

Massimo Cristaldi

ATTRACTIONS



Série «Insulae» (2009) © Massimo Cristaldi / Courtesy Galerie Images de Fer, Paris. Tirage Fine Art sur Dibond, 100x100cm

01-26 MARCH 2011

Vernissage
Thursday 3 March 2011
18h to 22h

in presence of Massimo Cristaldi

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Massimo Cristaldi *ATTRACTIONS*

For **Massimo Cristaldi** photography coagulates time and freezes in a single moment strata that history has permanently written. It artificially combines different stages and cause to the author an unique emotion, which is at the heart of different projects.

The driving concern of his work is focused on traces that Man and time passage carve over Nature and Things, representing, in particular, effects and signs on “what remains”.

ATTRACTIONS is the first exhibition of Massimo Cristaldi in France, after Italy, United States and Belgium.

Although different from each other, the common point between the works presented at **Gallery Images de Fer** is the notion, multiple, of attraction.

The light, the sparkle are at the heart of most of the images signed Massimo Cristaldi. He is attracted by lights, the ones of New York, the headlight city, as well as those who populate and mysteriously streak countryside and roads of Sicily. Like him, we all become night insects magnetized by nocturnal brilliance. Other animals are present in some of the images of the photographer, attracted by the heat rather than the light. That emitted by the industries. The light combines itself with this phenomenon. A twilight glow, witness of an upheaval?

«Impressions of New York» (2007-2010)

During his journeys in the United States, Massimo Cristaldi has realized the project «Impressions of New York ». Attracted by the «Big Apple» like a butterfly by the light , Massimo Cristaldi plays with the shapes and the contrasting colours of the City. Pavements of Broadway, crossing in the middle of the “Yellow cabs”, climbing buildings, Massimo Cristaldi gives us a graphic and coloured New York, always moving. His vision of “Ground Zero”, in the vacuum and in a quasi divine clearness, testifies the largest wound of the city.



Série «Impressions of New York» (2007-2010), *Ground Zero*
© Massimo Cristaldi/ Courtesy Galerie Images de Fer, Paris
Tirage Fine Art sur Dibond, 100x150cm

«Refinery Flocks» (2006-2009)

In “Refinery Flocks” Massimo Cristaldi recalls how much Nature can adapt to the transformations which Man imposes. But also how Man can pervert it. The answer remains ambiguous, the debate open. The form is plastically mesmerizing, without ceasing questioning us on the meaning. At the same hour, at the end of the day, thousands of birds come to be heated with the heat generated by a refinery in Sicily. The unexpected combination leads us to think. The shape of these clouds composes single and transitory drawings as many, natural performance combining industry, man and animal. An alliance against Nature? The photographer does not judge or give an answer.



Série «Refinery Flocks» (2006-2009)
© Massimo Cristaldi/ Courtesy Galerie Images de Fer, Paris
Tirage Fine Art sur Dibond, 100x150cm

«Simulacra» (2009)

Simulacra is a series of night images dedicated to chapels and shrines along Sicily roads. «Simulacra» is an allegory on the permanence of anachronistic signs, and at the same time of their lapse of memory, their disappearance. These religious vestiges seem to become anonymous, even invisible, at a time when technology and speed are in the heart of our society. But these traces of a spiritual past remain despite everything, even in the indifference. Symbols of faith in times of globalisation, these mystical architectures seem to resist only thanks to a certainly buried, but visceral, superstition.



Série «Simulacra» (2009)
© Massimo Cristaldi/ Courtesy Galerie Images de Fer, Paris
Tirage Fine Art sous Diasec, 100x150cm

«Insulae» (from 2009)

Massimo Cristaldi currently continues the project “Insulae”, initiated in 2009. These small islands of lights, isolated in a dark and quiet landscape are in fact the fortified camps for the American soldiers and their families. These bases located in Sicily resemble all the other ones built across Europe. They all are conceived according to the same model. This series is a plastic and political work. Plastic because Massimo Cristaldi plays once again to the way in which the light attracts us, works, defines a territory, its limits, its borders. Politic because the US auto segregation, which take sometimes the form of UFO or extraterrestrial incursions, constitutes a paradox for a nation symbol of universal Freedom.



Série «Impressions of New York» (2009)
© Massimo Cristaldi/ Courtesy Galerie Images de Fer, Paris
Tirage Fine Art sur Dibond, 100x100cm

Massimo Cristaldi was born in Catania (Italy) in 1970. His professional career started in 1994. After a degree in Geology, he began managing international research projects. Art is the environment he grew up and Photography the way to set his creative side free.

He has been awarded at the International Photography Awards 2008, 2009 and 2010, at the B&W Spider Awards 2008 and 2009, at the Photography Masters Cup 2008, at the Travel Photographers Of the Year 2008 and at the Prix de Photographie de Paris 2009.

Massimo Cristaldi photographs have been exhibited in New York, Brussels and London. The exhibition presented by the Gallery Images de Fer is the first for the photographer in France.

Exhibitions (Selection)

- 2010 Lineart / Gent, Belgium / « Simulacra » and « Refinery Flocks »
Farmani Gallery-Lucie Foundation / New York, USA
Samuel Maenhoudt Gallery / Bruxelles, Belgium / « Massimo Cristaldi »
- 2009 Certosa / Venezia, Italy / « Dependendancy »
- 2007 Galleria del Vecchio Bastione / Catania, Italy / « Explorations »

Massimo Cristaldi is represented in France by l'agence **revelateur**
www.agencerevelateur.fr