



Città di Bassano del Grappa  
Assessorato alle Attività Culturali e Museali

50 spectacular enlarged images (120x180 cm)  
will be exhibited.

Gianni Maitan's latest photographic book  
"Splendid African Parks"  
will be presented to the public  
on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2009.

# PARCHI D'AFRICA

photographs by Gianni Maitan

Opening:  
Saturday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2009 at 11.00 a.m.

## Visiting Hours:

Monday - Thursday:

Only for groups – Advance booking is required  
(tel. 0424 524933)

Friday: 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Saturday: 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. / 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Sunday and Holidays: 10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. / 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

On 13/04, 25/04, 01/05, 30/05 closing time is at 8 p.m.

Closed at Easter

Info: tel. 0424 522235 / 523336  
[www.museobassano.it](http://www.museobassano.it)

A video showing the photographs published in the book  
"Wonderful African Parks" will be on throughout  
the exhibition.

 **Gemata**®

Palazzo Bonaguro  
4<sup>th</sup> April - 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009

ADMISSION FREE



**GIANNI MAITAN** was born in Malo (VI) in 1951. He is the Managing Director of Gemata S.p.A., a mechanical industry with its offices in Trissino (VI). Gemata is world leader in the production of low environmental impact finishing machines for leather, fabric, synthetic materials and float glass. He started photographing, as well as developing and printing in black and white, in 1975. Since 1980 he has devoted himself mostly on wildlife photography. His pictures have been published in many books, calendars, guides, postcards, Panini stickers and in the most important Italian and foreign specialised magazines. Since 1992 his photographs have been used to promote the image of his company and since 1996 the "Gemata Calendar", with its beautiful animal photos, has been distributed in thousands of copies all over the world. He has shown his works in many public slide projections and has given some wildlife photography courses at photographic clubs and associations. His images have been displayed in many personal and collective exhibitions in Italy and abroad. The most recent one took place at the Sheraton Hotel in Rome last December to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Kenya. He published his first photographic book "African Parks" through Editoriale Giorgio Mondadori in 2004 and has co-authored "Travel guide: Kenya" published by Polaris in October 2005. Sassi Editore published his latest photographic book "Splendid African Parks" which will be presented to the public on the opening day of the exhibition in Bassano del Grappa.

His photographs have been awarded in many national and international photographic competitions. Among the most prestigious ones:

- 1<sup>st</sup> overall prize Italian Photo Safari Society Trophy in the section "Photo Safaris in Italy"
- 1<sup>st</sup> overall prize at the national photographic competition "Nature and Slides" in Milan
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize at the 30th national photographic competition "Il Cupolone - 1<sup>st</sup> Nature Trophy", Florence
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize at the 5<sup>th</sup> international photographic competition "Il Mosaico" in Ravenna
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize at the 1<sup>st</sup> Italian Wildlife Photography competition "Animal portraits" organised by the magazine OASIS in collaboration with the St-Vincent Casinò (AO)
- 3 first prizes at the "2004 Italian Championship of Wildlife Photography"
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the "Artists on Wings" section of the "Glanzlichter" International Competition in Germany in 2006
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the "Animal Life" section, 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the "Light and Nature" section of the "2006 Italian Championship of Nature Photography"
- 3 gold medals in the "15<sup>th</sup> Trierenberg Super Circuit" International Competition in Austria
- 1 PSA gold medal and 2 GMC medals in the "3<sup>rd</sup> German Mega Circuit 2007" International Competition, in Germany
- Overall best author in the "10<sup>th</sup> Gran Tour delle Colline" International Circuit
- 1 gold medal in the "16<sup>th</sup> Trierenberg Super Circuit 2007" International Competition in Austria

1 PSA gold medal in the "German Mega Circuit 2007" International Competition, in Germany

- Overall best author in the "11<sup>th</sup> Gran Tour delle Colline" competition
- 1<sup>st</sup> Award Colour Slides - Digital Files and FIAP Gold Medal in the "Water" section in the "2007 The Al-Thani Award" in Qatar
- 1<sup>st</sup> "Alberto Goiorani" prize for the best Nature photograph (Dig. section) in the "7<sup>th</sup> Giuliano Carrara International Photographic Competition" in Pistoia
- 1 gold medal in the "17<sup>th</sup> Trierenberg Super Circuit 2008" International Competition in Austria
- Best work with a "Tema Natura" at the 1<sup>st</sup> Photography Grand Prix 2008 in Italy.
- 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the "Nature" section in the "11<sup>th</sup> National Photographic Competition - Dalmine"

Furthermore, together with the Italian Wildlife Photography Team, since 1999 he has won 6 world cups and 2 gold medals in the "FIAP Nature Biennale" world championships.

His great interest in nature and photography has taken him to China, Tibet, Galapagos Islands, South-West of United States, Alaska, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Mali, Botswana, Uganda and several times to Kenya, Tanzania, Namibia and South Africa.

## ZOOLOGICAL SECTION

In the same building, on the upper floor, the zoological section of the Town Museum will be open with the same timetable as the exhibition. Several specimens of mammals from all over the world, belonging to the rich Town Museum collections, are displayed in striking settings. The exhibition itinerary takes the visitor first to a small information area, where news on the conservation conditions of the planet animal species are available, and secondly to the rooms of the Bears, the tropical Felidae and other rare predators, to close with the room showing the Asian Bovidae.

Compared to the ones housed in other Italian natural history museums, this outstanding zoological exhibition sets apart for the following reasons: an evocative display, the excellent quality of the animal taxidermy and, above all, the beauty and the rarity of the wildlife species on show.

The last point deeply amazes visitors and always elicits lots of discussion among them. This is an extremely positive factor because that means that the exhibition has achieved one of the targets that every modern museum should aim at: to provoke debates on highly topical themes, such as the loss of the Planet's biodiversity, the impact of Man on Nature, and the possibility of a sustainable development.



Photographs have been printed by Vicolor - Creazzo (VI)