANIZATIONAL/MANAGERIAL SKILLS

Throughout my professional career, I have acquired and refined excellent skills in organizing and managing the various stages of my work and that of my collaborators. I am accustomed to planning activities related to a project in detail, sharing goals and deadlines with a strong focus on results, while always ensuring an ethical and high-quality product.

INTERESTS

- ✓ Inner Exploration
- ✓ Personal Growth
- ✓ Travel
- ✓ Nature and Environment
- ✓ Cinema and Music
- ✓ Literature