

Rialtosantambrogio and StalkAgency

19-27 October 2007

## "Metropolis: containing what contents?"

ex-GIL in Trastevere  
Largo Ascianghi 4/5

in

Extra/Large\_independent productions  
Cinema Rome Film Fest 2007

in collaboration with *Focus India*

**Friday 19th h 6:00 p.m.**

**opening of the group show**

**free entrance**

### **SAO PAULO**

Cao Guimarães (video-installation), Ricardo Alcaide (photography), Carolina Novelleto (performance), Daniel Caballero (visual arts), selected by Alexandre Benedito Ignácio Alves.

### **BOMBAY**

Subodh Gupta (video), selected by Deepak Ananth  
Shahid Datawala, Ryan Lobo, Annu Palakunnathu Matthew (photography),  
selected by Maria Teresa Capacchione.

### **JOHANNESBURG**

Guy Tillim, selection of photos from *Jo'burg* series  
presented by Guido Schlinkert, extraspazio gallery, Rome

### **videos**

"Arte Dappertutto" (Art Everywhere) documentary by A. Archinto and C. Guenzani

"Le città hanno gli occhi" (cities have eyes) curated by A. Picardi, G. Quercia and G. Rendi for

"Schermaglie.it" webmagazine

### **Information:**

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## **Metropolis: containing what contents?**

### **THE GROUP SHOW**

"Metropolis" gathers in a **collective exhibition** works by contemporary curators and artists (from **Brazil, India, South Africa** and **Italy** – host country), to reflect on nowadays huge urban areas and their future development.

The selection of artists from **Brazil** is by **Alexandre Benedito Ignácio Alves**, consultant for the São Paulo Biennial, who finds in the concept of "**Cannibal Metropolis**" the common ground between Cao Guimarães (video-installation), Ricardo Alcaide (photos), Carolina Novellato (performance), Daniel Caballero (visual arts).

Alves rests upon the idea of Brazilian **culture** as **appropriation**, symbolic **anthropophagi**, melting and **hybridizing**, creating something new.

"A projection, a process of interlization of the other one" This can be a key for the understanding of Cao Guimarães work, "Rua da Mão Dupla".

Coming from dance, but transposing its limit to the body-art, we have Carolina Novelleto's proposal, "Nós", which tries the different bodies of the metropolis, carefully observed and in which she realized the different ethnical, social and cultural influences that shaped them.

Controversially, the Venezuelan Ricardo Alcaide subverts the cannibal order in his series "Passer bys" and "Outdoors"; he devours and is devoured by the city.

In his work "The beginning of the end of the world", Daniel Caballero changes the city and its wounds in atavistic beings, merciless with its inhabitants. The urban chaos is his ode, the slum is its kingdom and the shanty its castle.

For India the event involves the curator Maria Teresa Capacchione and Ananth Deepak.

"**The complexity of India**", curated by **Maria Teresa Capacchione**, shows us the photographic works of Shahid Datawala, Ryan Lobo and Annu Palakunnathu Matthew.

**Datawala** presents a research (in black and white) on **old Indian cinemas**, that may soon disappear to be replaced by gigantic multi cinemas and shopping malls. Along with this reportage, another one on a similar topic is presented, on **the hand-painted Bollywood posters** (another strong contradiction) and life in the streets, flowing around them in the megalopolis.

During the last four years, Datawala has been working as freelance photographer for First City – a magazine in Delhi.

**Lobo** presents a reportage (in colour and black and white) on an unusual side of India: its **catholic weddings**.

In 1995 he won the Levi-Strauss campaign and he worked as photographer for many films for NGT, for reviews and various non-governmental agencies.

**Annu Palakunnathu Matthew** presents a very ironical work on the identity of **American Indians**, playing with the mistake made by Cristoforo Colombo, when he discovered that land, and also with Occidental stereotypes.

Annu Palakunnathu Matthew's research is also included in the Phaidon publication *BLINK* that, in the opinion of the editor, includes the most interesting contemporary international photographers.

Also **Subodh Gupta** participates to "Metropolis", presented by **Deepak Ananth**, curator of "**Prospects, Contemporary Art from India**" the exhibition that launch Focus India, in which Gupta takes part.

**South Africa** is represented by the photographer **Guy Tillim**, with a selection by the **Jo'burg series**, presented by Guido Schlinkert (extraspazio gallery, Rome).

The artist documents the transformation of the city from an urban enclave run by the white minority to an "African City". The rapid transition, which was guided by city and regional authorities, left traumatic traces. The creation of a black, deracinated underclass transformed Johannesburg into a new form of ghetto.

Around this works, two **video works** and **installation**:

"**Art Everywhere**" about nowadays **India's** identity and artistic and cultural autonomy, with relation to the occidental contemporary art panorama, and "**Cities have eyes**", a montage "*reasonably delirious*" of metropolitan fragments of movies from different ages and continents.

## **Metropolis: containing what contents?**

### **THE CONCEPT**

The **Rialtoccupato**, centre of independent culture production, and the multifaceted association for urban culture **STALKagency** organize the project "**Metropolis: containing what contents?**" to go over the concept of city as sum of residents and expression of power, aiming at investigating the extraordinary potentials embedded in the concentration of culture and knowledge in one urban texture. From the 19th to 27th of October the **former house of the Gioventù Italiana del Littorio in Trastevere**, a place that symbolize the Fascist Regimen typical sets, will host a reflection on the metropolis that goes beyond the limits of movie representation, with artists, photographers and performers.

From luxury to slums in **Sao Paulo**, where tropicalism was born and then became cultural industry, to **Bombay's** Bollywood with the social ambitions of a population that often lives in slums. From shacks made of tinsplate and pop and movie stars' luxurious mansions in Johannesburg townships, to "little Roma", blocked between a distorted idea of conservation and a pasolinean vision of outskirts' suburbs. An interpretation of the metropolis as advanced territory to experiment new paths, develop "social and cultural syncretism", foster innovation, discuss the political role of the definition and use of culture in the processes of distinction, inclusion and exclusion of social groups.

**19 – 27 October 2007**

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## **GROUP SHOW**

**Friday 19th h 6:00 p.m. opening of the group show  
from 20 to 27 october 6:00>12:00 p.m.**

## **OTHER EVENTS IN METROPOLIS**

in collaboration with Roma Uno S.S.d.r.l.

### **Saturday 20th**

**from 9:30 p.m.**

#### **“Waiting for NOW”**

Nuove Tribù Zulu meets romanì dancers Chejà Chelén  
in collaboration with Chinh Italia-India association

**from 10:30 p.m.**

#### **“Rome meets Bombay”**

Live set NAVARASAS COMBO  
Dj set FEEL GOOD PRODUCTIONS+KNUF  
Visual set GLASSPIEL  
in collaboration with Snob Production

### **Friday 26**

**from 10:00 p.m.**

#### **“People: made of(f) of Soylent Green”**

by **Laboratorio creativo Soylent Green**  
Creative improvisations and cine-spot (Studio Idea and Stefano Mannucci)  
Yo!! What Happened to Peace?  
200 artists against the war, 5 continents, 200 video-illustrations for peace

**from 11:00 p.m.**

Djset with "Key from Meka", Matteo Esse, Life Recorder (from France), Max Durante, Lory D.  
Vjset with She Frame and Noise Video

### **Saturday 27**

**from 10:30 p.m.**

#### **“Condominio ExtraOrdinario”**

DJset by Flavia Lazzarini and Gino Woody Bianchi.  
**GuestDJ: Tahira** (from Sao Paulo, Brazil)  
in collaboration with Condominio

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