Vibrations between Italy and India

The contemporary scene

Art project by *Simona Frillici*

Curated by *Bruno Corà*

Co-curatorship Exhibition Kolkata *Reena Dewan*

With the participation of *Paulo Barone*

This project stems from my deep love for India. Hence the desire to delve into its knowledge directly, beginning in 2000 through frequent travels, numerous studies, and the constant practice of yoga.
India bequeaths to humanity (as Rabindranath Tagore says) its millennia-old spiritual quest: a path with deep roots.
Even today, in the era of standardization—which India certainly does not escape—perhaps due to the particular light and color of its land, the air appears shaded, matter less dense; images often bear the face of mirages; an appearance at the border of disappearance. In India, perhaps, we are all more "shadows" and less "bodies," especially in certain special places, centers of vibrant and fertile spirituality, the "Thirta"—those sacred places, gateways between two worlds, between the Here and the Beyond.

Vibrations, the title of my latest series of works, originates from photographs taken in India; images captured almost by chance since 2020, which immediately revealed to my eyes another gaze upon reality.
Images of reflections on mirrored surfaces; shadows, echoes, or "tremors" (Bruno Corà), that seem to capture that perceivable yet invisible energy.

From the beginning, the aim of the project was to exhibit these works in the country where they originated. To bring them back to where they were born—a sort of squaring of the circle; a necessary passage and return, for personal and artistic growth and evolution.

The project took shape as I progressed on the path started two years ago.
The path, of art and life, forged the project.

I came into contact with many realities, between India and Italy: meetings, emails, phone calls—always seeking a connection, the human element, with which to create correspondence. Sometimes, these encounters bring nourishment and enrichment, what I like to call the "human juice" of the journey.

Among all:

Paulo Barone, with his writings—especially *"Benares – Atlas of the 21st Century"*—which accompanied me throughout the journey. A chance encounter and acquaintance, from which came a deep shared vision. Perhaps we are two souls trapped in the dense forest of Indian magnetism. The connection turns our gaze in the same direction.

Bruno Corà, whose presence and connection to the evolution of the *Vibrations* works, I have always felt close.

For those who believe in energies, connection is the invisible and perceptible thread that links things, people, events—according to a sense and a non-sense. Connection is a design not fully visible in its entirety, of which we are only partially aware.

The result is two exhibitions in two special places in India, for their profound underlying meaning. **Varanasi**, one of the world's spiritual centers, at the Art Gallery of **Banaras Hindu University**, one of the oldest universities in India.
Kolkata, India's cultural center, where, at the end of the 20th century, a strong sense of national pride was born—spilling into politics and the arts—and led to the struggles for independence from the British. The birthplace of the immense poet and thinker **Rabindranath Tagore**.
The exhibition could only be held at **B-CAF Bridge of Culture and Arts Foundation**, which, like my project, is a "bridge" between different peoples and cultures, between the world of appearances and the world of the invisible.

Simona Frillici, February 2025