

ANDREONI_FORTUGNO 1999

TRACCE

SELECTED SAMPLES

Luca Andreoni and Antonio Fortugno
Tracce (Traces), 1999

In 1998 Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation commissioned us -as part of the project 'Da Guarene all'Etna, via mare, via terra' - a work on the Pianura Padana, a large plain in the north of Italy, going from Turin to Trieste through Milan, Verona, Venice. We decided to explore new built houses in some small towns in Pianura Padana, far away from metropolis. We visited many places, almost inhabited, carefully looking for houses that could describe not only a way of living, but also of feeling in our society and our community. In our aim the work would have, together with a documentary approach, sociological implications crossing with aesthetical considerations about what 'normal' life can mean and seem.

Texts

(From the catalogue of 'Da Guarene all'Etna, via mare, via terra', text by Filippo Maggia)

On the subject of the art of puzzle-making, Georges Perec in his introduction to Life: instructions for use wrote: "The object aimed at... is not a sum of elements that need first to be isolated and analysed, but a whole, a form, that is, a structure; the element does not exist before the group, it is not more immediate, nor older - it is not the elements that determine the group, but the group that determines the elements; The knowledge of the whole and of its laws, of the group and of its structure, cannot be deduced from the knowledge of the single parts that comprise it. This means that one can look at a piece of a puzzle for three days in a row believing one knows everything about its configuration and colour without actually taking the smallest step forward...". Thus, Tracce, single pieces of a large puzzle, must have appeared to Luca Andreoni and Antonio Fortugno as "The rows of semi-detached houses on the edge of little towns, little apartment blocks set almost on their own in the country, buildings of one, two or three floors that defy typological classification, a whole forest of definitive normality from which the idea of place, centre, living, horizon, beauty but also horror, have vanished... A Po Valley that is more American than America." And even though it might have been simpler to concentrate the photography in a single place, just as with the art of the puzzle, by going from west to east the group that at first appears like "an itinerary without moving"* instead reveals to the authors "a series of micro-variations, local micro-reference points in the forms, chromatic shifts and viewpoints".**

**From the notes accompanying the work of Andreoni_Fortugno*

Details

Title: Tracce (Traces)

Artist: Luca Andreoni and Antonio Fortugno

Work Date: 1999

Materials: C-prints from 8"x10" colour negatives

Size/edition: 32 photographs

- cm 24 x 30, contact prints, edition 2 + 1 ap

- cm 80 x 64, edition 10 + 1 ap (mounted on forex, with frame cm 100 x 85)

- cm 170 x 140, edition 5 + 1 ap (plexiglass/dibond)































