FOUR WORKS

ANDREA GALVANI

OPENING RECEPTION
7 - 10 PM
JULY 28TH, 2011
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“Four Works” shows both the breadth of Andrea Galvani’s work in the last five years and the consistency of his research. cardboard, austerities, still, and visually sharp, they present angular moments in time that invite the viewer to enter rich, seductive and allusive visual universes. Two of the images selected for this Aperture Foundation exhibition are being shown for the first time in the United States.

Andrea Galvani's photographs uncover a parallel path, an alternate, majestic reality in which anything is possible. And it is not a new form in which it can lead only for a shorter duration. The overwhelming and intense series will be shown in its entirety at the fourth Moscow Biennale in September.

In Death of an Image #4, the light of the sun has been used by the artist in another way: to invite viewers to contemplate its reflection. Light bounces off tiny mirrors embedded within the branches of a beautiful luffa tree, flashing directly into the camera’s lens. The simultaneous flashes of light are incredible, as they are invisible from any other vintage point. About this project, the artist states: “The work is the result of the confluence of three points in space: the rotation of the planet and the powerful atomic energy of the sun.”

Death of an Image #4 and #12 once again invoke cosmological readings: hallucinated balloons are arranged across desert landscapes, forming constellations of strange stars. For these images, Galvani has built a newly transparent web of seals to anchor the balloons in precise locations. The balloons seem to be flat, painted dots, or elemental particles; their unreflected black surfaces separate them from the realistic landscape surrounding them. The balloons work on both a macrocosmic and microcosmic scale: they are vast entities within a universe—galaxies and black holes—but also simply cells within an organism. They impose a visual pause, interrupting and disconnecting the picture plane. The Death of an Image project is driven by the artist’s desire to negate traditional photography in order to rebuild it. Andrea Galvani’s photographs uncover a parallel path, an alternate, majestic reality in which anything is possible.

Nora Lawrence

Andrea Galvani © 2006 Death of an Image #12
C-print on aluminum dibond, 128 x 180 x 5.5 cm // 50.4 x 70.9 x 2 inches, framed. Courtesy of the artist and Meulensteen Gallery, New York.

Andrea Galvani © 2006 Death of an Image #11
C-print on aluminum dibond, 128 x 180 x 5.5 cm // 50.4 x 70.9 x 2 inches, framed. Courtesy of the artist and Meulensteen Gallery, New York.

Curated by Nora Lawrence