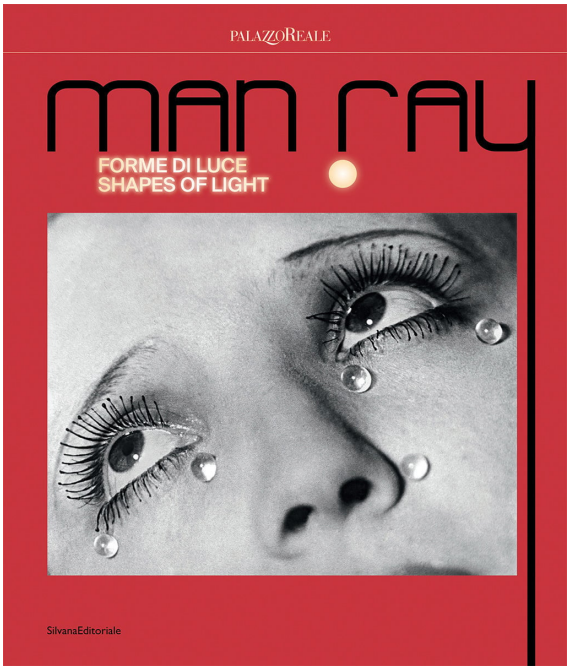
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Man Ray

Shapes of Light

Edited by Pierre-Yves Butzbach

Edited by Robert Rocca

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- Accompanies the *Shapes of Light* exhibition at Palazzo Reale in Milan from 24 September 2025 to 11 January 2026
- This thematic journey (self-portraits, muses, nudes, rayographs and solarisations, fashion) offers the rediscovery of a truly one-of-a-kind artist and brilliant pioneer

A visionary and multifaceted artist, Man Ray is a leading figure in 20th-century art history. Photographer, painter, draftsman, filmmaker, and object-maker defined by rare creative freedom, he turned every medium into a field of experimentation.

Born Emmanuel Radnitzky in Philadelphia in 1890, he soon immersed himself in New York's avant-garde scene, where he met and formed a close bond with Marcel Duchamp, eventually joining him in Paris in 1921. There, he became a key player in the Dada, then Surrealist movements. He revolutionised photography, elevating it to a full-fledged art form, with iconic works like*Le Violon d'Ingres* and *Noire et blanche*. The formal audacity and poetic visual language he brought to fashion photography continue to inspire creatives to this day. A tireless experimenter, he invented "rayographs", rediscovered solarisation and as an avant-garde filmmaker he transformed the image into pure sensation.

Man Ray embodies the free, transgressive, and elusive artist. His body of work, imbued with humour, strangeness, and eroticism, defies categorisation and celebrates the power of imagination.

Includes texts by: Robert Rocca, Pierre-Yves Butzbach, Raffaella Perna.

Text in English and Italian.







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