



PRESS RELEASE

zimmerfrei campo | *largo*

curated by Stefano Chiodi

MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna
May 27th 2011 – August 28th 2011

For their first museum exhibition, **ZimmerFrei** present a set of works specifically conceived for MAMbo, alongside a selection of projects representative of the manifold activities of the group, founded in 2000 by **Massimo Carozzi, Anna de Manincor** and **Anna Rispoli**. Videos, installations, sound works, photographs, optical and light devices compose the stages of an exploration of natural and urban landscapes – historical centers and peripheries – to depict the contemporary social universe, identifying unexpected places, images, narrations, emotional tones. ZimmerFrei dives into the present to unearth its complexities, its shadows, its layerings of times and spaces, its histories, its symbolic force.

The exhibition is announced from the outside by a neon sign playing on the group's name (German for "free rooms"): an invitation to discovery, through a spyhole allowing the public to peep at what's inside the museum. In the hallway, four monitors show videos from the *Panorama* series: Rome, Bologna, Athens and Harburg are the cities depicted in suggestive and unexpected ways, through a particular *time-lapse* shooting technique allowing to "compress" a whole day within a bunch of minutes. In the main space a big net, the exhibition's barycenter, is hanging: *Radura*, a device conceived to capture within its meshes an imaginary landscape, creating a sound environment composed of interlaced feelings and thoughts.

The exhibition path further develops with some photographic works, including two groups of images that the public is free to arrange as they wish: the former (*Tomorrow is the question*) shot on the Brooklyn beach of Coney Island, in southern New York, in front of the fabulous architectures

of an old Luna Park; the latter (*I giorni del cane*) in the extreme periphery of Rome, where shepherds and sheep become symbols of an impossible conciliation of archaic times and a degraded present. The projection of the documentary film *LKN Confidential* composes an unprecedented portrait of a Brussels street, rue de Laeken, intertwining the personal stories of those who work there and of casual passerbys: the city is seen as a cruel and wonderful setting, where every encounter becomes a revelation. A somewhat harsher perspective on contemporary life emerges from the reel recorder of *Senza titolo (di un dio minore)*, a phone tapping transformed into an x-ray of power relations.

With these and the other exhibited works (among which the *What we do is secret* stereoscope and *Fino all'orlo colmi di figure*, a huge double-face photograph mounted on a cart), ZimmerFrei invite us to become aware of the labyrinthine nature of reality, of its contradictions, of the unexplored richness hiding within it. Today, the artists seem to say, we are increasingly faced with the necessity of reading the world "against the grain", confronting it with a demanding and attentive gaze, ready to grasp the most elusive symptoms, the small everyday epiphanies in which we can find traces of our shared belonging to the present time.

Three **public events** take place during ZimmerFrei's exhibition, in June, July and August respectively. The first will be a roundtable discussion with the artists, curator Stefano Chiodi and an exceptional international guest: curator, art critic and artist **Robert Storr**.

The second will be a night opening of the show, including narrations and performances of contemporary electro-acoustic music in cooperation with *Sant'Andrea degli Amplificatori*.

In August, the exhibition's finissage will be marked by a milonga night organized within the exhibition spaces in cooperation with Flora Benedetti.

The **zimmerfrei campo | largo** exhibition is supported by **Premio Terna 03**, as the artists have been awarded the **AMACI Museums Special Prize** in the **Megawatt** category.

The **MAMbo Educational department**, in cooperation with ZimmerFrei, will offer guided tours, activities and workshops for the public over the exhibition's whole duration.



The exhibition is accompanied by a **catalog**, published by **Edizioni MAMbo** with contributions by **Stefano Chiodi** and **Bruno Di Martino** and a conversation between the artists and **Francesco Tenaglia**.

For further information:

www.mambo-bologna.org

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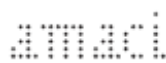
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