

# The Project in the Gaze. Landscape Photographs by Gabriele Basilico

26.02 \_  
08.04.2016



## La progettualità dello sguardo

### Fotografie di paesaggio di Gabriele Basilico

26.2 –  
8.4.2016

RAIFFEISEN

INFORMAZIONI

Conceived and promoted by the Academy of Architecture together with the curator Angela Madesani and the Studio Gabriele Basilico, the exhibition presents 60 photographs in various formats, mostly in black and white.

The exhibition explores the theme of landscape in the research of Gabriele Basilico (1944-2013). The exhibits comprise works produced mainly between the eighties and nineties in Europe. The exhibition, curated by Angela Madesani, brings out the concept of the project in Basilico's gaze (as an architect by training, he was particularly concerned with issues related to urban planning, as well as the development and transformation of the landscape). It begins with a selection of photographs from the Bord de Mer series, a work Basilico produced in the mid-eighties for the Mission Photographique de la DATAR, which made his name internationally. Among its many aspects, this research revealed Basilico's close ties to art history, the eighteenth-century vedutisti in particular. The exhibition also features a series of landscape images, some of them exhibited for the first time in the Mendrisio exhibition.

Particular attention is devoted to two groups of images taken in Switzerland: The Search for a Centre (1996), research devoted to the architecture of Luigi Snozzi at Monte Carasso, from a project curated by Gabriele Basilico himself together with Luigi Snozzi and Pierre-Alain Croset; and a major series of photographs of the Saint Gotthard (1997), a work dedicated to the landscape of the Gotthard Pass interpreted as a lifeline between northern and southern Europe, produced to an invitation from the Culture Foundation of the Banca del Gottardo on its fortieth anniversary.

Hence this is an educational exhibition and an occasion for reflection on the territory, especially devised for a place of study and research like the Mendrisio Academy of Architecture, where Gabriele Basilico delivered a major public lecture in 2010. The exhibition presents 60 images and a selection of publications by Gabriele Basilico, seeking to offer new stimuli and new insights into the work of one of the greatest masters of photography of the last 40 years.

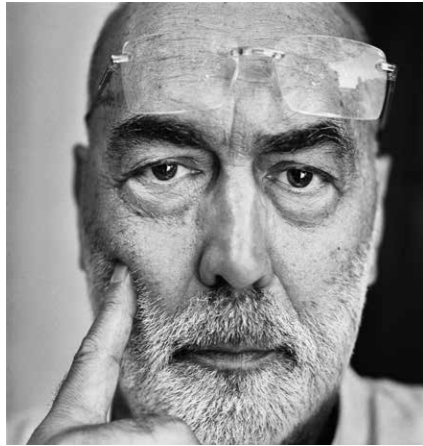
results, especially as concerns light. Light creates an atmosphere in which all the different lights converge that are produced by specific surfaces in their encounter with a ray. These different lights emit a luminous harmony that we could almost compare to that of music. In the photographs of Zumthor's interiors I especially studied the natural lighting, which was often zenithal, while for Lewerentz (in the church in Björkhagen) I focused on analyzing how he created atmospheres by using multitudes of lamps. Besides their use of light, the relationship between the two architects can also be seen in the way the surfaces of their architectures interact with the surrounding environment.











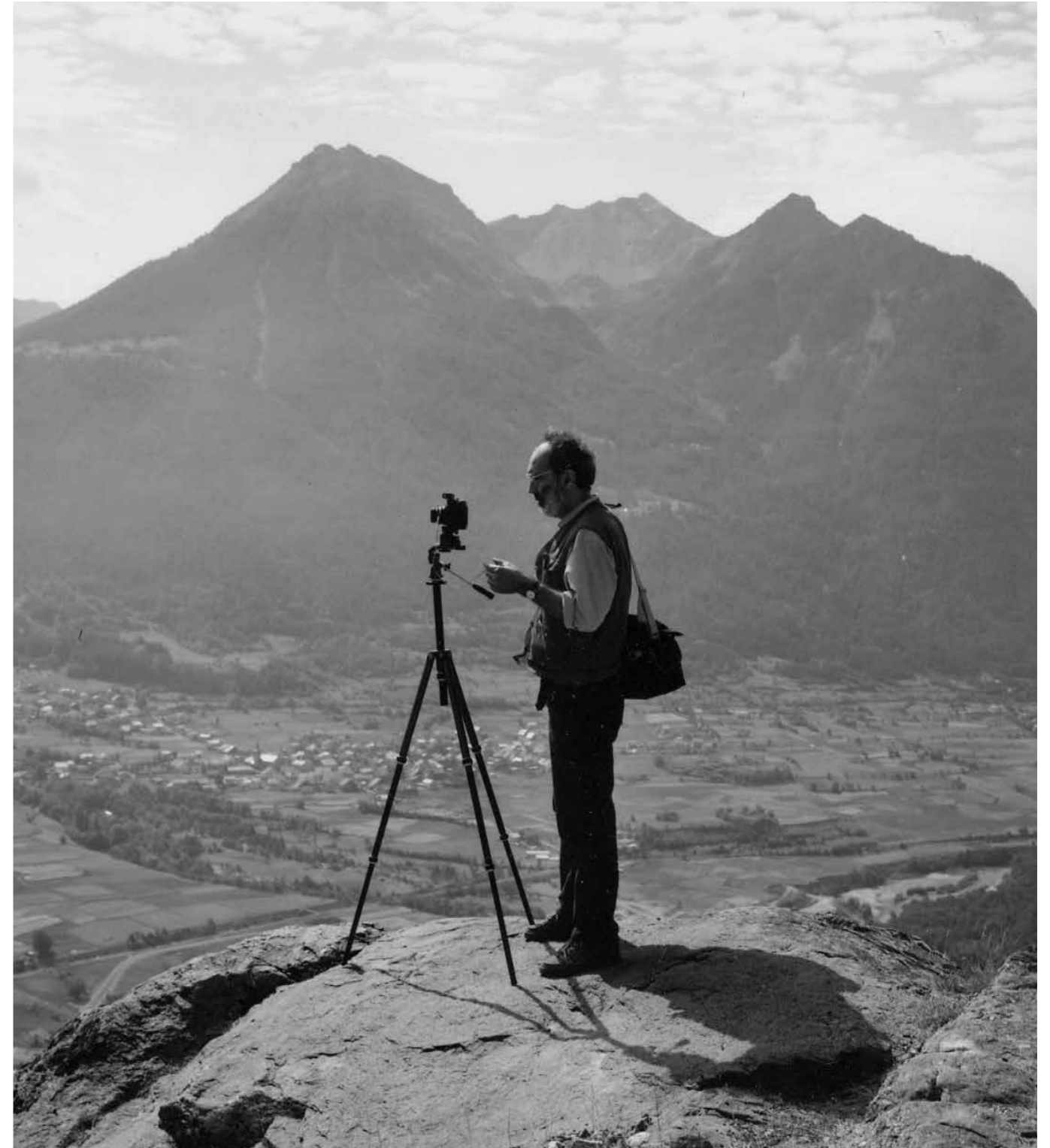
©

Gabriele Basilico was born in Milan in 1944. After graduating in architecture from the Milan Polytechnic in 1973, he turned to photography and confirmed his vocation with the important 1978-80 project Milan. Portraits of Factories, exhibited for the first time at the Milan Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea in 1983. In 1984 the French Government invited him to take part in the Mission Photographique de la DATAR, a project documenting the transformation of the contemporary landscape, which gave rise to the famous Bord de Mer project. In 1991 he joined an international group of photographers on a mission to Beirut, a city devastated by fifteen years of civil war. This raised Basilico's reputation internationally, enabling him to produce and participate in numerous documentation projects on the territory, the city and cultural landscapes around the world, leading to exhibitions and numerous publications.

His most recent works include the important photographic projects on Moscow (2008), Istanbul (2010), Shanghai (2010), Beirut (2011), Rio de Janeiro (2011). In 2012 he participated in the 13th International Architecture Exhibition in Venice with the project Common Pavilions.

Gabriele Basilico exhibited his photographs at major institutions around the world and received numerous international awards.

He died in Milan on 13 February 2013.

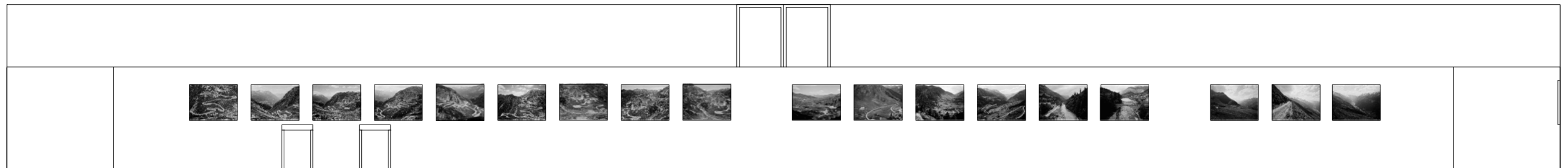


© Tony D'ambrosio



1.

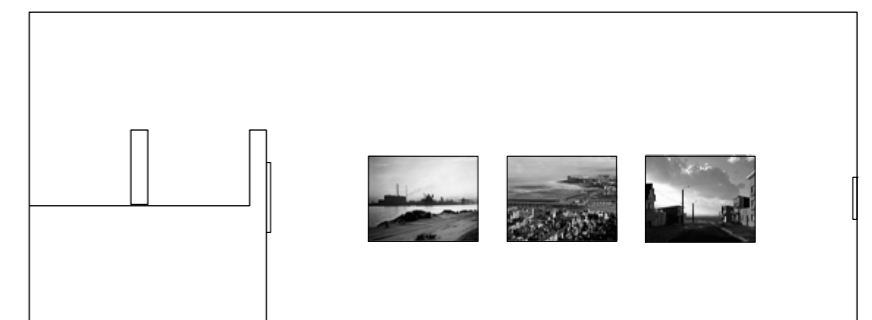
2.



3.



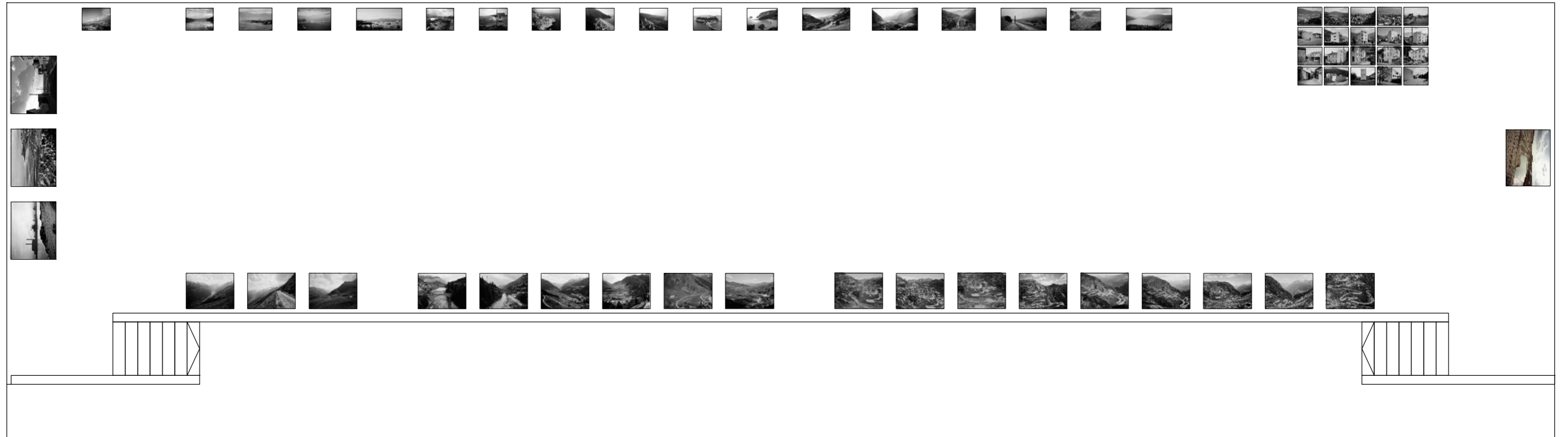
4.














5.




1. Landscape: Datar, 17 photographs (different dimensions),  
layout following catalogue order from left to right; distance 55 cm.
2. Landscape: Monte Carasso, 20 photographs 40x55 cm, distance 5 cm.
3. Landscape: Gottardo, 18 photographs 80x108 cm (frame 83x111cm),  
distance 28 cm/136 cm.
4. Landscapes: Montepulciano, 1 photograph in colour, 100x127cm (frame 103x130cm)  
axis h= 150 cm.
5. Landscapes: 3 photographs 100x127 cm (frame 103X130 cm),  
axis h=150cm, distance 35 cm.





























1		96B5-1-4	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
2		96B5-1-12	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
3		96B5-7-6	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
4		96B5-7-10	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
5		96B5-9-12	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
6		96B5-10-2	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
7		96B5-12-12	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
8		96B5-13-3	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
9		96B5-16-06	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
10		96B5-21-12	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
11		96B5-21-13	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55

12		96B5-22-1	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
13		96B5-22-5	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
14		96B5-27-11	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
15		96B5-33-5	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
16		96B5-34-8	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
17		96B5-37-5	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
18		96B5-39-2	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
19		96B5-40-2	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
20		96B5-40-5	Monte Carasso	1996	40 x 55
21		97B7-7-12	Gottardo	1997	80x108
22		97B7-13-1	Gottardo	1997	80x108

23		97B7-13-5	Gottardo	1997	80x108
24		97B7-15-5	Gottardo	1997	80x108
25		97B7-16-2	Gottardo	1997	80x108
26		97B7-21-9	Gottardo	1997	80x108
27		97B7-23-4	Gottardo	1997	80x108
28		97B7-24-12	Gottardo	1997	80x108
29		97B7-25-2	Gottardo	1997	80x108
30		97B7-25-8	Gottardo	1997	80x108
31		97B7-25-12	Gottardo	1997	80x108
32		97B7-27-5	Gottardo	1997	80x108
33		97B7-28-7	Gottardo	1997	80x108

34		97B7-39-6	Gottardo	1997	80x108
35		97B7-39-7	Gottardo	1997	80x108
36		97B7-39-12	Gottardo	1997	80x108
37		97B7-40-11	Gottardo	1997	80x108
38		97B7-49-12	Gottardo	1997	80x108
39		45N418	Bray Dunes	1984	50x63.5
40		001	Casa Malaparte	1988	50x63.5
41		90B1-1-14	Barcellona	1990	50x75
42		90B9-29-7	Vigo	1990	50x100
43		91B1-16-17	Valle d'Aosta	1991	50x75
44		92B6-51-10	Briançon	1992	50x100

45		92B6-64.4	Durance	1992	50x100
46		93B8-59-4	Bilbao	1993	50x61.5
47		93B6-198-16	Brennero	1993	50x100
48		93B6-169-14	Lugano	1995	50x100
49		95B1-47-16	Porto	1996	50x61.5
50		96B8-57-9	Matosinhos	2000	50x75
51		2000A4-102	Valencia	2002	50x63.5
52		02A11-101	Calabria	2002	50x63.5
53		02A11-115	Calabria	2003	50x63.5
54		03B5-11-9	Trentino	2004	50x67.5
55		04A10-214-044	Nisida	2006	50x63.5

56		06B10-24-12	Masua, Sardegna	2006	50x67.5
57		45N374	Dunkerque	1984	100x127
58		45N581	Le Treport-Mers les Bains	1985	100x127
59		09A3 089	Montepulciano	2009	100x127
60		45N547 003	Merlimont Plage	1985	100x127
61		88A2-6	Anversa	1988	200x250
62		45N581	Le Treport	1985	200x250

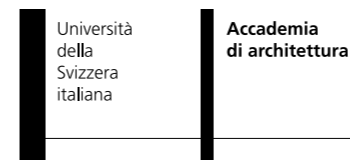
**The Project in the Gaze.**

**Landscape Photographs by Gabriele Basilico**

edited by  
Marco Della Torre  
23.5 x 16.5 cm, 128 pp.  
60 ill. b/w  
paperback  
english / italian  
Silvana Editoriale  
ISBN 9788836633210  
€ 22 / frs 25.–



This volume brings together the works of Gabriele Basilico (1944-2013) devoted to the theme of landscape, bringing out the project that informed his gaze: the photographer was an architect by training, and particularly concerned with issues related to urban planning, as well as the development and transformation of the natural environment. The collection opens with a selection of photographs from the cycle Bord de Mer, the work Basilico carried out in the mid-eighties and which introduced him to the international arena: a research project which revealed, among much else, a close relation with art history, in particular with the painters of the eighteenth century. A broad selection is then given from two groups of works done in Switzerland: one dedicated to Luigi Snozzi's architectural interventions at Monte Carasso (Locarno), the other to the landscape of the Saint-Gotthard Pass, interpreted as a lifeline between northern and southern Europe.  
(Texts by: Angela Madesani, Giovanna Calvenzi, João Nunes, Luigi Snozzi.)



con il contributo di  
**RAIFFEISEN**  
mendrisio e valle di muggio

**Una mostra a cura di**  
Angela Madesani

Promossa da  
Accademia di architettura, Università della Svizzera italiana  
e Studio Gabriele Basilico

**Accademia di architettura**  
**Università della Svizzera italiana**

**Direttore**  
Marc Collomb

**Coordinatore di direzione**  
Marco Della Torre

**Studio Gabriele Basilico**  
Giovanna Calvenzi  
Beba Gristina  
Gianni Bigro

**Coordinamento**  
Stefania Murer

**Grafica**  
Alberto Canepa

**Traduzione**  
Richard Sadlair

**Logistica**  
Graziano Cavalli  
Marco Corti  
Francesco Talaia  
e gli studenti  
Filippo Cocco  
Giovanni Lazzareschi  
Gregorio Lioce  
Filippo Paparella

**Ufficio stampa**  
Diana D'Andrea

Università della Svizzera italiana  
Accademia di architettura

Largo Bernasconi 2  
CH-6850 Mendrisio (Svizzera)

Tel. +4158 666 5000  
Fax +4158 666 5868

[www.arc.usi.ch](http://www.arc.usi.ch)  
[info.arc@usi.ch](mailto:info.arc@usi.ch)