



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de la Culture, de l'Enseignement
supérieur et de la Recherche



PRESS RELEASE

08.05.2005

LUXEMBOURG PAVILION VENICE BIENNALE 2005

Antoine Prum

MONDO VENEZIANO

High Noon in the Sinking City

LUX, HD Video/35mm, 32'00", 16/9, colour, orig. English/German, w. English s.t., Dolby SR

For Luxembourg's participation in the 51st edition of the Venice Biennale, artist and filmmaker Antoine Prum wrote and directed a medium length film (32'00") shot in High Definition (HD) technology and transferred to 35mm film.

Along with the traditional pavilion at Ca' del Duca, the film will be screened on a regular basis at the Giorgione Cinema Movie d'essai, run by the Cinematography Department of the Commune of Venice.

It premieres at the Giorgione Cinema Movie d'essai on Friday, 10 June 2005, from 18h00 onwards, in a succession of screenings.

Mondo Veneziano. High Noon in the Sinking City addresses a wide variety of theoretical discourses currently on the contemporary art agenda, confronting them with a series of unexpected and spectacular events. Cast in an abandoned Venice, *Mondo Veneziano* narrates a meeting of four protagonists, representative of key players in the art world, who appear to conduct a complex theoretical debate. But their soliloquious confrontation – an insidious patchwork of quotations from recent specialist literature, paraphrasing the widely used "post-modern" technique of sampling – is interrupted by a string of bloody killings, largely inspired by common cinema genres such as gore or splatter movies.

The Venice that serves as a backdrop to the characters' intellectual and physical joust is in reality a large-scale film set located in a southern town in Luxembourg, which has served in numerous feature films. *Mondo Veneziano* does not attempt to conceal the backlot; rather, the city itself becomes something of a quotation, much like the protagonists, who are depicted as actors rehearsing their comic-style figures for a final showdown. Alternating sinuous discursive phases with resolute physical action, *Mondo Veneziano* is a part serious, part caustic comment on a professional milieu.

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In dealing with the fake and the real – or, as it were, theory and practice – Prum takes full advantage of the possibilities offered by the medium of film, marking *Mondo Veneziano* with a strange aesthetic conciliation that would appear to contradict its main stance: the – unsuccessful – attempt to close the gap between theory and practice, one of the main aspirations in much of today's art.

The film was commissioned by the Ministry of Culture, Higher Education and Research, Luxembourg. Technical co-producers: Télésparks S.A., Luxembourg & PTD Studio, Luxembourg.

A publication, supported by the Fonds Culturel National, Luxembourg, is available from Revolver • Archiv für aktuelle Kunst, Frankfurt am Main (ISBN 3-86588-120-3).

A [press kit](#) including illustrations free of copyrights is available at: www.mondoveneziano.net
For further information, please contact: contact@mondoveneziano.net

General info:

Dates: 12 June to 6 November 2005
Opening: Friday, 10 June 2005, 18h00
Location: Cinema Movie d'essai Giorgione, Cannaregio 4612, Venezia
(T: +39 041 522 62 98/Vaporetto: Ca' d'Oro, Linea 1)
Pavilion: Ca' del Duca, Corte del Duca Sforza, San Marco 3052, Venezia
(T/F: + 39 041 520 75 34/Vaporetto: Accademia, Linea 1 or 82)
Hours: Tue-Sun, 10h00-18h00

