



FREDO
2008
FOTO



ADAM BROOMBERG AND OLIVER CHANARIN

Fig.

Fig. features over eighty still lifes, portraits and landscapes by photographers Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin. Drawing together newly commissioned work made around the south coast of England and internationally, it traces links between photography, imperialism and the colonial impulse to acquire, map and collect. The exhibition's diverse imagery harks back to an era of Victorian collecting, which resulted in strange accumulations of objects being deposited in local museums throughout the UK. As Broomberg and Chanarin have observed, "the history of photography is intimately bound up with the idea of colonial power. Documentary photographers today have a worrying amount in common with the collector/adventurers of past eras. As unreliable witnesses, we have gathered together 'evidence' of our experiences and present our findings here; a muddle of fact and fantasy."

Adam Broomberg and Oliver Chanarin have been collaborating for over a decade. They have produced five books which in different ways examine the language of documentary photography; TRUST (2000) accompanied their first solo-show at The Hasselbad Center; GHETTO (2003) a collection of their work as editors and principal photographers of Colors magazine, was exhibited at the Victoria & Albert Museum; MR. MKHIZE'S PORTRAIT (2004) documented South Africa ten years after apartheid and accompanied a solo show at The Photographer's Gallery; CHICAGO (2006), an exploration of contemporary Israel was published by Steidl/MACK in conjunction with a solo-show at The Stedelijk Museum; and FIG (2007), also by Steidl, to accompany solo exhibitions at the John Hansard Gallery and Impressions Gallery, UK. Broomberg and Chanarin regularly teach workshops and give master classes in photography, as well as lecturing on the MA in Documentary Photography at LCC. They are the recipients of numerous awards, including the Vic Odden Award from the Royal Photographic Society.

Recommended Reading

THE RED HOUSE (2007, Steidl Editions), Fig. ((2007, Steidl/Photoworks), CHICAGO (2006, Steidl/MACK) ,MR. MKHIZE'S PORTRAIT (2004, Trolley), GHETTO (2003, Trolley), TRUST (2000, Westzone)

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