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Press release

Calogero Cammalleri ***Lipadusa, stories of life and the sea***

OPENING: SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER 2014 - AT 12:00 noon
8th December 2014 – 8th March 2015

Museo Civico di Castelbuono – Ventimiglia Castle, Castelbuono (Palermo)

The Municipal Museum of Castelbuono is pleased to present the photographic exhibition ***Lipadusa, stories of life and the sea***, Calogero Cammalleri's solo show, in collaboration with **Fabrica**, the Benetton Group's communication research centre.

The exhibition presents a selection of photographs from the book ***Lipadusa***, published by Fabrica last September, after Calogero Cammalleri's residency in Lampedusa, from November 2013 to July 2014. The exhibition is part of the Museum's programme aimed at strategically positioning itself as an "observatory" of the Mediterranean scene, through the strengthening of regional and cultural relations, with projects that address the understanding of the area's present and past history. The 2014-2015 programme of the Museum is based on promoting activities focused on understanding and favouring the dialogue between the countries of the Mediterranean, using art as a "bridge between cultures", from visual arts to music.

Lipadusa is a project about the identity of Lampedusa. The island, in spite of itself, has become synonymous of migration, tragedies at sea, despair and misery. This exhibition instead presents Lampedusa's most authentic and timeless character. The photographs by Calogero Cammalleri, student at Fabrica, and the text by the journalist Silvia Giralucci (published in the book and presented also in the exhibition) tell us about the singularity of Lampedusa. Geographically closer to Africa, but politically still Italian, Lampedusa lives a dimension of being not only an isolated island but also a sort of confinement or border, a place of dreams and loneliness. The photographs on display depict the flow of life in Lampedusa: fishermen, children, animals, impressions, dreams, moments captured in black and white and sometimes blurry, in a transfiguration of reality that becomes indefinite. Calogero became a familiar presence for the islanders, enabling him to overcome the initial distrust of those who have seen too many video cameras and photographers in search of a scoop. Calogero is himself a returning emigrant : after leaving Sicily at the age of three with his family for Germany, he returned to his homeland after seventeen years, in search of his origins.

The exhibition also includes a documentary about the artist by Marco Pavan, which will be presented on December 7th at 12:30 a.m, with an introduction by Enrico Bossan, head of the editorial area at Fabrica.

Lipadusa is part of ***Sciabica***, a project of *slow journalism* produced by Fabrica, in the aftermath of the sinking on October 3rd 2013, when 368 people died in the Sicilian Channel. In the weeks immediately following the tragedy, after the front pages and cover stories of the reporters had ceased and Lampedusa was no longer breaking news, ***Sciabica*** started narrating the lives of the migrants and islanders of Lampedusa, writing about cohabitation, emergency and solidarity. During the exhibition a theatrical reading of texts from ***Sciabica*** will be organized by the Museum.

For the "Conversations" series, on **Friday December 19th, 2014, the Museum has organized a public meeting with Imma Vitelli**, war correspondent for Vanity Fair Italy on major international fronts, from Iraq to Iran from Afghanistan to Pakistan, from Congo to Somalia. In Castelbuono, in a talk especially organised for senior and high schools, Imma Vitelli will discuss her experience of the migratory route from Eritrea to Lampedusa through the Sahara desert, Libya and the

Strait of Sicily. This meeting will also include the young migrants currently hosted in Castelbuono. The issue of immigration in the Mediterranean is a topical issue, also in an area so seemingly distant. With the Mare Nostrum project, in fact, many of the neighbouring towns of the Madonie Park, including the City of Castelbuono, joined the Protection System for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (Sprar), welcoming the migrants in public or private accommodation.

Biography:

Calogero Cammalleri (Palma di Montechiaro, 1993. Lives and works near Dortmund). At the age of 3, he emigrated from Sicily to Germany with his parents. He studied and worked as a draftsman in an architectural firm in Münster, always cultivating a passion for photography. His work was discovered by Enrico Bossan, who saw his photos on Flickr and invited him to Fabrica on a scholarship. In 2012, his photos were projected on New York's Times Square billboards, and the publishing house Rizzoli has chosen one for the cover of the book *Time of War* (2013) by Giuliano Zincone. *Lipadusa* is the result of his years of research at Fabrica.

Information:

Exhibition title: *Lipadusa, stories of life and the sea*

Artist: Calogero Cammalleri

Opening: SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER 2014 - AT 12:00 A.M.

Duration of the exhibition: 8th December 2014 – 8th March 2015

Address: Museo Civico di Castelbuono, P.zza Castello – Castelbuono (Palermo), Italy.

Telephone: +39.0921.677126

Opening times: from Tuesday to Sunday 9:30 a.m – 1:00 p.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: € 4,00; reduced € 2,00 (for people 65 years old or over and from 8 to 18 years old, schools and groups of 12 people or more); free entrance for children under 7 years of age.

Web site: www.museocivico.eu

For further information, Valentina Bruschi – exhibitions coordinator and scientific research: +39.338.7820256

Book:

Title: *Lipadusa*

Author: Calogero Cammalleri

Editor: Fabrica

First edition

Pages: 92

Format: 32 X 23 cm

Languages: Italiano/Inglese

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