



ROOTS CONTEMPORARY

presents

INTERIOR FUJIAN

02/12/10 – 22/01/11

Opening 01/12/2010 from 18:00

Interior Fujian is a solo exhibition of the photography works by Italian artist Patrizia Bonanzinga. The photographer has been working in China since 1995. In 2004 she published *The Road to Coal* a photographic work on Chinese coal industry. Over the last years her central thread is about “time”. *Interior Fujian* is a series from her last trip to China in May 2010. Using her XPAN camera she went into the *Tulou*, huge round fortified houses of *Hakka* people, shooting interior landscapes. Seizing pithy, straightforward, human images, she wonders about her perception of the flow of time. Inside the *Tulou*, China seems timeless.

Lately, China is living a frenetic race to make up for lost time. The realistic images scattered by the XPAN capture the real rhythm of time in the *Tulou*. On the other hand, today’s China prevents the natural flow of time. From the literature of the Tang dynasty to our days, nothing has changed in the dwelling mode of most of Chinese people. Only the Cultural Revolution of the 60’s could have moved the essential place of objects and people. The photographer has gone deep down to the soul of the country, chasing the sense of China from Shanxi to Fujian. As China moves on, traditions remain.

On the occasion of her exhibition at the Roots Contemporary gallery, 33 rue du Collegestraat, 1050 Brussels (2 December 2010 – 22 January 2011), artist Patrizia Bonanzinga will be giving a conference entitled «Notes of China» to the benefit of the humanitarian projects of the “Association Femmes d’Europe a.i.s.b.l.” on November 30 at Espace Banca Monte Paschi Belgio (avenue d’Auderghem 22-28, 1040 Brussels). Evening event fee: 25€ by bank transfer only, with the reference “Notes of China” ING 310-0708191-80

The “Association Femmes d’Europe a.i.s.b.l.” is apolitical and philanthropic, gathering more than a thousand women, all volunteers, natives of various countries. It collects funds to finance projects that help women and children in great difficulty, through the organisation of meetings and cultural events.

“Cina senza tempo” – China timeless

May, 2005

Patrizia Bonanzinga is both a rigorous and spontaneous photographer. Being a mathematician she surprisingly matches these two qualities. Instinctively choosing the essential moment, escaping from the “cliché”, she captures the secret in the image that hooks the other. She summarizes the image at each click keeping in mind the leading thread: time.

Anybody who has visited China is realizing that time flows in a different way there. Sociologists consider time to be a subjective matter and something established by the inhabitants of a place: a waiting, a running, and a travel back in time. The legend of timeless China re-emerges during the years. Baudelaire, in one of his poems, talks of a missionary who asks the time to a young boy, and the boy tells him the answer by reading the cat's eyes: the fine pupil of the cat being as precise as a clock. The historians refuse still today to admit watches where invented by the Chinese way before us, and then eventually forgotten.

During the time she has spent in China, remembering her mathematics with its centers, Patrizia Bonanzinga tracks down the junctions, those elements we call invariables. With a gift for narration, she goes straight to the point: each picture being a single story, and each sequence the trace of a film. Looking at her book "The Road to Coal", there is an unconscious « director »: we put rhythm into time and then we travel out of it. She is creating images that are clean, straight and human at the same time.

Carlo Laurenti



Press photos : high definition photos are available on demand
Credits : © P. Bonanzinga – Interior Fujian

Biography



Photo : © Patrick Zachmann

Born in Bolzano (Italy) in 1954, Patrizia Bonanzinga discovers her passion for photography during her university studies where she obtains a degree in Mathematics ; she has worked in several fields including education, training and scientific research. Bonanzinga used to live in Mexico, in Algeria, in USA and in China. It's in Beijing (1995-1998) where she focuses her work in photography, dedicating to this country several projects.

Her photos are included in the collections of the National Gallery of Modern Art and the MAXXI museum of Rome, the House of Photography of Moscow, the Training and Documentation Center Ricardo Rangel of Maputo (Mozambique) and also in private collections.

May 2003, she's the curator of three exhibitions at the gallery Officina Arte al Borghetto within the framework of the *FotoGrafia*, 2nd International Festival of Photography, Rome (Italy):

- « Made in China » from Rhodri Jones
- « Shi Ma ? » from Bertrand Meunier
- « Chinese collectivities » from Gao Brothers, Han Lei, Tie Uing, Zhang Da Li and Xing Danwen

She teaches "Education to Images" course at the university Roma III.

She regularly publishes critical essays of photography in specialised magazines and collaborates with the magazine *FotoGrafia Reflex* since 2001.

The AFG Agency in Rome represents her.

Since 2008 she's living in Brussels.

Solo exhibitions

- 2010 *My best of Italy*, Italian Cultural Institute, Beijing (China)
My Best of Italy, Cultural Center, Tianjin (China)
- 2009 *L'Altra Infanzia, The Other Kids, A Outra Infância*, Chissano Center, Maputo (Mozambique)
- 2007 *My Best of Italy*, Italian Cultural Institute, Brussels (Belgium)
My Best of Italy, Porto America's Cup, Valencia (Spain)
Ritrovi, digital work realised with the photographer Pietro Mari, Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno "Carlos Mérida", Guatemala City (Guatemala)
- 2006-07 *The Road to Coal*, Italian Cultural Institute, Cracovia (Poland)
- 2006-10 *Lavori in Corso: la Galleria*, photographic installation, *Galleria nazionale d'Arte moderna*, Rome (Italy)
The Road to Coal, Prato Centrale Station, Florence (Italy)
- 2005 *Cina Senza Tempo*, Hutong Gallery, Rome (Italy)
La Via del Carbone Cinese, The House of Energy AEM, Milan (Italy)
- 2004 *Ritrovi*, Castello del Valentino, Turin (Italy)
The Road to Coal, National Centre for Photography of Padova (Italy)
- 2001 *Pékin change de peau*, atelier François Seigneur and Sylvie de la Dure, within the framework of « Les Rencontres d'Arles », International Photography Festival (France)
- 1999 *Raccontare Pechino*, for the « Sipari » de la Galleria nazionale d'arte moderna, Rome (Italy)
- 1997 *On the borders: minorities' life in south western China*, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing (China)

Group exhibitions

- 2007-08 *Cantiere d'Autore*, CIVA (International Center for the Urbanism, the Architecture and the Landscape), Brussels (Belgium)
- 2007 *La Trasparenza*, Galleria l'Impronta, Rome (Italy)
L'Opera Guardante, Galleria l'Impronta, Rome (Italy)
Lavori in Corso : il Palazzo, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, within the framework of *FotoGrafia*, 6th Rome International Festival of Photography, Rome (Italy)
- 2006 *Field of Vision*, New Art Project, 798 Art District, Beijing (China)
The Road to Coal, 6th Photo Biennale, Moscow (Russia)
- 2005 *Ritrovi*, atelier François Seigneur and Sylvie de la Dure, inside the show "Urban Roaming", within the framework of «Les Rencontres d'Arles», International Photography Festival (France)
The Road to Coal, projection, Museum of Rome in Trastevere, within the framework of *FotoGrafia*, 4th International Festival of Photography, Rome (Italy)
- 2004 *6 Communities*, Alice Austen House Museum, Staten Island, New York City (USA)
Chez Sylvie - Chez les Chinois, atelier François Seigneur and Sylvie de la Dure, within the framework of «Les Rencontres d'Arles», International Photography Festival (France)
- 2002 *Ritrovi*, Stazione Termini, within the framework of *FotoGrafia*, 1st International Festival of Photography, Rome (Italy)

Publications

- P. BONANZINGA, «L'Altra Infanzia, The Other Kids, A Outra Infância», UNICRI, Turin, May 2009
- P. BONANZINGA ET P. MARI «Ritrovi», Maschietto Editore, Florence, March 2007
- P. BONANZINGA, «Road to Coal», Hopefulmonster, Turin 2004

Roots Contemporary exhibits works by Chinese and Russian artists exploring the transformation underway in their countries after decades of isolation from the outside world. China and Russia share a history of communist rule and are now forging strong national identities. Works shown at the gallery interpret the reaction of society and the individual to the evolving transformation and the clash between tradition and modernity as global influences flow in.

Patrizia Bonanzinga – INTERIOR FUJIAN

From 2 December 2010 to 22 January 2011



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Open Saturday 2pm-7pm or by appointment

Bus 71 or 54 – stop Fernand Cocq
Parking La Tulipe – Place de la Tulipe

**Place and date of the conference organized by the
"Association Femmes d'Europe a.i.s.b.l."**



ESPACE BANCA MONTE PASCHI BELGIO,
Av. d'Auderghem 22-28, 1040 Brussels

Tuesday, November 30 at 6:30 pm

www.assocfemmesdeurope.org

Evening event fee : PAF 25€ by bank transfer only, with the reference « Notes of
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RSVP + 32 475 74 84 83