



FONDAZIONE
PASTIFICIO CERERE

KIRIBATI

a project by Antonio Fiorentino
curated by Marcello Smarrelli

Exhibition opening: Tuesday, March 19th 2019, 19.00h

Open to public: March 20th – July 19th 2019

Video preview: Monday April 15th 2019, 19.00h

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere
via degli Ausoni 7 - Roma

PRESS RELEASE

On **Tuesday 19th March 2019** at 19,00 **Fondazione Pastificio Cerere** presents **Kiribati**, personal exhibition of the artist **Antonio Fiorentino**, curated by **Marcello Smarrelli**.

The project was realized thanks to the help of MiBAC and SIAE, in the scope of the initiative "Sillumina – Copia privata per i giovani, per la cultura".

Antonio Fiorentino will display, for the first time, a series of artworks created after his **stay, between July and August 2018**, in the **Kiribati** islands, an insular country in Oceania made up of 33 scattered islands that cover an area ranging from a width of 4000km from East to West, to 2000km from North to South. Kiribati is located on the International Date Line and it is **the first country to welcome the new dawn, the new day, the new year: one might almost say that it's "in the future"**. But the future of this land is apocalyptic, for it runs the risk of permanently disappearing over the coming decades (according to the estimates within 30 to 50 years), since the constantly rising sea level caused by global warming is slowly (but steadily) submerging the islands' territory.

Driven by these powerful estimates, Fiorentino **has created a set of artworks that describe his journey in the pursuit of the future**, trying to find an answer to an unsolvable enigma, in which we hear the echo, transmuted by a young contemporary artist's perception, of that one extraordinary Gauguin's masterpiece, "*Where do we come from? Who are we? Where are we going?*" (1897-98), considered to be his not only artistic, but spiritual testament.

The timeline, in Kiribati, loses its confines, allowing distortions that managed to let the artist "travel through time", in a dimension both suspended and undefined, casual, in an incessant allusion with the intent of evaluating a perspective in relation to the chosen direction chosen. Thus, the idea of future loses its traditional connotation, its

dualism, either positive or catastrophic, and leaves room to newer and freer interpretations.

On April 15th April 2019, to satisfactorily complete the exhibition's itinerary, there will be a preview screening of the **video** titled *Kiribati*, shot by the artist while on the island. The video will be displayed in **Spazio Molini**, located in the basements of Pastificio Cerere, recently recovered, following renovation works of the ancient mill belonging to the former pasta factory.

BIOGRAPHY:

Antonio Fiorentino (Barletta 1987) lives and works between Milan and New York. He was awarded prizes for emerging artists, including the Talent Prize 2015 and the New York Prize XVI. He has had exhibitions in the following national and international institutions: Istituto Italiano di Cultura di New York (2018); MUSAC, Leon, (2018); MUHNAC, Lisbon, (2017); HANGAR, Lisbon, (2017); ISCP, New York, (2017); Istituto Svizzero, Rome, (2017); La Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Rome, (2016); HIAP, Helsinki, (2016); Kunst Meran, Merano (2015); Centro di Arte Contemporanea Villa Arson, Nice, (2014); American Academy, Rome, (2013); Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, (2012).

Rome, December 2018

MATERIALS AND PHOTOS AT:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tnawjbuynunh392/AADHCMiLaGAG8ZwEPRZkylyta?dl=0>

EXHIBIT PRESS OFFICE

Maria Bonmassar

Tel +39 06.48.25.370 | Cell +39 335.490.311 | ufficiostampa@mariabonmassar.com

ORGANIZATIONAL SECRETARY

Claudia Cavalieri and Emanuela Pigliacelli

info@pastificiocerere.it | www.pastificiocerere.it | Tel. +39 06 45422960

EXHIBITION INFO

Title: *Kiribati*

Artist: Antonio Fiorentino

Curator: Marcello Smarrelli

Venue: Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, via degli Ausoni 7 – Roma

Opening: Tuesday March 19th 2019, 19.00h

Open to public: March 20th – July 19th 2019

Hours: Mondays-Fridays from 15.00 to 19.00; Saturdays from 16.00 to 20.00 (until May 25th 2019).

Video preview: Monday April 15th 2019, 19.00h

Free entry

Follow us:



[@FondazionePastificioCerere](https://www.facebook.com/FondazionePastificioCerere)



[@fondazionepastificiocerere](https://www.instagram.com/fondazionepastificiocerere)



[@FondCerere](https://twitter.com/FondCerere)