

PRESS RELEASE

OTTONELLA MOCELLIN – NICOLA PELLEGRINI

Happy Together

Sunday, December 15th 2002, 11:00 am
Galleria Lia Rumma Napoli, Via Vannella Gaetani, 12
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Gallery hours: Wednesday through Friday, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Galleria Lia Rumma is pleased to present in the gallery's space in Naples, on Sunday December 15th at 11:00 am, a collaborative show by Ottonella Mocellin and Nicola Pellegrini.

Over the last several years these two Milanese artists have explored, in both collaborative and independent projects, issues related to human relationships and the constant need for renewal of the psychological and emotional levels which everyday existence depends upon.

Their work combines a narrative aspect, inspired by the cinematographic image, and a strong presence of text (both written and oral). By using the metaphor of a game, Mocellin and Pellegrini investigate the continuous need for improvement and exploration of communication. This metaphor is used to speak of human relationships, the development of a reciprocal knowledge of the other, and of the roles which we play in our personal relationships.

The project Happy Together, which was conceived during their period as artists-in-residence at P.S.1 in New York, consists of a series of photographs and a video installation entitled I'm too sad to tell you.

Ottonella Mocellin and Nicola Pellegrini personally involve each other in this project, as they appear swinging on a see-saw, the kind you would find in children's playgrounds, in the two juxtaposed videos.

The alternating points of view and the oscillation of the see-saw, sometimes synchronized but usually unsynchronised, expresses emotional instability, the varying rhythms of a relationship, the impossibility of attaining a univocal truth, the continuous research of a balance so hard to find that it is destined to remain always precarious.

The photographs are inspired by the same issues. Some photographs, depicting the movement of the see-saw, deal with the impossibility of absolute identification and reflection of one in the other. In the other works, which are split into two separate panels which are nevertheless presented side by side, the artists express the risk and uncertain outcome of every personal relationship and emotional expression. A strong tension is produced by this physical division of the photograph into two panels and the emotional force which seems to try to pull the two pieces back together.

For further information, please contact the Galleria Lia Rumma in Naples.