



## VINS BLAKE

Vins Blake is an Italian Photographer and Film Director with a rather unconventional background.

A scientist by training – he holds an MSc in Biotechnology from University of Milan-Bicocca – Vins felt early on in his career a strong fascination with art, which eventually led him to develop a vision of the world filtered through the prism of his scientific studies. While “art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life” – as Pablo Picasso once said – through the masterful application of chemistry and electronic engineering Vins Blake challenges our perception of reality by subtly playing with everyday objects.

Bridging the gap between Blake’s controlled analytical mindset and his vigorous necessity of creative expression, is an attitude that allows him to observe reality from an unconventional standpoint. He then investigates it in its most curious aspects, both physically and conceptually, in order to find pleasing and novel paradigms.

Vins Blake lives in London, U.K. and he is available for work worldwide.

His series:

### PLANETS

What at a casual glance can look like a celestial body viewed from a satellite is in fact nothing more than a common egg, chemically manipulated and shot in the comfort of the Artist’s studio. Blake’s choice to use the perfect shape of an egg to recreate images of planets is bewildering and fascinating at the same time. These “planets” seem to truly float in outer space, thanks to the dark background that isolates the subjects and highlights their intrinsic features.

### ANATOMY OF A STILL LIFE

In *Anatomy of a Still Life*, Blake leaps even further in his investigation, transitioning from an exterior world, like the shells in *Planets*, to a veritable journey into nature itself; a narration by images supported by a scientist’s background, where his eye becomes a device able to guide our gaze beyond the surface.

Blake, as only great photographers can do, does not artificially construct a subject, but creates a visual narrative, capturing its primordial essence and isolates an existing phenomenon by extrapolating it from its own world and finally bringing it closer to our senses.

### SOFT AND RESTRAINED

From the need to return to a state of calm, meditation, contemplation, in a milieu of constant aggressiveness that permeates and saturates tone and form, “Soft and Restrained” is born, a series of works driven by a minimalist reduction, yet holding true to its emotional substrate.

Exploring the works of Mondrian, and to a lesser extent those of Malevich and Kandinsky, helps to slow down, to learn afresh to contemplate, and finally to lose oneself in a familiar geometry, albeit intriguing, teeming with passion and dynamism.

Cris Contini Contemporary

London | Milano | Bruxelles

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## **ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY**

### **EDUCATION**

M.Sc. in Biotechnology applied to Pharmacy. University of Milan-Bicocca, Italy, 2006

### **EXHIBITIONS**

2019

Opening Show. Contini Contemporary, London, UK

2018

Solo Exhibition. XXS Aperto al Contemporaneo, Palermo, Italy

2018

Solo Exhibition. Costantini Art Gallery, Milan, Italy

2017

Winter Show – Part II. Albemarle Gallery, London, UK 2016.

Winter Show. Albemarle Gallery, London, UK

2016

Solo Exhibition. Albemarle Gallery, London, UK 2016.

Opening Show. Pontone Gallery, London, UK

### **COLLABORATIONS**

2007

Director. With Photographer Francesco Pignatelli: “Fragile” and “Reversed Cities”, presented at PS1 MoMA New York “Big Bang” and “+ Fragile”, presented at Francesco Pignatelli’s solo exhibitions in Milan, Cologne and Paris

2003 – 2004

Assistant Professor. Course leader: Artist / Professor Mauro Annunziato, Academy Of Fine Arts “N.A.B.A.” (Milan) Course: “Neural Networks applied to Generative Art and Theory of Complexity”

2002 - 2005. Assistant Professor. Course leader: Director / Professor Daniele Pignatelli, Academy Of Fine Arts “N.A.B.A.” (Milan)

Course: “Philosophy and Methods of Cinematographic Directing” Course: “Theory of Film Directing and Editing”

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## SELECTED MOVIES

Celebrate Life, advert  
Mathieu Karsenti, *promo*  
Life is Simple, *Advert*

Thumbs up (1st prize winner), *advert*  
Splash (shortlisted), *advert*  
Romeo (shortlisted), *advert*  
Tweezerman ft. Lindsey Vonn *USA TV, advert*  
League of Legends Trophy *USA TV, advert*  
Gut Crunch, *short film*  
Piuma, *advert*  
Imagined, *short film*  
I See, *Short film*  
Lacrima, *Music Video*  
Château de Lartigolle, Arri ALEXA Studio  
Mathieu Karsenti, Sony FS7 & A7S M2  
BizBinge, Red Dragon  
MOFILM / PepsiCo, Canon 5D3 raw  
MOFILM / The Nature Conservancy, Red EPIC  
MOFILM / Purina Pro Plan, Canon 5D3 raw  
SPL / Tweezerman, Arri ALEXA Studio  
RIOT Games, Arri ALEXA Plus  
Red Dress Productions, Canon 5D2  
MediaShade Pictures, Arri 435 & Arri SR III  
MediaShade Pictures, Panasonic AG-HVX200  
MediaShade Pictures, Canon XL1s  
MediaShade Pictures, Canon XL1s

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