

For his new exhibition at francesca kaufmann Adrian Paci presents a series of new works in various media that focus on capturing the essence contained within ephemeral images.

The motor from which the exhibited works are drawn is found video footage that present peripheral, intersticed moments that obtain an iconic value through the artist's minute interventions, simple actions like the slowing of the moving image or its static affirmation.

The Last Gestures, a four-channel video installation, composes a scenario in which fragmented episodes preserve the gesture that determines the scene's duration. During the moments before a wedding a drama unfolds between a bride and the family she must abandon in order to construct a new one. The bride's somber behavior is accentuated by the family's ritualized gestures, a seemingly ancestral model contrasted by the characters' awareness of the artificial gaze that both compromises their spontaneity and renders them willing actors in a codified drama. Through the slowing down of the scenes the resulting image reveals each phase of its entire process. The video manifests itself with a painterly quality, presenting a portrait of gestures in which affectation resides with solemnity.

Britma, presented in the same space, is a small format projection in which the original sequence (a frame of just a few seconds) is dilated into several minutes, slowed into almost complete fixity. The child, shown running toward the viewer, maintains at first an impenetrable expression that ever so slightly changes into an unavoidable scream, echoed in his slowly disfiguring face.

While *The Last Gestures* addresses the issue of abandonment, in *Britma* the child's movement becomes a metaphor for escape, but also the affirmation of otherwise insignificant moments, each of which preserves a richness waiting to be revealed.

Adrian Paci was born in 1969 in Shkoder, Albania. He lives and works in Milan.

Forthcoming solo exhibitions: Kunsthaus Zurich, curated by Mirjam Varadinis

Selected solo exhibitions: (2010) Villa Medici, Rome (2008) Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv; Kunstverein Stuk, Leuven, Belgium; Kunstverein Hannover, Hannover; Bonnier Konsthall, Stokkholm (2007) Milton Keynes Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK; Museum Am Ostwall, Dortmund (2006) Galleria Civica di Modena, Modena (2005) PS1, MOMA, New York

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