# ARTESPRESSIONE

**ARTIST INSIGHT** 



**MARCH 2020** 

## WINTER MIDSUMMER MILAN DURING COVID-19

### A PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT BY MATTEO CESCHI

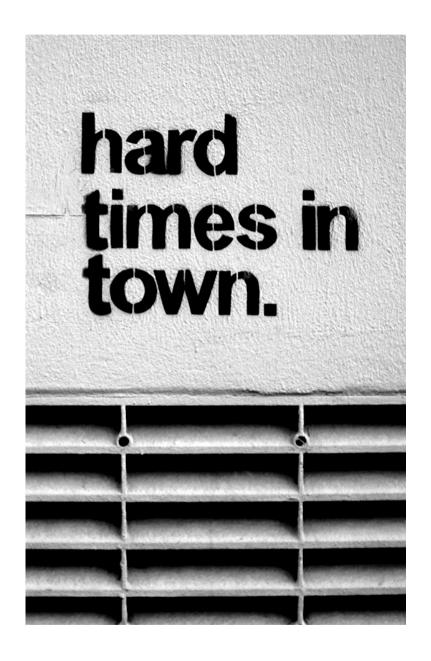
#### **CURATED BY MATTEO PACINI**

In light of the unprecedented situation that Italy and the entire planet are currently grappling with, photographer Matteo Ceschi captures the silent and somber reality of his hometown, Milan.

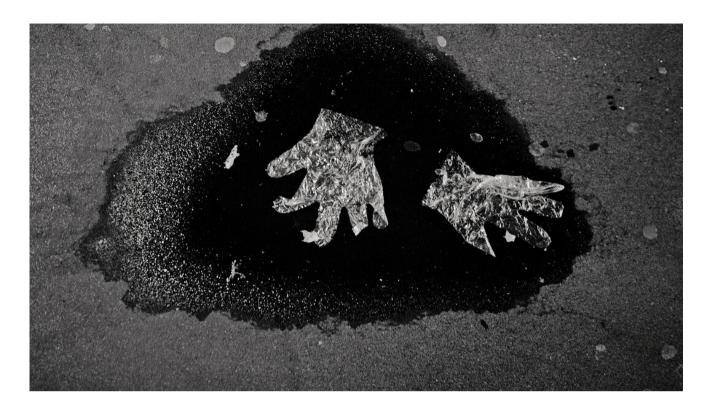
Matteo Ceschi's project is a "daily diary", a story told through images of a difficult moment in an empty and imprisoned Milan, ready to regain the precious freedom that past generations paid so dearly for.

Matteo Ceschi's "The Winter Midsummer" project is a completely subjective narrative in progress: a story rich in details captured during the few occasions where one is allowed to go outside.

The result is a collective frame of isolated people who remain present by means of their absence. It is a series of metaphors inherent to everyday reality that can only be captured by a trained and detailed eye.







#### WINTER MIDSUMMER

#### BY MATTEO CESCHI

This series of black and white frames is a simple documentation of a visual testimony of this exceptional period in contemporary history.

I started shooting what started happening in Milan on February 24th. At the beginning of the project, I was able to shoot more freely. Then, following the decree law in early March, I limited myself to recording the increasingly empty metropolis when I was able to leave my residence.

My photo project, temporarily called "Winter Midsummer", is a work in progress, a sort of daily diary that adds images and stories to a human mosaic in continuous evolution. What dominates this project is an almost deafening and unreal silence, something my black and whites capture very well.

I decided not to publish anything related to this (the only exception being a frame given to the Bosnian press agency FENA), instead I chose to share my visual sketches privately, just with friends and acquaintances. I like to think that this decision was dictated more by philosophy rather than morality.

Thanks to my friend and BBC producer Steve Coleman, news of the project spread abroad during the popular "Tony Snell Breakfast Show". There, I was able to talk about my experience of being an (almost) inmate in my hometown during this pandemic.

INTERVIEW LINK: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p084smlz">https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p084smlz</a>



"I TAKE NO RISKS, I ABIDE BY THE LAW. AND WHEN I DO, I DOCUMENT ANOTHER CITY, MY CITY." MATTEO CESCHI PAGE 3 | WWW. ARTESPRESSIONE.COM



































































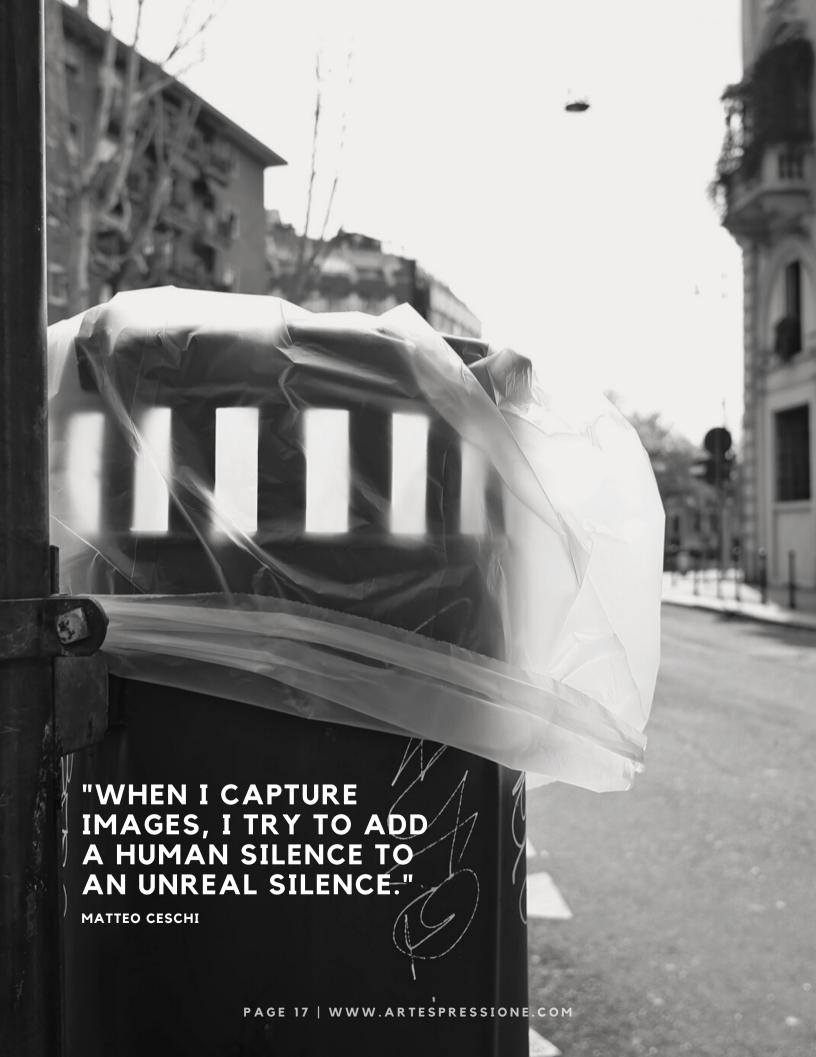














MATTEO CESCHI is a Milanese street photographer, essayist and freelance journalist. He writes and shoots for several magazines and has exhibited his photos in various locations. He collaborates with the Swiss newspaper *La Regione*. His latest book, *Un'altra musica*. *L'America nelle canzoni di protesta*, was published in 2018 by Mimesis Edizioni. He is a member of the f50/The International Photography Collective. His latest projects were in collaboration with f/50 fellows John Meehan, Steve Coleman and Keith Goldstein and with the Italian fashion brand Lucio Costa.

He received an honorable mention at the 2015 International Photography Awards. In 2016, alongside colleague Jim Marshall, he created *KO.existence*, a photographic project exhibited in Sarajevo. In 2017, *KO.existence* also exhibited in Milan (with high-patronage of the Italian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina). That same year, he was the curator of an exhibition of historic photos entitled *Unseen Sixties* at ExpoWall gallery in Milan. In Spring 2017, with creative designer Federico Ramponi, he launched remoteclicking, a new shooting language that exploits mobile technology.

Recently, he curated the "making of" of artist and director Federico Garibaldi's short film, *Un filo tra cielo, terra e acqua*, winner of the Silver Dolphin prize at the 2018 Cannes Corporate Media & TV Awards. In September 2019, he and colleague Jim Marshall presented *Rise and Fall*, a multimedia exhibition produced by the Italian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina and EU Info Centre in BiH at the History Museum of Bosnia Herzegovina, Sarajevo.



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FEATURED ARTIST: MATTEO CESCHI

COORDINATOR: MATTEO PACINI

DESIGN & COPYEDITING: MILENA BIANDA



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A PROJECT BY PAULA NORA SEEGY

VIA DELLA PALLA 3, 20123 MILANO
WWW.ARTESPRESSIONE.COM