On the occasion of the event IOSONOVULNERABILE - *failing is an achievement, art is loving mistakes*, curated by Sergio Mario Illuminato and recognized as one of the Good Cultural Practices of the Lazio Region, the VULNERARTE APS MOVEMENT presents, under the guidance of ROBERTA MELASECCA, a series of interviews with all the actors of this extraordinary initiative. Don't miss the opportunity to discover the behind-the-scenes and the inspiration that drives this unique event!

**Interview with Rosa Maria Zito, photographer, scenographer, teacher.**

**VULNERARTE APS MOVEMENT (MV APS):** Rosa Maria, your photographic project Terre Rare has a strong visual and emotional impact. It guides us on a visual journey exploring the depths of the human soul, focusing on the experience of vulnerability and failure. How did you manage to capture the essence of a place so laden with history and suffering as the former Pontifical Prison of Velletri?

**(R M Z):** Terre Rare was born from a deep reflection on the concept of abandonment and resilience. Entering that prison, I immediately felt the weight of the stories that were trapped there. The walls, the rusted bars, the broken windows: each element told a story. The natural light filtering through the cracks became a symbol of hope, a fragile but persistent hope. I aimed at capturing the authenticity of those moments, letting the architecture of the place speak for itself without imposing my own vision.

**MV APS:** Photography has an extraordinary power in telling stories. How do you think photography can raise public awareness on complex issues like the human condition and the reality of prisons?

**R M Z:** Photography can make visible what is often ignored or hidden. Images capture moments that escape our daily gaze, forcing us to stop and reflect. In the case of prisons, it is often easy to forget that behind those walls are lives, stories of suffering and struggle. Through Terre Rare, I wanted to restore dignity to the places and to the people who lived there, reminding the public that vulnerability is not a weakness but a fundamental aspect of our experience as human beings.

**MV APS:** Your work also seems to be inspired by Pier Paolo Pasolini’s thoughts, particularly his idea of educating on the management of failure. How important is this concept, in your view, in contemporary art?

**R M Z:** Pasolini had a deep and revolutionary view of life. For him, managing failure was a way to face reality without fleeing from its difficulties. In our modern society, often obsessed with success and perfection, I believe art has the role of refocusing on the beauty of the mistake and uncertainty. Only by embracing failure can we truly understand and accept our humanity. Terre Rare is an invitation to look beyond appearances, to explore the complexity of life without fear of stumbling.

**MV APS:** How does your work interact with the central theme of IOSONOVULNERABILE?

**R M Z:** The theme of vulnerability is the beating heart of this project. Terre Rare fits perfectly into this reflection, as it explores vulnerability not only as a personal condition but also as a social reality. The prison, with its stories of failure and resistance, becomes the symbol of our human condition. Through the photography, I hope to promote a collective reflection on how we face our weaknesses and how they can become tools for growth.

**MV APS:** What hopes do you have for the future of photography as a discipline and for its role within society?

**R M Z:** Photography has an immense potential, in an era where images are everywhere. I hope that it will continue to be used not only as an aesthetic means but also as a tool for awareness and social change. I believe photography should always strive to tell true stories, helping us to better understand the world around us and ourselves.