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MONDI

a project by **Pier Luigi Tazzi**

Prato, from 19 October

Opening

Friday 19 October 18.00-21:00

Monash University Prato Centre, via Pugliesi 26, Prato

An illustrated lecture about the work of the artists: **Ahlam Shibli** (Palestine), **Deanna Templeton** (USA), **Kornkrit Jianpinidnan** (Thailand), **Jirayu Rengjaras** (Thailand), **Hanayo** (Japan), **Dollar Han** (China), **Eiki Mori** (Japan), **Khvay Samnang** (Cambodia), **Yazan Khalili** (Palestine), **Paolo Meoni** (Italy).

Lecturer: **Pier Luigi Tazzi**. Speakers: **Kornkrit Jianpinidnan**, **Hanayo**, **Dollar Han**, **Jia Gao** and **Paolo Meoni**.

Exhibition: **Eiki Mori** with a presentation of his book *tokyo boy alone*, Revolution Star Publishing and Creation Co., Ltd., Taiwan, 2011.

Presentation of the book *EMO* by **Kornkrit Jianpinidnan**.

Saturday 20 October 18:00-20:00

Galleria die Mauer, via Pomeria 71, Prato
Jirayu Rengjaras, **Yazan Khalili**, **Paolo Meoni**

Galleria Vault, via Genova 17/15, Prato
Hanayo, **Dollar Han**

Dryphoto arte contemporanea, via delle Segherie 33a, Prato
Kornkrit Jianpinidnan, **Khvay Samnang**

Organization: Dryphoto arte contemporanea

MONDI is supported by Regione Toscana within the regional project "TOSCANAINCONTEMPORANEA2011"

The project

The project consists in presenting the works of ten artists, the most of which coming from Asia and in their thirties and early forties, in the form of an illustrated conference run by the curator and with the participation of some of the selected artists, and of four exhibitions in galleries and other exhibition spaces in the city.

MONDI wants to show, discuss, and dig into that territory where photography, instead of a way to document the World, is an aperture on Worlds, where reflection gives up to openness and revealing.

Photography in its history and tradition has always entailed the assumption of an operational polarity: on one side the operating subject, the Roland Barthes' "*operator*", on the other side the visible reality of the world, a world conceived in its monolithic and sole unity.

When the artists, starting from the 1970s and during the 1980s, free photography from its specificity and its history of a medium different from the others - painting, sculpture, drawing - and adopt it as an art tool of the same dignity of the others, old, or new such as performance, installation, film, video, and later on when digital photography is introduced and developed, photography becomes available to many and different expressive intents, and together they free it from the dichotomy that has marked it since its beginning: Subject vs World.

When the model of western art spreads on a planetary scale and at the same time comes into crisis, the new planetary artist finds available a rich set of tools that technology and culture have been tuning following that model: photography is among these tools.

So the minorities away from the centre of the - political, economic, social and cultural - empire, use this "friendly" medium, liberated from its history and traditional aesthetics, operator vs world, to open to those worlds – plural -, from whom each of these artists comes from and looks at.

It is about "worlds". Worlds on the edges, peripheral, different but not in antagonism toward the sole and centralized World that artists from the centre go on looking at and working in by means of traditional methods.

Info: Dryphoto arte contemporanea, via delle Segherie 33a, Prato – tel. 0574 603186 – mob. 3472297801 info@dryphoto.it

Exhibition sites and hours:

Monash University Prato Centre, via Pugliesi 26, Prato; Monday-Friday 10:00-17:00
On view until 20 November

Galleria die Mauer, via Pomeria 71, Prato; Monday-Friday 15:30-19:30
On view until 20 November

Galleria Vault, via Genova 17/15, Prato; by appointment
On view until 6 December

Dryphoto arte contemporanea, via delle Segherie 33a, Prato
Wednesday-Friday 17:00-20:00 and by appointment
On view until 6 December

Artists

Ahlam Shibli (1970), was born in Palestine, lives and works in Haifa, Palestine. In her work she explores the daily lives of the Palestinian population. She has had numerous solo and group exhibitions and has also participated at the 2nd International Biennial of Contemporary Art of Seville (2006), the 27th Sao Paulo Biennale(2007) and documenta 12, Kassel (2008).

Deanna Templeton (1969) lives and works in Huntington Beach (CA). She comes from the typical life of the American suburbs, with a problematic family and a troubled adolescence. She portrays people and places that make the Californian mega-suburb of Orange County an observatory on youth culture and architecture.

Kornkrit Jianpinidnan (1975), was born in Chiang Rai, Thailand, lives and works in Bangkok. Very popular in Thailand where he has participated in many group and solo exhibitions. He has also exhibited in Singapore, Tokyo, Spain, Belgium, Italy.

Jirayu Rengjaras (1980) was born in the province of Kalasin, Thailand, where he went back to live in 2010. Self-taught he started to work as an artist in 2008 in Bangkok. His works are included in several collections in Thailand, Hong Kong, Italy, England, Japan and the United States. He has participated in many group shows outside Thailand as *Rites de passage*, Schunck-Glaspaleis, Herleen, Holland (2009), and Aichi Triennale 2010, Nagoya, Japan.

Hanayo (1970) is a Japanese musician and artist known for her playful, subversive works, and for her book on her life as a geisha. With strong ties to Japanese culture, she presently lives and works in Tokyo.

Dollar Han (1985) was born in Liaoning, China, lives and works in Beijing. He graduated in 2005 at the Secondary School of Art Luxun Academy of Fine Arts and in 2009 has specialized in photography at the same institution. He currently works as a photographer and editor in the publishing business of art.

Eiki Mori (1976) lives and works in Tokyo. He has graduated in 2005 from the Photography Dept., Parsons The New School for Design (U.S.). He has participated in many group and solo exhibitions in Japan, Germany, Austria, Greece, United Kingdom, Taiwan.

Khvay Samnang (1982) born in Svay Rieng, Cambodia, lives and works in Phnom Penh. He studied at the Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA), Phnom Penh, and has had work featured in group and solo shows in Cambodia, China, Japan, Canada, France, Singapore.

Yazan Khalili (1981) lives and works in Palestine. He has participated in many group shows on an international level, and was included in Sandi Hilal and Alessandro Petti's project Ramallah Syndrome at the 53rd Venice Biennial (2009).

Paolo Meoni (1967) was born in Prato, city that gave rise to his poetic path. Since the beginning of his artistic research inner semantics of photography and video had played a central role, by exploring the city and revealing the invisible epiphanies animating it. His works have been exhibited in public and private spaces in Italy and abroad.