

# REAL VENICE

## Real Venice

See the city in a new light with this photographic exhibition launched by Venice in Peril. The charity's director **Nicky Baly** tells us the story behind the art



**REAL VENICE**  
The exhibition catalogue is published by Elena Ochoa Foster & Ivorypress (€39). To order visit [www.realvenice.org](http://www.realvenice.org) and for more info on Venice in Peril see [www.veniceinperil.com](http://www.veniceinperil.com)

**T**he Venice in Peril Fund was created after the great flood of 1966, when the waters rose to nearly two metres above mean water level. Since then it has disbursed millions of pounds for the restoration of Venetian monuments, buildings and works of art. The Fund is committed to ensuring the sustainability of Venice, acting as a lobby group, informing the media and working with outside bodies to broker agreement on how best to deal with some of the critical ecological, demographic and socio-economic issues facing the city.

The charity aims to spread the message that Venice is so ecologically fragile that it will survive only as long as people want it to survive and are prepared to spend money and political energy looking after it. We finance restoration and research into the underlying problems of Venice, and lobby for the long-term defence of the city, both as a monument and a living community.

'Real Venice' is a new art initiative mounted by Venice in Peril in collaboration with Ivorypress, to raise funds for the city of Venice. It is the brainchild of Anna Somers Cocks,

chairman of the Venice in Peril and group editorial director of *The Art Newspaper*, and Elena Foster, Real Venice curator and founder and CEO of Ivorypress. Fourteen internationally renowned photographers were invited to visit the city and with absolute freedom make a portfolio of images. The resulting photos show Venice in all its beauty, but also in all its paradoxes and contrasts. As well as addressing the everyday life of the city's inhabitants, its classic monuments and modern architecture, the images capture the ravages wrought by mass tourism and the rise of the lagoon water level.

"Without good science, wise decision-making and a long-term, well-planned budget, Venice has no future," explains Anna Somers Cocks. "Real Venice is an initiative that harnesses the creativity, vigour, internationalism – and financial power – of contemporary art to saving Venice, an exquisite city where art has always been of the essence."

**Real Venice is on view in the Abbey of San Giorgio Maggiore until 30 September. Selected works will then be exhibited in London. Read on for Mimmo Jodice's contribution to the exhibition, an intimate, evocative take on the city's beauty.** ➤



All photographs © Mimmo Jodice, courtesy of Galerie Karsten Greve

◀ RIVA DEGLI SCHIAVONI

*From the series Venice, 2010*

*Silver gelatin print*

*39.4 x 39.4 in / 100 x 100 cm*



ARSENALE VENEZIA ▶

*From the series Venice, 2010*

*Silver gelatin print*

*47.2 x 55.1 in / 120 x 140 cm*



▼ CA D'ORO

*From the series Venice, 2010*

*Silver gelatin print*

*39.4 x 39.4 in / 100 x 100 cm*



▲ VENEZIA MARGHERA

*From the series Venice, 2010.*

*Silver gelatin print. 39.4 x 39.4 in / 100 x 100 cm.*



**LAGUNA** ▶

*From the series Venice, 2010*  
*Silver gelatin print*  
47.2 x 55.1 in / 120 x 140 cm

◀ **FONDACO DEI TURCHI**

*From the series Venice, 2010*  
*Silver gelatin print*  
39.4 x 39.4 in / 100 x 100 cm

**PHOTOGRAPHER'S NOTE**

▶ BY MIMMO JODICE

"The photogenic quality of Venice is spontaneous and engrossing. A visual seduction that affects all and defines a common place with images found throughout the world. In such an environment, a narrative thread is not possible to develop; it is forever trapped within the charm of the place. Then, slowly, the view expands, and from the space, different metaphysical and silent images begin to flourish. It is in this more intimate Venice that I find myself at home, and the apparitions of my imagination become my photographs."

**RIALTO** ▼

*From the series Venice, 2010*  
*Silver gelatin print*  
47.2 x 55.1 in / 120 x 140 cm



