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PRESS RELEASE

Candida Höfer in Naples



Candida Höfer

Napoli

Text by Angela Tecce

56 pages, 42 color plates

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Candida Höfer continues her global project of photographing publicly used interiors in Naples. Commissioned by and organized with the help of Museo di Capodimonte, she photographed libraries, archives, theaters, churches, and museums. Given the city's vast historical and cultural heritage, her pictures of the convents, townhouses, and royal palaces of Naples possess extraordinary aesthetic powers of seduction. Devoid of people, as usual with Höfer's work, the rooms have a solemn and silent beauty that contrasts with the seething life of the city and gives them a new value of testimony. These pictures don't appear to have been "captured", they are the slow, elaborate distillation of a supreme moment in which symmetry, beauty and balance become the definitive hallmark of space.

Angela Tecce, director of Castel Sant' Elmo in Naples, wrote the introduction of the book. She has curated many exhibitions in Naples and published numerous art catalogs. About the photography of Candida Höfer and her special interest Angela Tecce says:

Her decision to privilege churches, museums, libraries, and closed buildings, entails investigating what such places offer to photographic inquiry once they are deprived of their fundamental function, which is public. They are seen outside time and, in a certain sense, also outside space.

Candida Höfer, born in Eberswalde, Germany, in 1944, studied with Bernd Becher at the Düsseldorf Arts Academy. Along with numerous international shows, she participated in documenta 11 and represented Germany at the 2003 Venice Biennale.

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