

A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY  
LORENZO CASTORE AND ADAM COHEN



NO PEACE WITHOUT WAR

PRODUCED BY  
PAOLO BENZI AND ANN CAROLIN RENNINGER

## THE STORY

**No Peace Without War** is a film about Ewa and Piotr Sosnowski, brother and sister, living together since the death of their father.

It's the story of a forgotten world that takes place behind the door of a two-rooms apartment in Krakow, Poland. To understand Ewa and Piotr's past and present is almost impossible.

At a certain moment everything falls into a misty and mysterious cloud where real and invented memories become indistinct. The more we get to know them facts become trifling and unsubstantial. The only sure thing is that they live in extreme poverty but they never complain about it.

Insight and unique access to this story is made possible through the eyes and sensibility of Italian photographer-filmmaker Lorenzo Castore (Mario Giacomelli Prize 2003, Leica European Publisher Award 2005) and the visual approach of experimental documentary filmmaker Adam Cohen.



## KEEPING A RENDEZ-VOUS

by Lorenzo Castore

Six years ago I got an apartment in Cracow, where intermittently I spent part of my life. Since about the same period, I began seeing Ewa on my way, or walking in the park with her dog, or on the bus. I was immediately fascinated by her, so I took my courage in hand and tried to approach her, to talk to her, to take some pictures; without result for more than two years. Only disdainful refusals.

One day I pay a visit to a dear friend who sells old curiosities in a local street market. She tells me that she has been approached by a woman, looking and acting out of the ordinary, who wanted to sell her some photos taken by her father, where nature and portraits played the greatest role. Ewa. So, I described to my friend Ludmilla the woman I'd run into; yes, it was Ewa. I asked her to organize a meeting, which took place the following Sunday in a coffee shop near the flea market.

Ewa frightens and attracts me as during our first contacts. Moreover the problem of the language; I don't speak Polish she doesn't speak English. With a rough translation, I try to tell her some words, she absently listens, I ask her if I can take some pictures and she accepts, a bit annoyed and only in return for money that she immediately wants after the very first shots.

Just afterwards, she invites us to her apartment and I realize that she lives in my same street, number 43. On my arrival, she opens the door to a world that, from that moment, will enter into and stay with me for four crucial years. Ewa is very well-dressed, as always. Every pullover, t-shirt, shoe, jacket is chosen very neatly; matching, sophisticated, poised. But when you enter her apartment, you leave the normal world and you face another dimension, an inner scenery which is also a state of mind: all is impoverished, decaying, rotten, the smell is unbearable. There is no electricity, it is evening, everything is dark inside. Somewhere a dog barks furiously. After Ewa lit some candles, I catch sight of Piotr's shape wrapped up in the blankets on the sofa. We drink together in this nightmarish place, with Ewa more and more excited; she went on shouting, laughing, singing; the dog jumping, licking, barking, destroying everything possible to destroy. Piotr, drunk and imperturbable on his sofa-bed, smoking one cigarette after another and trying to take part in the conversation in English. A little later we leave their creepy home and Ludmilla tells me that she will never more set foot in that place: hell will come in its time.

But the day after I went there again and from that moment on I continued to go regularly...

NO PEACE WITHOUT WAR



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## THE ARTISTS

### **LORENZO CASTORE** / Director

Castore was born in Florence on June 22, 1973.

Since today he has worked in Europe (1997-2011), New York (1997-2001), Cuba (2000-2002) and India (1997-2001): he privileges long terms projects and special collaborations on the most different topics. His main interest is life and memory and their more mysterious and hidden aspects in relation with individual and personal stories and History.

His work was published on magazines such as Le Monde 2, Liberation, Sunday Telegraph, L'Espresso, Ventiquattro, D-La Repubblica, etc.

He won the Mario Giacomelli Prize (2003) and the Leica European Publishers' Award (2005). He published two books: Nero (2004) and Paradiso (2006). He's represented by Agence/Galerie VU'. **No peace without war** is his first film.

Personal exhibitions

#### INDIA

Minerva 5 Gallery. Rome, Italy (1998)

#### DISTANCE

AOCF58 Gallery. Rome, Italy (1999)

#### SZCZESC BOZE

Polish Institute of Culture. Rome, Italy (2000)

Zpaf Gallery. Warsaw, Poland (2000)

Rapperswil Museum. Zurich, Switzerland (2000)

Ruined Theatre. Gliwice, Poland (2001)

Italian Institute of Culture. Krakow, Poland (2001)

GKS. Katowice, Poland (2002)

Spazio San Fedele. Milan, Italy (2005)

#### BABYLON, NEW YORK

National Gallery of Modern Art. Rome, Italy (2002)

#### PARADISO

Grazia Neri Gallery. Milan, Italy (2003)

VU' Gallery. Paris, France (2004)

Leica Gallery. Solms, Germany (2006)

Photokina. Cologne, Germany (2006)

Espace Le Mejan, Rencontres d'Arles. Arles, France (2006)

Mai Mano' House of Photography. Budapest, Hungary (2007)

Envy Gallery. Frankfurt, Germany (2007)



**NERO**

Palazzo Reale. Milan, Italy (2004)  
Torre Littoria. Carbonia, Italy (2004)  
Labyrinth Gallery. Krakow, Poland (2004)

**MOVING, PATHETIC AND RIDICULOUS** (special selections with different titles)

Alchemia. Krakow, Poland (2001)  
Fnac Galleries. Milan, Turin, Genova, Verona, Naples, Italy (2005-2006)  
AnimaArt Gallery. Krakow, Poland (2007)  
Yours Gallery. Warsaw, Poland (2007)  
Espace St. Cyprien. Toulouse, France (2010)

**NOTEBOOK**

s.t. Gallery. Rome, Italy (2009)  
Foiano della Chiana Foto Festival, Italy (2009)

**NO PEACE WITHOUT WAR**

Noorderlicht Festival. Groningen, Holland (2009)  
Pasquart Museum. Biel/Bienne, Switzerland (2010)

**LAST DOMICILE**

Piano B Gallery, Rome, Italy (2010)

**Collective exhibitions**

"2 in 1". Galica Gallery, Milan - I (2002)  
Babylon, New York. Pantharei Gallery. Munchen - D (2002)  
P-Zero: Gervasio, Concordia y Virtudes. Museo della Permanente, Milan - I (2003)  
Circa 35. Mercati Traianei, Rome - I (2003)  
Unique. VU Gallery, Paris - F (2003)  
The fleeting moment between photography and cinema. Gianni and Marella Agnelli Foundation, Turin - I (2003)  
Accrochage d'ete. VU Gallery, Paris - F (2005)  
80+80 photo-graphisme. VU Gallery, Paris - F (2006)  
Dimensione massima 10x15. NoName, Rome I (2009)  
Clear Light. Fotografia Europea. Galleria Parmeggiani - Reggio Emilia - I (2009)  
Tout l'univers... VU Gallery, Paris - F (2009)  
Italian Emerging Photography (DVD) - Notebook. IIC - Paris - F (2010)  
The singled person. Ankerbrotfabrik, Vienna - A (2010)  
Mineurs d'ici et d'ailleurs. Centre historique minier - Fosse delloye, Lewarde - F (2011)

**ADAM COHEN** / Co-director

Cohen is a New York City born filmmaker and photographer.  
Working somewhere between film, painting, and photography: the city as a place to explore themes of memory and forgetting, history and entropy.  
Filmography: BLIND OF GRACE (1993); FIRE OF TIME (2000).

Selected solo print exhibitions

Gallery 59 Rue Rivoli, Paris - 2010  
B>Gallery Rome - 2009  
Espace Photo St.Cyprien, Toulouse - 2008  
Gallery vu paris - 2005  
Galapagos-Occularis, Brooklyn - 2003

Film and print work has been acquired by various museums including:

Museum of Image and Sound - Sao Paulo, Brasil  
La Caixa Foundation - Barcelona, Spain  
Museum of Contemporary Art Barcelona - Spain  
Australian Centre for the Moving Image - Melbourne, Australia  
Centre de Cultura Contemporania Barcelona  
Houston Museum of Fine Arts

Selected Film Screenings

Message to Man Int. Film Festival St. Petersburg, Russia - 2010  
Ronald Feldman Gallery, N.Y. - 2003  
Sundance Channel - [U.S. television] - 2002  
Public Broadcasting Service - [U.S. television] - 2001  
New York Metropolitan Museum of Art - 2000  
Brooklyn Museum of Art - 2000  
Brooklyn Academy of Music - 2000  
Pratt Institute - Program for Art on Film - 1997  
Museu d'Art Contemporania de Barcelona - 1996  
Sao Paulo Museum of image & sound - 1993  
Dia Center for the Arts NYC - 1992

Grants and Awards

L. Comfort Tiffany Foundation - 2003  
NYSCA Media Production Grant - 2002  
Creative Capital Foundation - 2000  
Wexner Center for the Arts - 1998  
New York State Foundation for the Arts - Film 1997  
Jerome Foundation - Film 1996  
New York Foundation for the Arts - Photography 1989

**CHRISTIAN FENNESZ** / Music composer and sound designer

Fennesz uses guitar and computer to create shimmering, swirling electronic sound of enormous range and complex musicality. "Imagine the electric guitar severed from cliché and all of its physical limitations, shaping a bold new musical language." - (City Newspaper, USA). His lush and luminant compositions are anything but sterile computer experiments. They resemble sensitive, telescopic recordings of rainforest insect life or natural atmospheric occurrences, an inherent naturalism permeating each piece. Christian Fennesz is published by Touch Music.

Among his works

SALA SANTA CECILIA [with Ryuichi Sakamoto]  
CDEP | TOUCH TONE 22 | 2005 |

ERSTLIVE 004 [with Peter Rehberg, Sachiko M and Otomo Yoshihide]  
CD | ERSTWHILE EL004 | 2005 |

4 GENTLEMEN OF THE GUITAR: CLOUD [with Keith Rowe, Toshimaru Nakamura and Oren Ambarchi]  
CD | ERSTWHILE 046-2 | 2005 |

LIVE AT THE LU [with Keith Rowe]  
CD | ERSTWHILE 043 | 2004 |

THE RETURN OF FENN O'BERG [with Peter Rehberg & Jim O'Rourke]  
CD | P-Vine PCD 23325 | 2003 | CD | MEGO 054 | 2002 | LP | MEGO 054v | 2002 |  
Album compiled from Fenn O'Berg shows at Centre Pompidou, Paris and Porgy&Bess, Vienna 2001. The Japanese version, out on P-Vine, has an extra track.

SPLIT # 15 [with Robert Hampson]  
LP | Fat Cat 12FAT045 | 2002 |

WRAPPED ISLANDS [with polwechsel]  
CD | ERSTWHILE 023 | 2002 |

FENNESZ/REHBERG - REHBERG & BAUER  
Vinyl | RAFT 116 | 2001 |

FENNESZ/ROSY\_PARLANE LIVE [with Rosy Parlane]  
3" CD | SYNAESTHESIA SYN001 | 2000 |

THE MAGIC SOUND OF FENN O'BERG [with Peter Rehberg & Jim O'Rourke]  
CD | MEGO 031 | 1999 |



**NO PEACE WITHOUT WAR**

(37', colour and b&w)

a film by  
LORENZO CASTORE and ADAM COHEN

music and sound by  
CHRISTIAN FENNESZ