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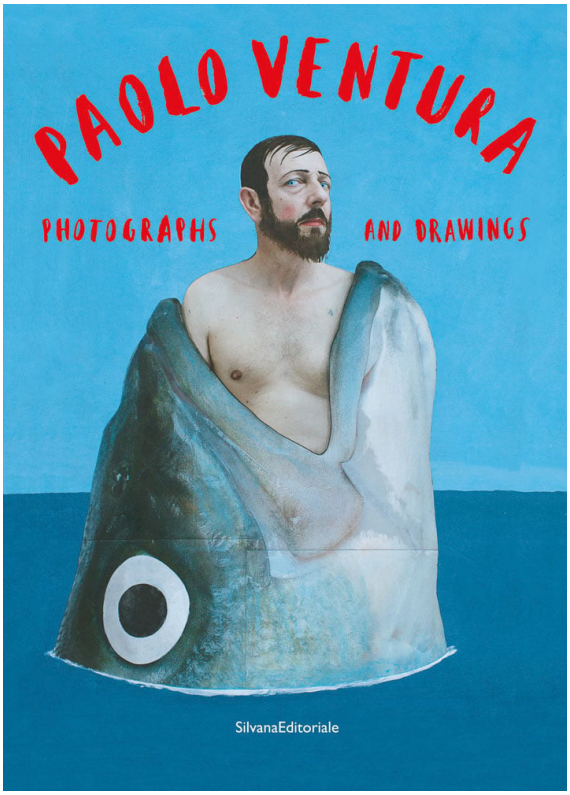


Paolo Ventura

Photographs and Drawings

Paolo Ventura

Text by Walter Guadagnini

Text by Francine Prose

Interviewer Monica Poggi

ISBN	9788836646326
Publisher	Silvana
Binding	Paperback / softback
Territory	UK, Ireland, Scandinavia, Iceland, Germany, Greece, Eastern Europe, & Austria. Arab States non-exclusive. Selected territories in Asia, non-exclusive
Size	240 mm x 170 mm
Pages	496 Pages
Illustrations	420 color
Price	£43.00

- Fifteen years of activity retraced in this monograph, the first dedicated to the surreal work of Paolo Ventura, an original interpreter of staged photography

The first extensive monograph dedicated to the work of Paolo Ventura (Milan, 1968). Ventura has established himself in the field of artistic photography, offering a singular and absolutely original interpretation of staged photography, an art form in which photography is the final product of a creative process which, in his case, involves the preparation of scenarios and mannequins: the latter, together with real characters among which the artist himself often appears, are the protagonists of his stories.

In these three-dimensional settings Ventura recreates, and then fixes through photography, a mental space that refers to the atmosphere of "magical realism" and to the fairytale flavour of childhood, generating a deliberately surreal contrast with the depth of some topics involved (such as war, abandonment, memory, identity).

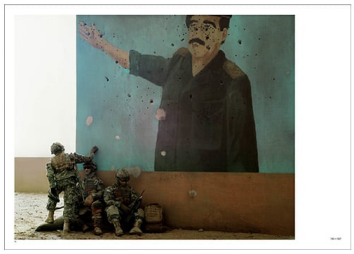
The volume offers an overall look at the artist's 15 years of activity, showcasing 21 series from 2005 to the present time, highlighting the evolution of his language which, in addition to photography, is also expressed through drawings.

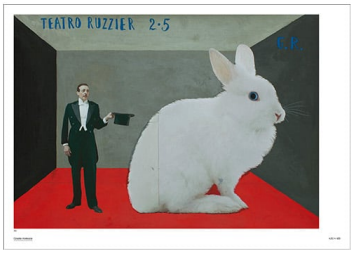
The monograph includes critical texts by Walter Guadagnini and Francine Prose, an interview with Ventura by Monica Poggi and biographical notes.

Text in English and Italian.

Paolo Ventura trained at the Brera Academy, he began his work as a fashion photographer. He moved to New York at the end of the 1990s and devoted himself to a personal artistic research, which over the years would bring him international exhibitions and success. In 2010 he returned with his family to Italy, where he continued his exhibition activity, starting collaborations also with the world of theatre. His works are collected by museums and international photographic institutions (in Italy we remember Macro, the Palazzo BraschiMuseum and the Central Institute for Graphics in Rome, Palazzo Fortuny Museum in Venice, the Mart in Rovereto). Among his publications are *War Souvenirs* (Contrasto, 2006), *Winter stories* (Aperture, 2009), *Short stories* (Aperture, 2016).







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