

Lorenzo Zelaschi is a freelance photojournalist since the end of 2018, with ten years of experience as a graphic designer and videomaker behind him. Born in Bergamo in 1985, after high school and the School of Art he graduated from NABA, New Academy of Fine Arts in Milan.

In 2017 he left his job working for a large Italian communication and marketing agency to begin a journey, non-stop, in Asia that lasted thirteen months, and during which a passion for photojournalism was born.

He creates reportage in which images and text intertwine. His creative path allows him to provide photographic, literary and journalistic materials: a job that is only possible thanks to a deep and empathic immersion in the cultural, social and environmental aspects of the places visited.

In recent years he has traveled to Mexico, India, Nepal, Indonesia, Laos, Thailand, Jordan and the Bolivian Amazon.





On behalf of the Diocesan Missionary Center of Bergamo, he spent the months of September and October 2019 in the part of the Amazon rainforest of northern Bolivia, to document the socio-environmental transformations and the life of small rural communities trying to resist deforestation, in preparation of the Synod for the Amazon announced by Pope Francis with the aim of bringing world attention to the importance of preserving this area of the planet threatened by the phenomenon of fires and intense deforestation.

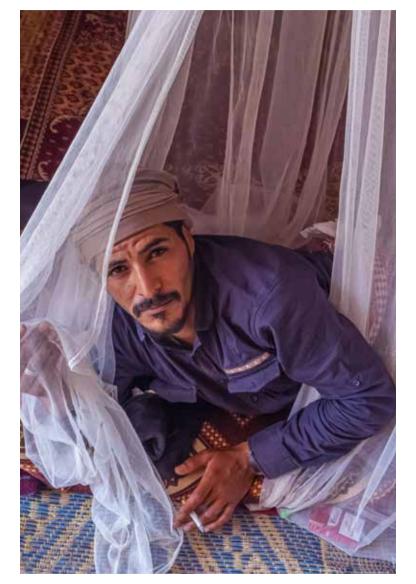
With the material produced during the week spent in the Rio Negro area, accompanying a Brazilian nun and her assistant, he created the reportage "Mater", which was exhibited in the OFF section of the Photojournalism Festival of Ethical Photography in Lodi, Italy, edition of 2021.





From 2019 he began to document the initiative of Legambiente - Italian environmental association - "Zero plastica in mare" and sponsored by BNP Paribas, for which fishermen collect waste from the sea during fishing trips, then disposing of it on land.

In 2019 he left for the city of Petra, Jordan, discovering that there are still about fifteen Bedouin families living inside the caves, carved into the rock, inside of the archaeological site, and in conditions of comfort very different from each other.



Bedouin man, inside his small shop, in the highest area of Little Petra - June 2019.



Plastic bottle, starfish and sea urchin, got entangled in the nets during the "fishing for litter" activities in Porto Garibaldi, Ferrara - 2019.



Bolivian Amazon rainforest - September 2019.



Fisherman holds a plastic cup in his hands that got stuck in the nets, Scario, Campania, August 2019.

He has created, with the collaboration of the Municipality of Bergamo, a photography exhibition at the Monumental Cemetery, inaugurated on 18 March 2021 - the national day of commemoration for coronavirus victims - lasting a month, and entitled "Spring".

The shots showed the year of tribulation that the city of Bergamo experienced, but also hope and rebirth, which always come after winter, through the guide that nature offers us due to the gradual, as well as inexorable, increasing of the light.

From the summer of 2021 he collaborates with the monthly magazine Orobie.

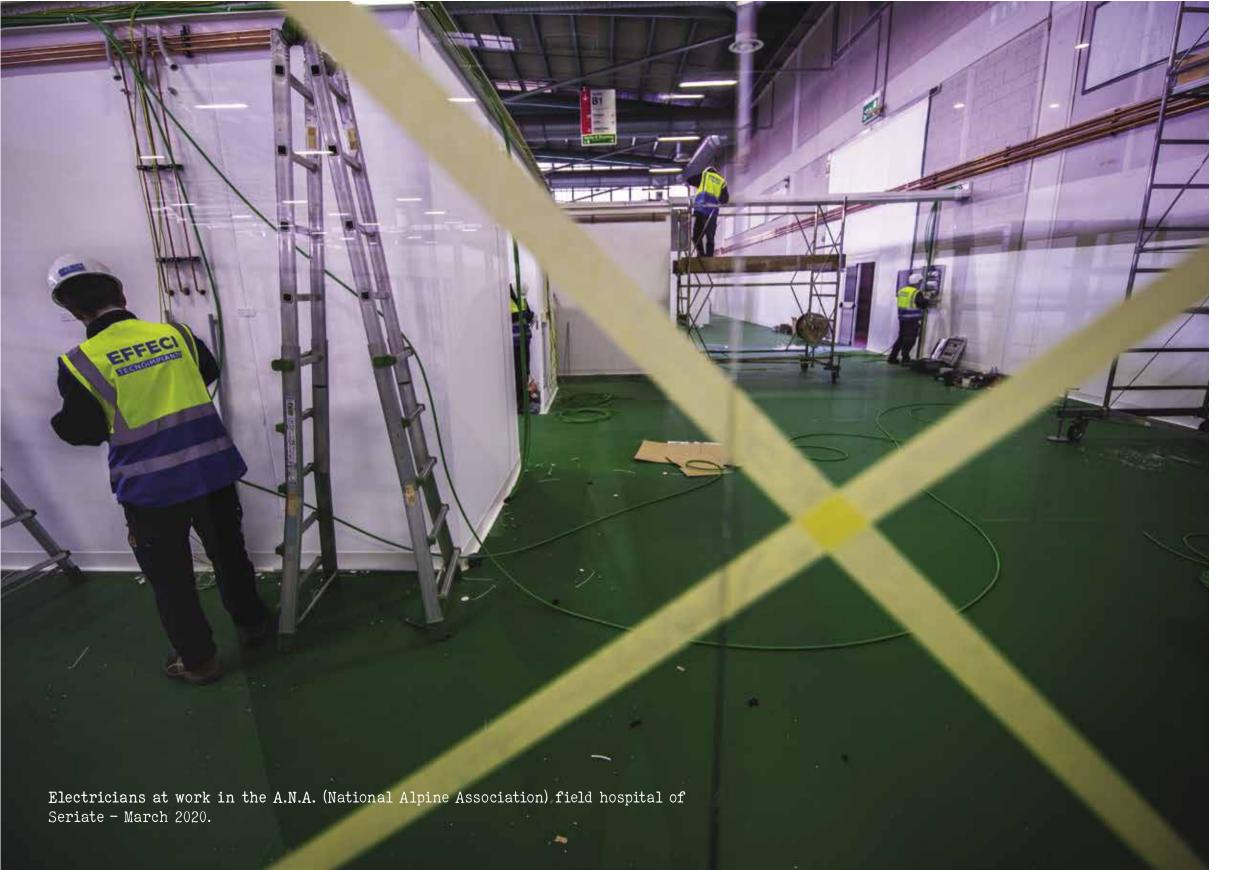




"I use photography as a tool to share the visual modality with which I perceive the world and as a bridge to get in touch with people, discover our beautiful planet and make the following truth visible: what distinguishes us lies in us on a very superficial level, while what we have in common abides in the depths and defines us as human beings.

I write to accompany the images, to accentuate their poetry and communicative capacity, where the visual part, even with all its power, cannot reach."





"I wish to show the World in its "chiaroscuro", consisting of the perpetual alternation of Shadows and Light - striving, however, to find a point of view that transcends this duality, that can help myself and those who wish to use my contents, to renew the blaze that represents trust in the Human Being and in existence itself.

I believe that, now more than ever, we need happy stories that can help us understand that there is - has always existed and always will always exist - a benevolent force lying behind the evils of this world.

The challenge we have the opportunity to take up is to find the ability to recognize this strength; and do our best to support it."

"There is an extraordinary connection that pervades everything that exists, in which the illusion of separation disappears, letting the mystical embrace in which we all are secretly immersed.

From my point of view, I believe this is the highest goal of creativity and art."







Remains of a tree after the fire in the Amazon rainforest in the area around the city of Riberalta, Bolivia - end of September 2019.



Family of Bolivian natives outside the church, after the mass is over - Amazon area of Rio Negro, northern Bolivia - end of September 2019.



Portrait of a Jordanian desert man, outside his cave, near the archaeological site of Petra. 2019.



Indigenous woman with child during mass, in a Bolivian Amazon forest village - Rio Negro area - September 2019.



Amazonia, Vicariate del Pando, Northern Bolivia, October 2019.



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