



MASSIMO CRISTALDI

b. 1970, Catania, Italy
Based worldwide

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"In Suspended there is a splendid and tragic feeling of emptiness.... I like the scale shifts you are seeing with the cars, people, the houses, and the sun-blasted and burnt color of the landscapes and buildings. This is good work. Congratulations for staying so true."

— Joel Meyerowitz

Massimo Cristaldi (b. 1970, Catania, Italy) creates visual projects about the tension between places and time—how the present absorbs what came before, and how traces persist in the world.

His work moves across natural and built environments, focusing on where geography, human intervention, and everyday life intersect. Alongside this slower, contemplative gaze, his practice also embraces the immediacy of lived moments, guided by instinct, timing, and the hidden meaning beneath surface noise.

Often working at night and with long exposures, he uses a subtractive approach: reducing distraction, tightening structure, and letting a scene carry meaning through what is present, implied, or missing.

His work has received international recognition, including Travel Photographer of the Year, and is held in permanent collections such as the George Eastman House (Rochester, USA).

He is the author of the monograph '**Suspended**'.

His background in a highly structured professional field informs his methodology.



Key Awards

Travel Photographer of the Year, London
Sony World Photography Awards
International Photography Awards (IPA)
Prix de la Photographie, Paris (Px3).

Selected Books

Aviary - The Bird in Contemporary Art
(Thames&Hudson, 2025); Suspended
(Gente di Fotografia, 2021).

Selected Press

The New York Times; British Journal of
Photography; LensCulture; Le Journal de la
Photographie; Corriere della Sera.

Selected Exhibitions

USA: George Eastman House (Permanent
Collection); The High Life (Sarasota); Due
South (Philadelphia); Lucie foundation
(NY).

Europe: La Quatrieme Image (Paris); MIA
Art Fair (Milan); Biennale di Venezia
(Dependency); Museum of oriental art
(Trieste)

Details for awards, books, exhibitions on
www.massimocristaldi.com

Artist Statement: The Demarcation Line

I have always been drawn to what remains. Perhaps it is a reflection of my roots, but I perceive reality as the result of a continuous stratification of time. In a world consumed by speed and increasing homogeneity, I see the photograph not merely as an image, but as a physical object that serves as a sharp demarcation line between Past and Future. It is the incarnation of the present moment—a tangible boundary that separates what was from what will be—yet another, frozen layer of time.

My practice oscillates between two frequencies. There is the meditative silence of my gaze, where I suspend time to reveal the invisible weight of history. And there is the intuitive flow of the street, where I surrender to the rhythm of life.

I do not hunt for images; I prepare myself to receive them. I am not interested in the chaotic surface of things, but in their underlying structure. Whether facing a (men-altered) landscape or the human condition, my photography is a continuous inquiry into limits. I explore the dualisms that define our reality: light and darkness, zero and one, presence and absence. It is an attempt to give permanence to the fragile traces we leave behind.

Inquiries and representation

Studio & Speaking Inquiries: Please contact the studio directly via email for commissions, lectures, and special projects.

Print Sales Represented by: Samuel Maenhoudt Gallery (Belgium) |
Gravy Gallery (USA).