

PRESS RELEASE

LUCA PANCRAZZI – STILLIFE

October 1 – December 19, 2009

Luca Pancrazzi's exhibition *Stillife* opened at the Andrea Caratsch gallery in Zurich on October 1st, 2009, linking up with and continuing a project already started with the gallery in 2005.

In an interview featured in the publication, Adelina von Fürstenberg tells the artist: *"Your work, based on your own photography, incorporates all paintings from the past 50 years and more, yet it is a style of painting all of its own, which resembles no other. Observing it from a certain distance we see the subject, but then on closer inspection we make out the entire history of the past 50 years: and that's the originality of your work."* In this exhibition, the artist presents, on canvasses of various sizes, a cycle of works that take still life as their subject. This cycle coexists with other explorations conducted by the artist, focusing on observation and the study of landscape and portrayal.

Still life is understood as a poetic possibility, for the depicted object to speak, through the *mise-en-scène*, of itself and of what is other than itself. The artist confronts this condition through two distinct and constant channels: on the one hand, he takes the skull as a subject of his painting to retrace the history of still life as an allegory of life's transience from which the entire aesthetic of "vanitas" and "memento mori" re-emerges; on the other hand, the symbol of the quotidian nature of life and of the present takes shape and shines through precisely where the paintings become a mirror of the self projected onto the artist's most intimate and daring dimension: his studio.

The problem of the study interpreted as an extension of the self, as an accessible self-portrait, is addressed by Horacio Fernández in the catalogue: *"Some studios have this peculiarity: the owners – the artists – use images to tell the observer how they want to be seen, sometimes adding comments that would be suitable for a sort of training manual in the making. What counts is the form they present to the spectator, namely the theatre. A painting of a studio is a self-portrait in context."*

To mark the occasion, a catalogue has been published encompassing the entire cycle of works devoted to the study of still life. The catalogue was edited by the artist and published by Trolley Books, with a text by Horacio Fernández and an interview by Adelina von Fürstenberg.

GALERIE ANDREA CARATSCH

Luca Pancrazzi was born in 1961 in Figline Valdarno (Florence). He currently lives and works between Milan and Pieve a Presciano (Arezzo). He has participated in numerous national and international exhibitions, biennials and triennials, including Venice, Moscow, New Delhi, Montenegro, Albissola, the Rome Quadriennale, Unicredit/MAMbo in Bologna, the P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Museo Marino Marini in Florence, the Galleria Civica in Modena, the Museo d'arte per bambini del Santa Maria della Scala in Siena, the Lenbachhaus und Kunstbau in Munich, the GAM in Turin, the Palazzo delle Papesse in Siena, the Museo Cantonale d'Arte in Lugano, the Centro di Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci in Prato, the PAC in Milan, and the MART in Rovereto.

The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 6 PM
and on Saturday from 11 AM to 5 PM.