

**SHAHID DATAWALA**  
"Dress Circle"  
a cura di / curator Maria Teresa Capacchione



Terrazza Frau  
51° Festival dei 2 Mondi di Spoleto

**Opening June 27th 17.00 h.**



To narrate Bollywood in an understated black and white, to tell a story with sense of humour about India's passion for its movies, to portray old cinema halls and architectures soon to be converted into modern shopping malls: this is the work that Sahid Datawala (Kalkota, 1974) exhibits at the Terrazza Frau in the context of the Festival dei 2 Mondi of Spoleto together with Associazione Italia-India.

"The image has to be a story; otherwise it is pointless. You have to travel into the image. And every little thing within it has to speak".

It is in such a way that Datawala tells us stories from a different India. Different from its usual stereotypes such as the religious rituals as opposed to the traces of a recent impressive economic growth, instead India is here portrayed in its normality.

Datawala's images arrest our attention on fragments of daily life, people are portrayed in the context of a cinema hall or walking next to an image used to advertise a movie. The attention goes to the deep relationship that the country has with its movies and their imaginary world. It is an intelligent and poetic interplay in which the roles of actor and public are, for once, exchanged.

Shahid Datawala's exhibition has been realized in collaboration with Associazione Italia-India, Matthieu Foss Gallery-Mumbai and is a production of Rialtosantambragio for Festa del Cinema of Rome 2007.

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