

On Saturday June the 15th, 2002 at 5-30 pm it opens in the **Centro d'Arte Contemporanea Ticino** the thematic show

FE_MALE

**Fausto Bertasa, Daniele Buetti & Anna Graf, Giovanni Ferrario,
Andrea Galvani, František Klossner, Cinzia Ruggeri**

Performance of Katia Bassanini

and

La camera del sesso

curated by Mario Casanova & Marco Tagliaferro

This combined thematic exhibition features the artistic production by authors more or less known within the Swiss and international art scene, whose art works are dedicated for this opportunity to the body as both subject/object, behaviour and Eros.

Hermaphrodites, son of Hermes and Aphrodite's, is the character who obtained the permission to blend his male body with that of Salmace, the one who had both male and female attributes. Fe_Male means the contemporary evolution, evokes new relations between sign and point of reference, unedited chemical combinations within communicative codes accepted by the social live, semantic ambivalence linked to semeiology and mass media. Nevertheless Fe_Male is not inter-sexuality, it is hermaphrodites and coexistence between two opposite kinds of sexualities that can function at the same time or in different moments.

This event begins with the performance entitled Champagne, 2002 of the artist based in New York **Katia Bassanini (1969)**. The actress Una Szeemann interprets a male character. The roots of her art works are the Austrian artistic movement of Action, which she puts later on into performances and transforms into multi-media art objects. The performance presented by K.B. is somehow her thinking about the power's relation - and about its winners - within sexual reality, gender and behaviour, by approaching the theme in a subtle and playful manner.

Fe-Male is **Fausto Bertasa (1954)** too with his digital and androgynous essays; the coexistence of concreteness and lightness, closeness and profoundness. The artist working in Bologna will present an art work designed directly on wall.

Of **Daniele Buetti (1955)**, Swiss artist, it has been shown a brand new installation made four hands with **Anna Graf (1958)**. It is an art work thought

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during a stay in Senegal and conceived as a group of three video works in three hanging monitors, and objects, combining their artistic qualities with the anthropological experience in the African land. The media both formal and expressive of the installation are the usual ones used by Buetti & Graf; nevertheless they add a new way of interpretation given by the ambivalent presence of another culture.

Already presented at the CACTicino during 2000, the young Italian author **Giovanni Ferrario (1973)** approaches the theme of the body focusing on philosophy and existence. His approach could be either anthropological, but linked to contemporary and urban behaviour. The featured work is a large photographic print mounted on aluminium, in which the artist reproduces digitally an empty pills box. It obviously reminds the body or somehow the suggestion of it, its illness on chemical products. The all image creates a certain uneasiness for the spectator. From an esthetical perspective, the art work means the intention to combine style and functions within its content: not a real pills box but a photographed and enlarged one to indicate the androgynous use of the media.

Always searching new points of view, while no vision is expected, **Andrea Galvani (1973)** presents a colour photographic diptych entitled Verso, 2001. The apparently casual and untidy use of the photographic shot allows him to create an image, whose identification within the usual representation is rather small. Different grounds and cuts combined with a psychedelic and kinetic reproduction of reality, allow new dimensions an interpretations of the body and the its surrounding.

Frantiček Klossner (1960) exhibits Mess Up Your Mind (2001). It is an invading video installation. The theme is one of those preferred by F.K.; the body and the interaction with it. Body, invasion, sensual invasion are the first aspects you can percept from this installation, that aims to be total from the point of view of its impact with the public. The artist takes with the camera the cut face of his models and concentrates on the most sensitive part of it; the lips, the mouth. The characters talk, seem to talk, aim to communicate through a dead language, they move their lips and try to express themselves. By influencing the movement thank a digital manipulation, the author works, as if the wet mouth would become carnal object; ...he succeeds. This body hole serves for communication, for love, fro the transmission of thoughts and emotions, extremely sensitive to coldness and hotness. The video images are enlarged to render the impact public/work more dramatic, involving and violent.

Fe_Male also is the artist **Cinzia Ruggeri**, performer of affectivity, who dances her feelings within a hybrid choreography, between jazz improvisation and baroque projects.

Mario Casanova and Marco Tagliafierro

