

Venicreality production

“*Real Venice*, as the title suggests, has produced multiple layers of reality. *Real Venice* invited artists to produce new works that, without this commission, would not have happened. *Real Venice* has produced reality by contributing to save Venice for the future. *Real Venice* is a contribution to what Eric Hobsbawm calls an urgent protest against forgetting and shows us that memory is dynamic.

I was particularly struck by the works of Robert Walker, who for many decades has pioneered street photography. As Oscar Wilde pointed out, the true mystery of the world is the visible, not the invisible. Robert Walker’s unexpected take on Venice (or, as Cedric Price called it, VENIC) introduces a resistance against the acceleration that prevents us from seeing. Or, in Walker’s own words, these works are a pause in which to wonder at, and appreciate the world’s complexities.”

Hans Ulrich Obrist

Co-director of Exhibitions and Programmes and Director of International Projects, Serpentine Gallery, London