

Fabiola Faidiga and Massimo Premuda

...come in Cielo, così in Terra (*...as in Heaven, so on Earth*)



The philosopher Jurgen Habermas defines 11 September 2001 as the “first historic world event in the strict sense”. Jean Baudrillard considers the event as an “unique event”: “unique” because this event remains an “unicum” in our history and because it would have no sense at all without the support and the role of the media apparatus. This event remains “unrepresentable” and cannot be reduced to a single meaning or explanation as it exceeds and overcomes any kind of thought.

According to Jacques Derrida there is “the impression of having to do with a major event”. The attack and the collapse of the Twin Towers in New York is definitely the biggest media event of the millennium: everyone, worldwide, was able “of being there”. We have been all direct and live witnesses of such an historical document.

The Public Art project by Fabiola Faidiga and Massimo Premuda “as in heaven, so on earth” intends to reflect symbolically on the perception of the “mediatic noise”

and on how this perception has changed over time. Is it possible that the tragic reality of 11 September 2001 - while being transformed into images, endlessly repeated, until becoming almost virtual - has been deprived, in fact, of its very essence? After nine years, the “mediatic noise” has become silence and into this very silence our violent reaction to the “same noise” eventually precipitated.

Daniele Fregolent, protagonist of the video “as in heaven, so on earth”, tells us 11 September 2001 through his personal sign language: by depriving the event of those images and sounds that made it spectacular, he tries to feel what it is to be yet discovered, analyzed and understood about. In this telling silence, there is a counterpoint, which is present and significant.

Such a different custody of memory wants to lead us to a new, less obvious, more realistic consciousness of the event: an event which was made “deaf of sense” by excessive media exposure.

The video-interview with Daniele participated in the Public Art festival Vstop prost / Admission Free 2010 of Celje (Slovenia) and was projected onto a building wall in the old town, on the facade of which stands a statue of St. Florian - very popular in Slovenia and Austria - the saint patron against fire and saint protector of firefighters.

The presence of St. Florian leads us back to the need for protection and prayer, being also a direct hint to the title of the project. Quoting the words of Christian prayer Our Father “Thy will be done as in heaven, so on earth”, the evoked “will” is positive, protective and supportive; but the human violence and arrogance, antithetical to God, seems unstoppable and sensitive to invocations only in the form of mockery: “as in heaven”... and by “heaven” came the planes hijacked by Islamic terrorists, “so on earth”... and by “earth” came the response of American army, the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq.