

TUCCI RUSSO STUDIO PER L'ARTE CONTEMPORANEA

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JAN VERCRUYSSSE “LUOGHI (PLACES) - 2009”

Opening: Saturday 23rd May 2009: 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.
Until 2nd August 2009
From Wednesday to Sunday: 10.30 – 1 a.m. / 3 – 7 p.m.

PRESS RELEASE

LUOGHI (PLACES) – 2009

In my text of 2006 I situated the PLACES works vis-à-vis the previous TOMBEAUX works, based on the idea and practice of *memory*. Where the TOMBEAUX works are *places for memory*—empty, by definition full of the faculty of memory—, the PLACES works are *places of memory*—more conclusive, concentrating ‘meanings’, things that happened, parts of lives. They allow and support a “fulness”.

The PLACES consist of three distinct groups of works.

The composition of PLACES I is based on the configurations of the poker card game.

PLACES II are based on the image of commemorative plaques and focus on how to define a space/place through purely visual elements and (rhetorical) strategies.

PLACES III has text. The roman alphabet is transcribed into my playing card based - alphabet.

Till now (PLACES III.1 through III.7), the texts have a rather poetic or philosophic content (the way an artist would formulate it) — without any reference to an existing “place”, the PLACES (works) being by definition their own “place”.

The new works I conceived – PLACES (III.8) – refer apparently to ‘real’ places: Torino, Trieste, Wien, Casablanca, Palermo. And also to places like Rocchetta Tanaro, Monforte d’Alba, Montepulciano, Pauillac, Bandol. But also to places like Venus, Mars, Jupiter.

We have to keep in mind that the PLACES works are PLACES in their own self-defined right and cannot be descriptions of existing places.

I chose names of cities where I have been or where I have never been – some with cultural or literary or exotic references or resonances, names of locations where some of my favorite wines are produced, names of planets where no one has been.

Rendering these places “*obscured through mist*”, turns them into PLACES as defined in my work.

JAN VERCRUYSSSE

LUOGHI (PLACES) - 2009 is the fifth solo exhibition of JAN VERCROYSSSE at Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea. LUOGHI (PLACES) - 2009, is strictly connected to the previous show PLACES (LIEUX, LUOGHI, ORTE) - 2006: «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». (quot.: Jan Vercruysse, *Places (Lieux, Luoghi, Orte)*, catalogue of the exhibition, Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea, 2006)

The exhibition LUOGHI (PLACES) - 2009 opens with the work M (M11). «M gives the name to the whole of a series of works that began in 1992 and stands for “memory, monumentum and momentum”... **Memory**, first of all, as a pure faculty of the spirit and the living organism: as a faculty destined to fasten onto an image and a knowledge of that which already has transpired, and which continues to transpire, and to hold them within the flagrancy of the “living present”. A **monument** that celebrates the silence, the mute music from which it springs (the M works are mainly in the form of the silhouette of a legless, plaster piano, supported by a simple but always different arrangement of struts of painted wood). **Momentum** as phase or stage of a transit or a passage that takes on body between being and nothingness, a possibility that occupies the interval that opens up between the conditions of formalization, the thing as which the work defines itself, and the act that produced it.» (quot.: Pier Luigi Tazzi, *Dalla luce al buio*, from Jan Vercruysse, *The Villas. Haus Esters (museum)-Haus Lange (museum)*, Krefeld 1996)

Jan Vercruysse was born in 1948 in Oostende, Belgium. He lives and works in Western Europe.

PUBLIC WORKS

2007 *Labyrinth & Pleasure Garden #23*, Knokke, Belgium

2006 *Labyrinth & Pleasure Garden #10*, Clarholz, Germany

2002 *Fontane Luminose*. Luci d'Artista, Torino

2000 *Aurore, Folie d'Orléans*. A white marble folly near the city of Orléans

RECENT SOLO EXHIBITIONS 2009 – 2000

2009 LUOGHI (PLACES), Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea, Torre Pellice

2007 Ventaglio di Pesaro, Centro Arti Visive Pescheria, Pesaro, Italy

2006 PLACES (LUOGHI), Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea, Torre Pellice

2005 PLACES, Tracy Williams Gallery, New York / Studio Trisorio, Rome

2004 Centro Culturale Vistamare, Pescara

2003 *Labyrinth & Pleasure Gardens*, Galerie Xavier Hufkens, Brussels

Elise, ti voglio parlare, Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea, Torre Pellice

2002 Brooke Alexander Gallery, New York

Camera Oscura & Other Works, Studio Trisorio, Naples

2001 *Most recent works*, Galerie Xavier Hufkens, Brussels

2000 *Les Paroles [Letto]*, 1999, Galerie Durand-Dessert, Paris

RECENT MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS 2009

Labyrinth & Pleasure Gardens

Kunstmuseum aan Zee, Ostend, Belgium

28 marzo - 4 ottobre 2009

Werken 1977 - 2009

M. M van Museum Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

19 settembre 2009 - 6 gennaio 2010