

Smartphones are the most recent and most common means of communication nowadays, they have profoundly transformed the way we share and learn new information. The constant and easy access to the Internet through mobile phones has radically changed the way we interact with reality, making them such a constant presence in our daily life, changing the way we socialise and behave.

With this photographic project I intend to explore how the human body has received and included these new mobile devices into its own physicality, to the point they have nearly become an extension of our limbs. This series of photographs, all made in a studio with artificial light, aims to be an analytical investigation of the new human anatomy.

The contemporary human body is passively adapting and transforming, postures are changing and so are everyday gestures. Smartphones are ruining our stances, we are contorting our bodies, hunching over a phone or oddly stretching for a selfie.

We are so deeply engaged in the object, both physically and mentally, that our gaze and attention get completely absorbed by it. Precisely for this reason, I decided never to show the entire face of the sitters: we hide behind the object and get completely distracted and carried away by it, disappearing entirely.

I'd like these photographs to make us reflect on the consequences that the widespread diffusion of new technologies has on the human being. I believe it is important to raise awareness on the impact that a constant exploitation of mobile devices can have on our bodies as well as on our mental health, as proven by recent sociological researches.

*Aurora Somnavilla is a freelance photographer based in Venice, Italy. She focuses mainly on documenting ever-changing realities, analysing their evolution and transformation.*