

TUCCI RUSSO
STUDIO PER L'ARTE CONTEMPORANEA

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OPENING: SATURDAY 20TH MAY 2006, ORE 18 - 20,30
UNTIL 30TH SEPTEMBER 2006

OPENING HOURS: FROM WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY – 10,30 A.M./01:00 P.M. – 03:00/07:00 P.M.

JAN VERCRUYSSÉ

PLACES
[LIEUX, LUOGHI, ORTE]

The PLACES series deals with the notions of absence/presence, loss, and memory, combined with the exploration of the meaning of "place," and the possibility of rendering this philosophical concept into a work of art. In this sense, these new works relate closely to the works from the 'Atopies' series, the 'M' works and, in particular, the TOMBEAUX works.

Compared to these previous series, the PLACES works seem to be more conclusive - they concentrate "meanings", "things that happened", "parts of lives"...
The PLACES series includes both wall-works and floor-works, all of which are constructed out of steel.

The series of wall compositions, entitled PLACES (I), makes reference to the image of ex-votos as they can be seen on the walls of European churches. Historically, ex-votos served as votive offerings to saints and exist in one of two forms -- either as small marble plates with an engraved text or picture, or as miniature reproductions of body parts, which a saint is supposed to have healed. The artist "replaces" these small objects with the suits of playing cards and constructs each work based on the five card composition of a poker hand, using only the figures of hearts, clubs, spades and diamonds.

In the series of floor-works, entitled PLACES (II), the works refer to the image of tomb plates, which are often embedded in the floors of churches or found in archaeological sites. The artist alters these burial or commemorative markers by "replacing" the traditional inscriptions with the figures of playing cards, using only the hearts, clubs, spades and diamonds.

PLACES (III) are based on the idea of PLACES (II). The artist created an alphabet based on the four playing card figures and 'transcribes' a text into a visual "text", where each letter of the roman alphabet is "transcribed" in a 'playing card figure' character.