

Shared Biography of Tina Bara and Alba D'Urbano

1955

Alba D'Urbano is born in Tivoli, IT.

1962

Tina Bara is born in Kleinmachnow, DE.

1974–1984

D'Urbano studies Philosophy at Università La Sapienza in Roma and painting at Accademia di Belle Arti. In 1984 she moves to Berlin and begins working with video and media-based practices.

1980–1989

Bara studies History and Art History at Humboldt-Universität in Berlin. She trains as a photographer at HGB Leipzig and collaborates on documentary film projects during the final years of the GDR.

1993

Bara is appointed Professor for Photography at HGB Leipzig. She will become Head of the Photography class in 2005.

1995

D'Urbano is appointed Professor of Computer Graphics at HGB Leipzig. She will be leading the Intermedia class from 1998 to 2021.

1998

Bara and D'Urbano first meet.

2000

Beginning of their sustained artistic partnership. First joint project for an exhibition at Galleria Miscetti in Roma: *Portrait Alba / Tina Ritratto*, a portrait-text work reflecting on the process of being photographed.

2001–2003

Together with Susanne Holschbach, they curate the installation project *Bellissima: Körper_Konstrukt_Schönheit* at HGB Leipzig. They turn toward the theme of beauty in the field of tension between media and the manipulable image.

2003

The exhibition *Corporal Identity* at Galerie Schüppenhauer in Köln marks the first major public consolidation of their duo.

2004–2006

They realise the photo and video series *Kunstwerke*, a multi-media investigation of feminism and technicism between domesticity and Cold-War aesthetics.

2006–2008

International tour of their curatorial project *Eine Frage (nach) der Geste* (Leipzig, Roma, Salzburg), spanning performance, dance and live acts.

2006–2009

Another multi-part joint series: *Bellissima*, from the homonymous film by Luchino Visconti. Again, their focus is beauty, with special attention to the mother-daughter relationship and the transfer of socially recognised canons between generations.

2008–2011

The discovery of sensitive autobiographical material among publicly exhibited Stasi files prompts *Cover Girl: Wespen Akte*. The series tackles the meaning of photographic images as well as their circulation and reception within the systems of politics and art.



2012

They win the third prize with their design for the Leipziger Freiheit und Einheit Monument (with Anna Dilengite).

2014

They start presenting internationally their workshop and exhibition format *Source*, drawing on a pilot screening from 2007 at Politecnico di Milano. The project is ongoing and has been hosted in Nan Jing, Vilnius, Istanbul, Buenos Aires and Kumasi.

2015

Duo-show *History/Tales* at Galerie im Turm in Berlin.

2020

Joint participation in the group-exhibition *Disturbance: witch* at ZHK in Berlin, curated by Alba D'Urbano and Olga Vostretsova, targeting the mechanisms of exclusion and contemporary forms of “witch hunt” directed at women and queer bodies.

2025

They contribute an installation to the travelling performative exhibition *States of Uncertain Domesticities* (Berlin, Brno), curated by Alba D'Urbano and Tina Mamczur. The show is to be restaged at Museo Bilotti in Roma in September 2026.