

**FROM THE WEBSITE OF:**  
**'SAMARA REGIONAL MUSEUM OF ART NOUVEAU'**

April 8th, 2016

The personal exhibition "Evaporations" of Italian photographer John R. Pepper opened today at Museum of Art Nouveau.

John Randolph Pepper is the Italian-American photographer - -also theatre and film director. He studied with famous photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, Sam Shaw, David Seymour and Ugo Mulas. Pepper works and lives in Rome, Paris and New York. When John was 12, he received his first camera from his father, who taught him the basics of photography. In 14 years old, Pepper became a student of Ugo Mulas and his first photo was published in Newsweek magazine.

"Evaporation" series consists of works created in 2012-2013. The exhibition was first shown in 2014 at the "Gallery of Paolo Morello" in Palermo, then at the "Officina delle Zattere" in Venice and in the ROSPHOTO state museum in St. Petersburg. The project is about man's connection with the sea and how man is small in comparison with nature. In Pepper's photos the human figures are not large, but exactly in the central of the landscapes. The photographer took these pictures in Naples and Thessaloniki, Geneva, Chicago, New York and St. Petersburg.

"Water is the fundamental element of life, part of the global cycle. We all came out of the water. Water symbolizes eternity and strength, promotes physical development and spiritual purification of people" says John Pepper. The artist is trying to overcome the laws of time and space and offers to concentrate on ordinary human life: "The dominant of my work is the story of man, his vulnerability, his secret, his imperfection. Man stumbles, makes mistakes and then rises again - -this is the beauty of people".

John Pepper personally attended the opening of the "Evaporations" exhibition. The photographer held a extended tour of his work and explained how they were created and also answered questions about why he takes only black-and-white film and why doesn't give names to his photos.

The exhibition was made in association with the Honorary Consulate of Italy in the Samara and Ulyanovsk Oblast and the Republic of Tatarstan and the Moscow Institute of Italian Culture.

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