

CARRIE MAE WEEMS: THE HEART OF MATTER

Gallerie d'Italia - Turin, Intesa Sanpaolo Museum

17 April to 7 September 2025

Curator: Sarah Meister

Images and materials at the following link: [CARRIE MAE WEEMS](#)

Turin, April 16th 2025 - From 17 April to 7 September 2025 at the **Gallerie d'Italia - Turin**, Intesa Sanpaolo will be presenting **'Carrie Mae Weems: The Heart of Matter'**, a major new exhibition dedicated to Afro-descendant American artist and prominent international photographer **Carrie Mae Weems**, known for her artistic investigations on the themes of cultural identity, sexism and class.

Part of a concise retrospective consisting of works from Weems' most famous series which will chart the spiritual and personal path of the artist's entire career, the exhibition also includes the premiere of a project commissioned specifically by Intesa Sanpaolo for this event.

Sponsored by the Region of Piedmont and the City of Turin, the exhibition is produced in collaboration with **Aperture Foundation** and curated by **Sarah Meister**.

The exhibition is made up of around a hundred works which underline Carrie Mae Weems' unique way of confronting the complexities and injustices of the world around us, her photography rooted in places that have been excluded from history: artist's studios, plantations in the American South, domestic spaces, imperial monuments, hallowed museums, and even the "invisible institutions" that are part of the spiritual history of the Black community.

At the heart of the retrospective is the **new "Preach" project commissioned specifically for this exhibition**, an ambitious and powerful installation that examines the role of religion and spirituality among Afro-descendant Americans across the generations. The series celebrates the deep, passionate and joyful forms of worship that typify Weems' Black church experience, while at the same time denouncing the violence and oppression that are inextricably associated with this history. Weems writes in the original poem that accompanies this installation: *"In the flames and among the bombs, pray where and when you can, in ports and shacks, in palaces and basements, in theatres and clubs. From your secret hiding place you have discovered new forms of worship..."* Acting as muse and guide, Weems invites us to join this spiritual awakening and condemn the persecution that makes these sacred spaces places of refuge and activism. *Preach* blends early images from Harlem, SE San Diego and Sea Island, Georgia with a wide range of new works that evoke the transcendental and secular reality of religious expression for Black Americans today.

The project will include elements of Weems' early collections (such as the seminal *Kitchen Tabl* series), vintage and more recent photographs, in addition to video and audio installations, taking visitors on a journey that covers the entire arc of her career and explores the breadth and diversity of her artistic language.

The exhibition *'Carrie Mae Weems. The Heart of Matter'* will be accompanied by a **catalogue** published by **Società Editrice Allemandi** together with **Aperture Foundation**. In addition to numerous images of the American artist's works, it will be enriched by contributions from

academics from different generations, underlining Carrie Mae Weems' unique perspective on these issues.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a series of free events and meetings, part of the #INSIDE public programme, which will take place every Wednesday in the museum. There will also be local community education and inclusion initiatives thanks to the contribution of the Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation.

The exhibition is organised as part of the second "EXPOSED Torino Photo Festival".

Opened in May 2022, the Gallerie d'Italia - Turin is a museum dedicated to photography and video art. In the last few years it has hosted newly-commissioned exhibitions by photographers and artists such as Paolo Pellegrin, Gregory Crewdson, JR, Luca Locatelli, Cristina Mittermeier and Mitch Epstein, and the project "La Grande Fotografia Italiana", which celebrates the great masters of Italian 20th century photography.

The museum in Turin, together with those in Milan, Naples and Vicenza, is part of Intesa Sanpaolo's Gallerie d'Italia museum project, led by Michele Coppola, the Bank's Executive Director of Art, Culture and Historical Assets.

Aperture Foundation

A non-profit foundation established by photographers and writers in 1952 as a "common ground for the advancement of photography", today Aperture is a multi-platform publisher and centre for the photography community. Headquartered in New York, Aperture produces, publishes and presents a programme of local and international photography projects. Since May 2021, Aperture has been directed by Sarah Meister - curator of the exhibition - who was head of the MoMa photography department for more than 20 years.

USEFUL INFORMATION

WHERE: Gallerie d'Italia - Turin, Piazza San Carlo 156, Turin

OPENING TIMES: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.; Wednesday from 9.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m.; closed on Monday; last entry 90 minutes before closing

TICKETS: full price €10, reduced €8, free admission for members, schools, under-18s and on the first Sunday of the month; special reduced price of €5 for under-26s and Intesa Sanpaolo Group customers

INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS: <http://www.gallerieditalia.com>, torino@gallerieditalia.com, Freephone 800167619

Informazioni per la stampa

Intesa Sanpaolo

Media and Associations Relations

Attività istituzionali, sociali e culturali

stampa@intesasampaolo.com

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Intesa Sanpaolo

Intesa Sanpaolo, con 422 miliardi di euro di impieghi e 1.400 miliardi di euro di attività finanziaria della clientela a fine settembre 2024, è il maggior gruppo bancario in Italia con una significativa presenza internazionale. E' leader a livello europeo nel wealth management, con un forte orientamento al digitale e al fintech. In ambito ESG, entro il 2025, sono previsti 115 miliardi di euro di erogazioni Impact per la comunità e la transizione verde. Il programma a favore e a supporto delle persone in difficoltà è di 1,5 miliardi di euro (2023-2027). La rete museale della Banca, le Gallerie d'Italia, è sede espositiva del patrimonio artistico di proprietà e di progetti culturali di riconosciuto valore.

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