

## ***On 'Veritas Feminae' by Alec Von Bargaen***

***By Vanja Karas***

Even those who may be lucky enough to have a voice and a way of expressing it may spend a lifetime seeking for ways of reaching out to the ones who will not only listen but actually hear, the ones who will not only look but actually see...

The ever more international art-world is created by artists crossing borders, searching for their own voice and expression, while at the same time reaching out to new global (multi-lingual and multi-script) audiences. It is a journey not only of trying to enable the new audiences to experience new ways of seeing art being exhibited, but also introducing them to the new ways of thinking.

Marginalised or otherwise, we all seek for a voice, as artists and individuals, be it silent and deep or loud and impactful. We try to find it, shape it and define its form, be it in sound, vision, space or movement...

Seduced by his Muses, Alec Von Bargaen not only embarks on his global quest for his voice as an artist, but by sharing his experiences, as part of his creative expression, he also gives a voice to those who have shared the journeys with him.

The ancient Roman scholar Varro, refers specifically to the original three Muses: one who is born from the movement of water, another who makes sound by striking the air and a third who is embodied only in the human voice.

Inspired by moving with water and air, choosing when to stop and commit to memory what he sees and hears, it is the human voice that Alec offers as a gift to all his Muses.

His Muses may be marginalised or iconic, constructed or mythological, but they all share the same platform by becoming real and truthful to us through Alec's vision and our experience of it.

The aesthetics and the visual quality of the images themselves do quite the opposite and deliberately remove the mundane element of reality, giving even a fleeting street portrait a cinematic quality with a poetic notion and a dream-like nostalgia.

Through dream or reality, it could be any of us.

I am grateful and honoured to be part of Alec's journey and to make a contribution to '*Veritas Feminae*'.

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