POLANOID.NET PROUDLY PRESENTS:

FILIPPO CENTENARI

POLAROID SX-70 MANIPULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

Understanding Polaroid Techniques!

Under this Headline Polanoid.net together with Filippo Centenari would like to present a series of e-books as useful guide for all the people around the world who are using Polaroid cameras, like to explore different techniques, using different kind of films and like to have new physical experiences inside our existing digital era.

The project is essentialy supported by artists who are working with Polaroid cameras and use therefor special techniques. Every e-book explores a special single technique, step by step, with a visual guide and all the essential technical info. Additionally we are all pursue the target: At the end everybody should be able to apply this technique on his own Polaroids.

Not to forget: Special thanks to Wolga(noid!), who is assisting this project.

E-book no. 001

"Polaroid SX -70 Manipulations" ist the very 1st e-book of the project "Understanding Polaroid Techniques" created and realized by Fillipo Centerari in cooperation with Polanoid.net and supported by Unsaleable.com.

The SX-70 manipulation is one of the most intriguing and fascinating techniques in the whole Polaroid world. It's really possible with only two types of films: the SX-70 Film and the 778 Film.

It is not a secret: Finding these types of films is not so easy and the SX-70 film will be also discontinued within the first months of 2006 due to the phasing out of components used in the production of the film. So it makes additional sense to start this series of e-books with this kind of technique.

Special tip: Buy many films as possible now and keep them secret and on a cold place! So you would be able to homage the most pictorical and suggesting effect made with Polaroid for a longer time. By the way: www.unsaleable.com has a lot of this kind of films on stock.

www.polanoid.net

Building the biggest online-picture-collection ever dedicated to the magic of instant photography. Polanoid.net, online since 2005, presents a rapidly growing group of amazing interactiv Polaroid enthusiasts and artists located all over the planet sharing their addiction. Whether all the gorgeous Polaroid photo-competitions or the unique Polaroid insights and news, never before the unique power of Polaroids was more obvious and vivid.

Bringing back the instant fun!
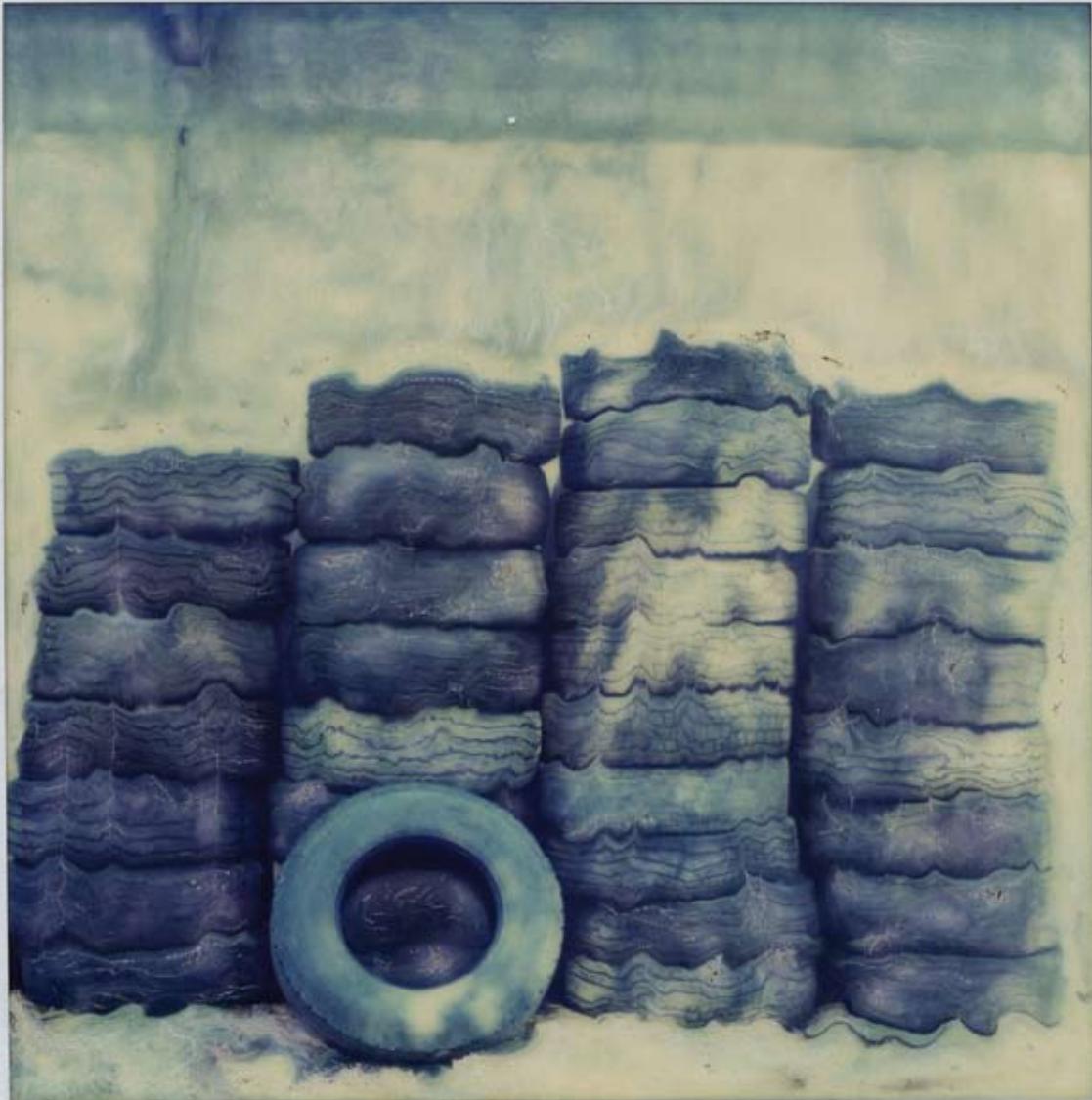
"Tyres"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

NECESSARY

An exposed Polaroid

A flat and hard surface where you can work on

Tools to manipulate the Polaroid, e.g. wooden, metal and ceramic tools (*better if rounded off*)

Something to keep the emulsion of the Polaroid hot, e.g hair-dryer or a hot plate

Other kind of materials to work on the textures, e.g. different sand papers

Note
There are many tools that can be used for ma-nipulation, from wooden, ceramic tools to metal dental tools. Anything you like to try is good, but remember that the ending part of a tool must be rounded or angled because is symple to damage the Polaroid.

Note
Remember to use sandpaper or screen in order to obtain texture on the image. Place the piece of sandpaper under the image, in the desired area, and use wooden tools, with angled end, to move back and forth over the area.

STEP BY STEP GUIDE

"WYSIWID": what you see is what I do!

Bear in mind: There are no limits in the techniques to manipulate Polaroids, it depends always on the effect you want to obtain.

Use this guide just as a starting point. After understanding the basics of this paint-like technique you are free to experiment in your own way.

Tip: Start with Polaroids which are not your favorites. You should find your access to the technique first.

Step 1
Prepare a flat surface and your tools for the manipulations.

Step 2
Shoot a picture and wait until the image becomes visible. This should require about 5 to 15 minutes.
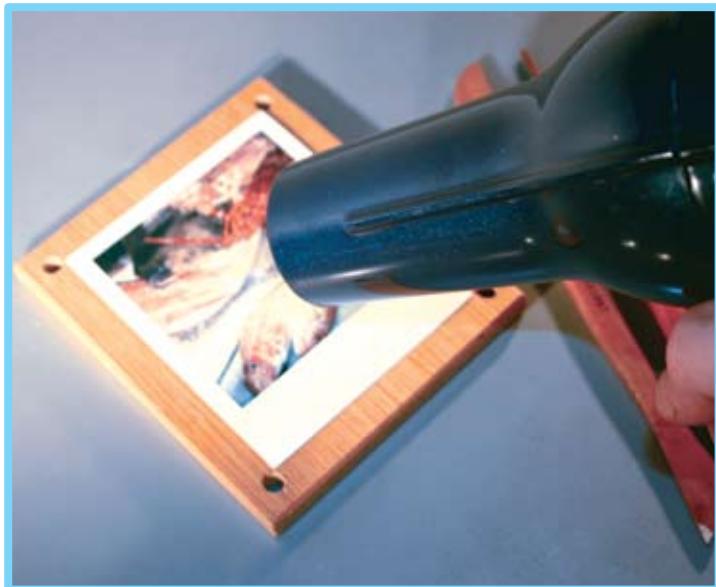
Step 3
Start to heat up the Polaroid using an hair dryer for approx. 40 seconds (instead you can use also a warm surface).
This process is necessary to keep the emulsion soft for working at the maximum fluidity.

Tip
If you prefer to work outdoors it is possible to place the Polaroid nearest objects with radiated heat (like a coffee cup) or to place it directly under the sun light if the weather is hot.
Another possibility could be following: after shooting the Polaroid put it immediately in a bag with instant-ice, just to retard the developing. At home you can reheat it and start with your manipulation work. The result of this process could be different to the other one, but it is a better option than losing the ability to work.

Step 4
Select one of your tools to start the work.
Start to manipulate the Polaroid moving the tool back and forth in a circular and/or linear motion until the image begins to move.
Don't stop until you achieve the desired effect.

Tip
It is easier to begin the work on the bright areas of the Polaroid.
If you are moving around on an area which you have just manipulate you will obtain a distorted image.
To obtain black lines you should use a metal tool hardly pressed.
You can also obtain white lines in the same way but then pressing on a dark area of the image.
If you don't like the effect of a black line you can "cancel" it by pushing the emulsion around over this line.

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Note
Using different tools will bring you different effects. Try to use all your tools just to understand what you can do with them.
The best way to understand all the possibilities of this technique is to work on different Polaroids. Use also multiple shots of the same subject just to see differences between your manipulation techniques on comparable images.

Step 5
Move the areas near outlines pushing the emulsion over the edges in order to have some interesting distortions.

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Step 6
Place a sand paper under the Polaroid. Then use an angled wooden tool to move back and forth on the selected area to add texture on the image.

Tip
*This method is very interesting if you use it for a sky, a sea or something else.*

Step 7
It's always on you to say: "Stop! The image is fine now."
And you can re-work on it until the emulsion is dry again.

Tip
You cn keep in a freezer the Polaroid just to be able to manipulate it more.

GALLERY FROM THE ARTIST FILIPPO CENTENARI

"Shell"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

"Last beach"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

"Conscience"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

"Fish"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005
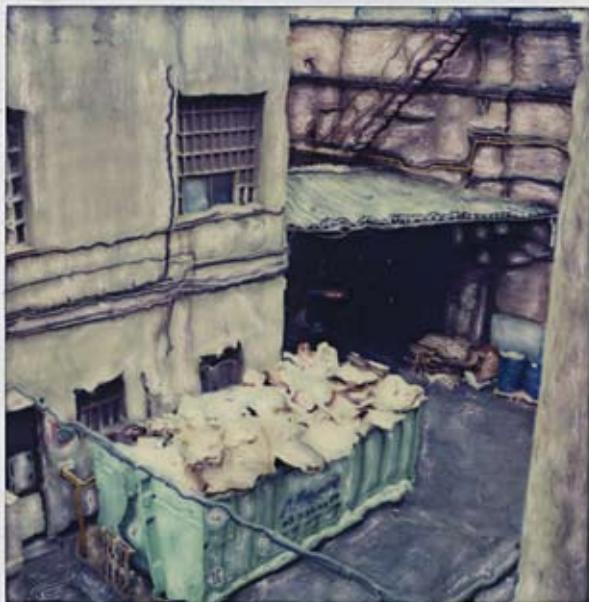
"Outside"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005
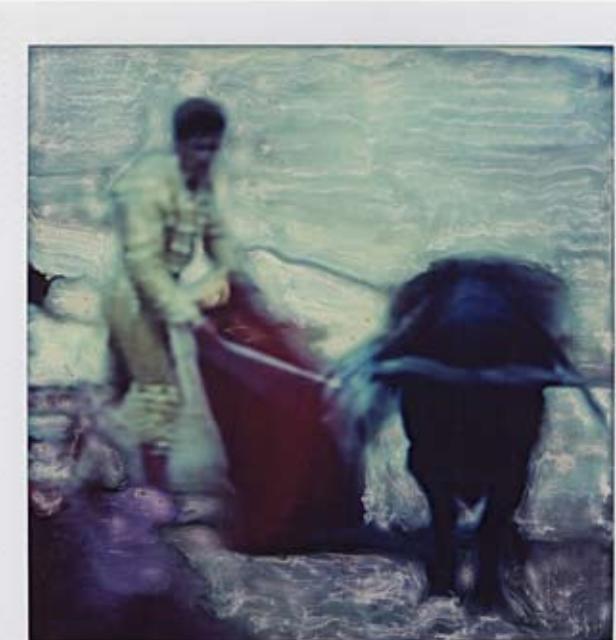
"Corrida"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

"Untitled"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

"Lost packages"
Polaroid SX-70 Manipulation
Filippo Centenari, 2005

BIOGRAPHY

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Filippo Centenari was born in Cremona where he still lives and works.

He's a web designer and he constantly works with paintings, digital prints and videos. He's always looking for new medial synthesis and likes to combine old with new media: from Polaroid to digital print, video installations and interactions.

He's curator of many picture exhibitions, e.g. "Cosensation", "In/out of colors", "CITTA'".

Actually he is teaching new media at the Academy of fine arts in Brescia, L.A.B.A.

Personal Exhibitions :

- Premio Internazionale Guglielmo Marconi per l'arte elettronica – L'occhio Iperteso – Bologna 2005

- Esposizione Privata c/o Arch. Renato Maglia - Selezione - Milano 2005

- Edicola dell'arte -OPERA UNICA- LooP, ripetute apparizioni circolari, videoinstallazione Casalmaggiore, CR
  2004

- Palazzo D'adda – Si, viaggiare – Festival del Pellegrino, Varallo 2004

- Spazio Pestalozzi – Frammenti, Milano 2003DA

- Galleria Arturarte – Frammenti, Roma 2003

- Dellearti Design Hotels – Assemblaggi, Cremona 2003

Collective Exhibitions :

- Mediterraneo D'arte, da Giorgio de Chirico all'era della globalizzazione – M.A.O.N, Museo D'arte Ottocento e Novecento, Rende, Cosenza 2005
- 30X30 - 84 presenze internazionali in formato collezione, Centro Arte Lupier, Gardone, BS 2006
- Plot@rt Europa –Museo laboratorio di Arte Contemporanea, Roma 2005
- Mediterraneo D'arte, da Giorgio de Chirico all'era della globalizzazione – Palazzo dei Congressi, Archivio di Stato EUR, Roma 2005
- Plot@rt Europa – Galleria Kiron, Parigi 2005
- Scambio D'arte 2 – Galleria Rem, Jabeek Olanda – Galleria Delaar Bingelrade, Maastricht 2005
- SerrOne – Biennale.giovani Monza, Premio Monza 2005
- Tra le Righe- L'arte racconta il libro - la Feltrinelli, Cremona, 2005
- Aria d'estate – Galleria StudioVivo Cremona 2005
- Stendhal, 36 Volume I – Stendhal,36 Milano 2004
- L'isola nell'isola - Isola di Pasqua Project, Isola della Palmaria, Porto Venere – La Spezia 2004
- XI Biennale di Arte Sacra, Museo Fondazione Stauros, Teramo 2004
- Sette Porte, Installazione Isola della Palmaria, Porto Venere – La Spezia 2004
- Periplo del Mediterraneo, Museo dell'Accademia Ligustica di Belle Arti e Loggia Banchi, Genova 2004
- Radiance & Resonance / Signals of time, DIAF – Dashanzi International Art Festival of Bejing, Pechino 2004
- La Bibbia, Galleria Arturarte, Roma 2004
- Giovani presenze nella ricerca artistica a Brescia, Associazione artisti Bresciani Brescia 2004
- Plot@rt vs Attraversarte, Galleria Arturarte, Roma 2004
- Pace e Amore, Isola della Palmaria 2003
- Sotto lo stesso cielo, sala SS. Filippo e Giacomo, Brescia 2003
- Plot@rt-Barcode, Galleria Arturarte, Roma 2003
- Streets, Accademia L.A.B.A, Brescia 2003
- Ponti che uniscono terre diverse, Roma 2002, video dvd 12'
- OperaAperta, Cremona 2002
- Happening, Cremona 2001-2003
- Campo delle fragole, Bologna 1997

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WWW.UNSALEABLE.COM

Simply irresistible goods carefully selected and collected Polaroid products of the past and present. Wide range of rare and popular Polaroid films at prices that are re-introducing the funfactor. Cautiously reconditioned camera legends, forgotten collector's items, limited editions, & almost everything that lets a Polaroid heart beat faster.

Polaroid SX-70 SLR Camera
Available at unsaleable.com

E-BOOK N°2 AND NEXT ISSUES

Dear Polaroid enthusiast!

It's not a secret. After the ebook no 001 there will follow no. 002.

Polanoid.net, Filippo and Wolga(noid) are in contact with the next artist and try to bring all pieces of the puzzle together to a second unbelievable Polaroid experience. Be surprised!