

**Anna Caterina Stryjecka Ariano**, a lifelong patron of the arts, dedicated herself to the promotion of culture and beauty, always alongside her now deceased husband, Paolo Ariano. Her roots run deep in Italy and Poland, two lands and cultures with an unbreakable bond. Her vision is the basis of this project, which celebrates the connection between peoples and traditions.

The project stems from a cross-cultural vision, with global scope, and is designed with a slant of visual anthropology, as an ethnographic collection of photographs, medical anthropology, thanks to music therapy, cultural diplomacy and soft power, aimed at strengthening dialogue between different cultures. The protagonists of this initiative are interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary intelligences endowed with great curiosity, united by the passion for nature, travel, discovery, beauty and culture, universal values that transcend all borders.

Project creator: **Anna Caterina Stryjecka Ariano**

Co-curators: **Antonio Lo Pinto, Cecilia Sandroni**

In Florence, city that symbolizes art and culture, the first public viewing of this extraordinary project comes to life, with the cinematographic and photographic works of the author **Kazimierz Pichlak** and the composer and music therapist **Jacek Szreniawa** as protagonists. In this journey, images and music come together in a unique and engaging experience, open to all.

The inauguration event will take place on **23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2025**, in two different moments and places. But also on two different thematic scenarios: the mountain and Africa.

At **4:30 pm**, at **GIUNTI ODEON Libreria e Cinema**, one of the vibrant cultural centres of the city, with the screening of the film “**Musica della grande montagna**” (Music of the Great Mountain).

The day will then continue at **6:30 p.m.** in another dynamic and artistic space in the city, **C2 CONTEMPORANEA/Spazio Arte** by **Antonio Lo Pinto**, with the inauguration of the photographic exhibition “**I Volti dell’Africa**” (The Faces of Africa).

A hymn to brotherhood, friendship and peace among peoples, celebrating the beauty of life and the unifying power of culture and infinite love for the mountains.

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(Foto)

The film screening “**Musica della grande montagna**”, by **Kazimierz Pichlak** with the music composed by **Jacek Szreniawa**, will take place in Florence on **23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2025** at 4:30 pm at GIUNTI ODEON Libreria e Cinema. The Film screening will be preceded by an introduction by the author **Kazimierz Pichlak** and the creator of the project **Anna Caterina Stryjecka Ariano**. The film is a fascinating photographic and musical story about mountains from different corners of the world.

Vernissage Wednesday, **23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2025** at **4:30 pm** at **GIUNTI ODEON Libreria e Cinema**, Piazza degli Strozzi - Florence

Movie duration: 01:13:10

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(Foto)

The photographic exhibition “**I Volti dell’Africa**” by the Polish photographer **Kazimierz Pichlak** opens in Florence on **23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2025** at the **Spazio Espositivo C2 Contemporanea**, with the author and curators.

Project creator: **Anna Caterina Stryjecka Ariano**

Curators: **Antonio Lo Pinto** and **Cecilia Sandroni**

Vernissage: **Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2025, 6-8 p.m.**

**C2 CONTEMPORANEA/Spazio di Arte di Antonio Lo Pinto**, Via Ugo Foscolo, 6 - Florence

Exhibition closing: 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2025

Number of works: 20. Photo size: 70x100. Catalog in Italian, Polish and English

“**I Volti dell’Africa**” by **Kazimierz Pichlak** are portraits of a penetrating presence.

There are no studio shots, but fragments of life captured on camera, that represent the encounter between the traveling photographer and the people portrayed. The subjects of these photos are immersed in their own environment, while the photographer is far from his homeland and a guest in Africa.

The photographs on display at the exhibition are an attempt to capture the unique rhythm of that continent.

At the end of the event, **Anna Lord**, born in Finland to a Finnish refugee mother and an English professor and writer, author of the book “*La Divina Artemisia*”, will offer to the guest an infusion of Artemisia, a plant that is considered sacred as well in Africa.

Some of Kazimierz Pichlak's shots are available in preview in the Gallery

## Photo Gallery

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### Kazimierz Pichlak

(Foto)

**Kazimierz Pichlak** is a surgeon by profession, but he also is a traveller, a poet and a photographer. He lives on the slopes of the Giant Mountains in Lower Silesia. He is a poet, with 12 published volumes and he received many awards.

He has had more than a dozen individual photographic exhibitions. He takes photographs to remember the emotion of discovering the beautiful and ugly fragments of the world. Basically, he is an occasional photographer.

He travels a lot and captures what he encounters along the way, from the first rays of sun on the giants of the Himalayas to the pensive face of an Ethiopian monk. Every now and then he finds himself in the right place at the right time and manages to take a noteworthy photo.

He is an honorary member of the National Association of Polish Surgeons, and has been named honorary citizen of his own large Polish region, Lower Silesia, for his merits in the fields of medicine, social work and culture.

He is the proud father of two children and grandfather of seven grandchildren.

He makes no secret of the fact that he considers himself a happy and fulfilled man.

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(Logo)

Located in a former industrial area in the heart of the city of Florence, in the historic Porta Romana district, the **C2 Contemporanea Spazio Espositivo** is becoming a landmark for artists, gallery owners and art lovers. It is a meeting place, with a wide range of art exhibitions and cultural events.

C2 is the exhibition and creative space of the artist **Antonio Lo Pinto**, born from a lucky intuition and a dream in June 2011.

The artist's studio has hosted young emerging talents and great masters, to whom the same attention and welcome has been reserved.

The **C2** vision is a hybrid reality, alternative to traditional artistic promotion circuits: it organizes, curates and presents contemporary art projects, hosting off-site artists within the exhibition space, which also becomes the artist's temporary home.

**C2** has organized more than 145 exhibitions, projects curated and realized with great photographers such as George Tatge, Lucien Hervé, Donata Wenders, Carlo Fei.

With artists such as Riccardo Guarneri, Marco Bagnoli, Lucio Pozzi.

With curators such as Pier Luigi Tazzi, Ivan Quaroni, Sergio Risaliti.

The artist **Antonio Lo Pinto** collaborates with galleries, public and private organizations, and national and international cultural institutions.

Today he is pleased to host the Polish artist **Kazimierz Pichlak**: doctor, photographer, explorer, poet, passionate about the mountains, photography and the world.

From Monday to Saturday, from 5.30 to 7.00 p.m.

Visits by appointment for the days following the opening.

Tel.: 334 7970531

(Foto)