



# Behind the Mask

## THE HIDDEN FACE OF TODAY'S COLOMBIA

"Behind the Mask" is an entirely female photographic project that brings together the images taken between 2013 and 2016 in various regions of Colombia by Claudia Fauzia, Amélie Louys and Giulia Candussi.

More than a photographic exhibition, this project aims to be a journey through a world that we believe we know, but, being so rapidly changing, is very difficult to understand. Colombia is a country that for a long time has carried on its shoulders the weight of the stereotypes and prejudices with which it was painting its portrait, with great support of the international mass media. Now, this country is trying to recover the right to start again, to get rid of that "mask" and show the face that for a long time was left under the shadow of drug trafficking and violence of the 1980s. Colombia has the right to Peace.

The hidden potential of Colombia lies behind the shadow of the international media, in small organizations as well as individuals who daily seek to reestablish contact with mother earth and preserve ancestral and indigenous traditions, who aim to raise awareness about environmental issues, who fight against the exploitation of the territory and promote a sustainable form of tourism.

"Behind the Mask" aims to be a visual testimony of these small realities and the beauty and variety of this great country, through the eyes of three photographers, who have lived in Colombia in contact with local communities .

**Claudia Fauzia** studied Economic Development and International Cooperation at the University of Palermo, Italy, her hometown. Passionate about photography and travel, she fell in love with South America and decided to move to Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, where she worked in a development cooperation centre. She published his travelogue "A life in a year" and continues to struggle to bring the South of the world to the fore, even through her photographs.

[www.facebook.com/UnaVitaInUnAnno2013ClaudiaFauzia/](http://www.facebook.com/UnaVitaInUnAnno2013ClaudiaFauzia/)

**Amélie Louys**, of French-Danish origin, lives in Barcelona since 2002. She divides her time between the management of European cultural projects and the production of personal and collective photographic reportages. She has collaborated with several NGOs such as Intermón-Oxfam in Spain and the Montecito Foundation in Colombia where she made a documentary about the Bochica Route that aims to improve rural life and ancestral traditions. [www.amelielouys.com](http://www.amelielouys.com)

**Giulia Candussi**, always passionate about socially engaged photojournalism, graduated in photo journalism at the University of Westminster in London. She has traveled extensively in Europe and the Americas, and has collaborated with several NGOs such as Médicos del Mundo in Argentina and the Montecito Foundation in Colombia. She is currently responsible for the photographic services for the newspaper La Nuova Venezia, in the Venice district of Italy, and through her photographs she seeks to spread a better knowledge of the social and environmental problems that affect our planet. <http://aboutaroundphotojournalism.tumblr.com>

PALERMO, Italy  
Piazza Tonnarazza  
Headquarters of CISS ONG  
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OPENING:  
5:00 p.m. on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

GRANADA, Spain  
Calle Veronica de la Magdalena 31  
Headquarters of Ampliadora,  
Social School of Photography  
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OPENING:  
5:00 p.m. on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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