

ANDREONI_FORTUGNO 2001

TRACCE2

SELECTED SAMPLES

Luca Andreoni and Antonio Fortugno
Tracce2 (Traces2), 2001

Tracce2 was firstly presented in the exhibition 'Instant City' at the Centro d'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci in Prato. It is a survey of residential buildings in Milan; big buildings, mostly located in the suburbs, characteristic of many European cities. The work uses the same approach of the previous work 'Da Guarene all'Etna, via mare, via terra', but it is now applied to a large city. We shot a diptych for every building, as the whole series is made of pairs of pictures; in the exhibition at Pecci Museum we mixed the photographs together and the pairs could be recognized only with careful observation.

Texts

(From the catalogue of 'Instant City', text by Filippo Maggia)

In this new series of photographs, taken over the closing months of 2000, Andreoni_Fortugno continue their work of analyzing the residential areas and suburban districts of North Italian cities, a valid and substantial sample of which has already been presented as part of the From Guarene to Etna, by Sea, by Land exhibition project. Alongside a delicate and discreet house that takes its inspiration, in its colors as well as in certain bold architectural choices, from the post modern so much in vogue in the second half of the eighties, stand the hard and impregnable forms of the uniform and inevitably gray apartment blocks of the suburban areas, the so-called "citadels", a high and by now inaccessible product of the public housing programs of the sixties and seventies. But it is not systematic typological classification that interests the two artists; documentation is not their ultimate aim. Their work must principally be assessed on the basis of the minimal and rarefied presences that appear in the photographs: the pots of geraniums balanced on windowsills, the embroidered drapes at the windows, the carefully clipped hedges and many other elements that are barely visible: boilers, stairs and ladders, mats, brooms, baskets and plastic bags, the occasional article of clothing. These are the objects that allow us to perceive the humanity hidden behind those windows, inside those apartment blocks. Even though we do not see their faces, we do not know what jobs they do or what their interests are, we are permitted to imagine them, it is possible for us to hazard an identikit. Andreoni_Fortugno offer us two different vantage points from which to do this: an overall view, made up of many contact prints, and a number of large prints. In the first case the sensation is unequivocal: that we are faced with normality, with the absolutely ordinary, with humanity rendered uniform for once and for all. When we look at the large-format works, on the other hand, and proceed by deduction and progressive focusing from one detail to another, it is possible to see how those presences, so anonymous at first sight, are in reality small but determined attempts to assert an individuality.

Details

Title: Tracce2 (Traces2)

Artist: Luca Andreoni and Antonio Fortugno

Work Date: 2001

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

Size/edition: 47 photographs

- cm 24 x 30, contact prints, edition 10 + 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)









































