



**METRONOM**

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**CLOSE OBSERVER**

**Artist:** SANNA KANNISTO  
**Curator:** Daniele De Luigi  
**Opening:** April 14, 2012  
**Date:** April 14 - June 16, 2012  
**Venue:** METRONOM I 142 viale G. Amendola I 41125 Modena IT  
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**Hours:** tuesday – saturday: 15,00- 19,00 and by appointment

Metronom is pleased to announce CLOSE OBSERVER, the first exhibition in Italy of the finnish artist Sanna Kannisto, starting from Saturday, April 14th. The exhibition shows a selection of recent photographs, large and small format, which constitute a complete visual path on her artistic research. The exhibition is organized under the patronage of the Embassy of Finland in Rome.

Sanna Kannisto's works are an acute exploration of the relationship between art and science, and between nature and culture. Her photographs are the result of long periods spent in the rainforests of Latin America, living in a scientific field and working alongside biologists. Building on the models of visual representation of the flora and fauna typical of western scientific culture, the artist presents rare botanical specimens and animal spectacular. At the same time, making evident the tools and processes to address species and image building, revealing the artifice that allows us to observe and understand theoretically the nature, creating a powerful metaphor for the role of art and science in the definition of the relationship between humans and other living species. As by her statement: "In my artistic work I aim to study the methods, theories and concepts through which we approach nature in art and in science. As an artist I am attracted by the idea that when I am working in a rain forest I am a 'visual researcher'. Taking photographs in a field studio has become one of my most important working methods. The portable photography box I have constructed is like a stage showing scenes from nature, which I direct."

The show consists largely of recent works, but not only, in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the artist's works. In the series *Still life* small species of plants and animals, placed in the middle of a photo shoot, are transformed in actors of the theater of nature. The series *Act of Flying* shows, in an installation where the hummingbird that seems to escape the confines of the frame, while a bat hovering in the air, caught in the act of eating, is the subject of some works at night. The pair of photographs entitled *Dark Forest* are of great impact, where the tangled vegetation of the forest becomes almost an abstract, in the same ways of *Transient rain* and *Spider*, where two spiders appear in the middle of a game of mirrors. The artist herself sometimes takes part in the scene, like in *Close observer*, where she plays various roles: photographer, performer and researcher in the field.

Sanna Kannisto (born in Hämeenlinna, Finland, 1974. Lives in Helsinki). Her work has been exhibited in some of the most prestigious international art institutions: Centre Pompidou, 2009; Museum of Modern Art, New York, 2008; Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Parigi, 2008; Fotomuseum, Winterthur, 2007; Finnish Museum of Photography, Helsinki, 2007. Recently she has exhibited in a solo show on Aperture Gallery, New York (2011), and the Sørlandets Kunstmuseum, Kristiansand, Norway.

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