

DARIO LO PRESTI

Born in Catania in 1983. He discovers the photographic language in the second year of university during a course in History and Techniques of Photography. He graduated from the Faculty of Communication Sciences in Catania with a thesis on acting techniques in theater, cinema and television. You specialize in Advertising and Institutional Communication at the Faculty of Communication and Economics in Reggio Emilia.

In 2012 she returns to Catania and regains her passion for photography by attending various courses, workshops and seminars. She is enrolled in an advanced creative photography course directed by the photographer Rosaria Forcisi at the Artea Cultural Association of San Gregorio in Catania, with which she collaborates for the preparation of painting and photographic exhibitions. In 2014 he met the **Officina Fotografica** school and attended two workshops respectively on architecture and urban landscape photography held by **Massimo Siragusa**, and on reportage with the Milanese photographer **Alessandro Grassani**. In the same year she attended a social and journalistic photography course with the editorial staff of I Siciliani Giovani and a seminar with the photographer Tano D'Amico at the GAPA association in Catania. From this experience the photographic collective **Scatto Sociale** will be born, of which he will be one of the founding members, with whom he collaborates and manages the communication, creating some reportages and taking care of the organization of the exhibitions. In 2015 he began a photographic project on the Mauritian Tamil ethnic group residing in Catania. Some photographs of his work have been exhibited at the Gammazeta cultural association in Catania and have been published in **Erodoto 108** and **Click Magazine**. In the same year, some of his photos were exhibited in the **Sydney** art gallery, **Le Petit Bateau**, as part of the international project called **The Big Project**.

In 2016 the Italian embassy in **Sudan** involved him, through his photos, in a non-profit project entitled **One Day Fiction**, in collaboration with the Arab writer Sabah Sanhour. The aim was to have Sudanese children who live in a context that does not offer the possibility of artistic and cultural growth write short stories. In 2017 he participated with a photo of her in the photographic collective "Something in the Street" at the **Viù Arti Visive gallery** in Catania. In 2018 he participated in two group exhibitions, "Call for Photographers" at the **Nucleika Art Gallery** in Catania with some photos on the Cavadee festival of Mauritian Tamils, and "Impressum" at the **Emilio Greco Museum** with a photo on Islamic prayer in the mosque of Catania .

CONTACTS

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In April 2018 he began to be part of "La Squadra di Calcio", an educational project directed by Luca Guarneri, teacher and photographer of the **SEF (Elementary School of Photography)** and the architect and photographer Santo Eduardo De Miceli, founder of **Photographia** cultural association. The aim is to train author photographers through the preparation and dissemination of photographic projects. In 2019 a photograph of his on the Mauritian ritual of the Cavadee received a special mention in the "Street" category, as part of the photographic contest organized by the Catania association Art'è Fotografia.

In 2020 the photo entitled "Arches of The Navy, Catania", in the "Architectures - Bridges" category, receives a special mention from the jury of the **MIFA, Moscow International Foto Awards**. A photo of her is exhibited in a group exhibition at the **Urban Photo Award 2020** in Trieste in the months of October and November. Also in 2020, as part of the photographic contest organized by the Catania association Art'è Fotografia, his reportage on the Mauritians in Catania entitled "The Mauritians in Catania. A religious festival between tradition and integration", ranks second in the "Portfolio" category. The reportage on the Mauritians living in Catania also receives two other special mentions from the juries of the **IPA (International Photography Award)** and the **BIFA (Budapest International Photo Award)**.

In 2021 he collaborated for a few months as a hiking photographer and social media communication officer of hiking events with the hiking and environmental agency **Etnaoutdoor** of Salvo Currenti, a naturalistic guide of **AIGAE (Italian Association of Environmental Hiking Guides)**. In the same year a photo of him was the winner of the competition for the English magazine **Bike Magazine**, and reached the final in the competition organized by the theater company of the **Illegali** of Alessandria for the competition **The spirit of the theater**. In 2022 he received three special mentions for the **Monochrome Photography Awards, International Black and White Photography competition**, some of his photographs were published in the newspaper **La Via Libera** in Turin, together with a journalistic investigation conducted by **Graziana Solano**, on the floods that hit every year the S. M. Goretti Village of Catania. He wins a bronze medal in the **MIFA (Moscow International Photo Award)** competition, in the "Architecture" category, with a photograph of the duck of Catania. Currently he works as a freelance, extricating himself between different collaborations, also working on some personal projects.

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