



Press Release

Cesare Cicardini

"The New Burlesque"

Opening Reception: Thursday 11th November 2010, from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.
Location: **Spazio Altrove, Piazzetta Cambiaso , 1 - Genova**
Exhibition Dates 12th November – 11th December 2010
Location: **VisionQuest gallery, Piazza Invrea 4r - Genova**
Tel.: +392468771,+39 010 3397534993
Gallery Hrs. : from Wednesday to Saturday 3.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.
and by appointment
Web Site: www.visionquest.it
E-mail information: info@visionquest.it

The photographer will attend the opening reception

Special Guest *Dolly Lamour*

Cocktail by Doc & Dop srl – Genova

VisionQuest gallery is pleased to present the solo exhibition by **Cesare Cicardini** *"The New Burlesque"*.

It all began in March 2009, when Cicardini started to hang around the dressing rooms of the Burlesque international artists that go to Milan to do their show; thus as the photographer tells us, the project on the *"spectacle of seduction, or its interpretation, where success is not dictated by beauty, but by the ability to charm, to create the game, the atmosphere, the surprise"* begins to take shape. *"The Burlesque dancers put themselves on the line, nothing is serial, fake or predictable, everything is original and personal. The vintage clothes, the music, the subject of the striptease are specifically designed for the evening"*.

Fifteen photographs on show at an almost 1:1 scale taken just minutes before the artists would go up on stage to begin their show: in fact every photo's caption, besides the name of the performer, also carries the exact time it was taken. The strength of these images lies in the immediacy of the emotion, the tension and energy charge of those moments before a performance, and therefore in the photographer's vision and great ability to grasp the truth of the moment, otherwise impossible to recreate in a studio environment.

Denis Curti writes:

"First Betty. Then Tempest. Then Dita, Dorothy Eden, Vicky, and a thousand others. All incredibly true. In their photographs they reach an ecstasy that almost clashes with the desire of imperfection that comes though in their live performances. But is that detail that makes them wonderfully seductive.

Behind each of these faces there is a story; faces that look like treasure maps. Secret and unknown. Mysterious and ambiguous, certainly fascinating and seductive. Never dangerous.

Cesare Cicardini the author of these pictures, tells us that perhaps we do not take the time to see and think and understand. And here is his contribution to lightness, but also to life: seduction recipes without collateral damage [...]

At last, the very digestible, gastronomic declination, with a sensuality that wins you over. [...]

If there is a way to keep skin next to photography, Cesare has interpreted it at its' best. His physicality, also seen in other projects, threatens to become for our author, a distinctive and highly recognisable act.

Unlike strippers, who dance in striptease clubs to earn a living, to perform Burlesque dancers risk spending more than what they actually earn, for their performance on costumes, rehearsals and accessories.

What Cesare thus provides is a true archive of feelings. The photographs on display are the harmonious development of a thought: seduction resembles the staging and photography is the only language that can synthesise this."

The opening reception will take place in the historical Palazzo Fattinati at Spazio Altrove, Piazzetta Cambiaso 1 Genoa, where the walls of this very special and spectacular location will be set up for the evening with the photographs of Cicardini. The space on the ground floor houses the theatre where the live performance of the Burlesque artist Dolly Lamour will take place.

The exhibition will continue until 11th December 2010 at VisionQuest gallery, Piazza Invrea 4r, Genova.

Bio

At age five his father gave him an old Voigtlander camera and since then has never stopped taking photographs. His work is mainly devoted to the portrait and for the Agency Contrasto, Milan he has immortalised the stars of half the world, among them are: Vincent Gallo, Maurizio Cattelan, Paolo Conte, Chris Martin, John Malkovich, Joss Stone, Ben Harper. In 2009, he received two honourable mentions at the Prix de la Photographie in Paris and the International Photography Award. In December 2010, "The New Burlesque" will become a photographic book.

Special thanks to:



VISIONQUEST gallery

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