

PRESS RELEASE : P O S I T I O N S

Solo exhibition:
POSITIONS

Van Kranendonk Gallery

14-03 / 25-04-2015

OPENING:
14-03-2015 16:00

Westeinde 29
2512 GS Den Haag
The Netherlands

Van Kranendonk Gallery
is further open by
appointment only

Past and present play a significant role in the works of **Denis Guzzo** (b.1977 Vicenza, Italy). In the same way that the Dutch have a profound connection with the achievements of the 17th century on subjects like trade, art and society, Italian culture remains strongly linked to the Roman era or more recently to the Renaissance or the Baroque period.

Therefore it is only natural to find, in Guzzo's photographic work, traces of the past that are still present in today's world. His project *Wasting Mythology* is an exploration into the evolution of the town Eleusis (Elefsina) in Greece where he found the undeniable clash of different eras.

Eleusinian Mysteries were ritualistic ceremonies held in the city of Eleusis in ancient Greece. Greek myth tells us that Persephone, goddess Demeter's daughter, was kidnapped by Hades, the god of death and the underworld. The mystery refers to the journey experienced by Persephone in her descent to the underworld.

Almost like a contemporary archaeologist, Guzzo has found remnants of the past in an environment of modern industries and expanding cities. In this work he looks at the rocks which survived as witnesses of the Eleusinian Mysteries and how they have been transformed into the base of the new city's housing. Denis Guzzo's work is a constructive criticism of the developments of an expanding environment that uses as a foundation this historical and magical site.

In a world where nature tries to survive amidst increasing pollution, there is no balance between the destruction of these fading historical sites and the images that record this process. The world is full of promises, talk and money but lacks images. Guzzo's photographs are these missing images. They are the documentation of the subtle line between the greedy world and its fragile nature, between the bulldozers of today and the rocks of the past.

Through his camera, he discovers the archaeological meaning of Eleusis and the striking similarities between old Greek temples and contemporary architecture such as steps, walls, or gates. The industrial plants near the temple, nowadays in ruins, resembles the decaying of those ancient myths and, through Guzzo's work, the creation of modern ones. Instead of spiritual meaning we have built a sanctuary for capital gain.

POSITIONS, with subjects such as Eleusis and Flevoland, highlights the photographer's reflections on such different cultural landscapes.

In *Freedomland*, a broad project developed on the Dutch Flevo Polders, the study focusses on man-made landscapes instead of natural rocks and valleys. Built environment on new land - reclaimed from the sea - suggest optimism for future developments and new conditions of coexistence. Through Guzzo's visual surveys, these sites will not disappear and belong to a forgotten past.

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End press release.

See table of contents for visuals references and captions:

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On all products and services provided by Denis Guzzo Photography & Film the terms and conditions of DuPho . : Dutch Professional Photographers are applicable.

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MAIN PR IMAGE:



© Denis Guzzo

Myth Δ

Elefsina 2014

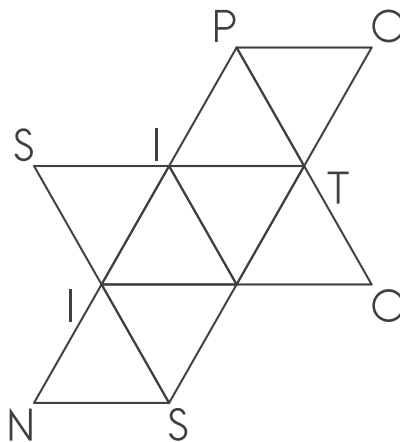
lambda c-print on aludibond 155 x 120 cm ed. 5 + ap2

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POSITIONS
exhibition logo

Solo exhibition:
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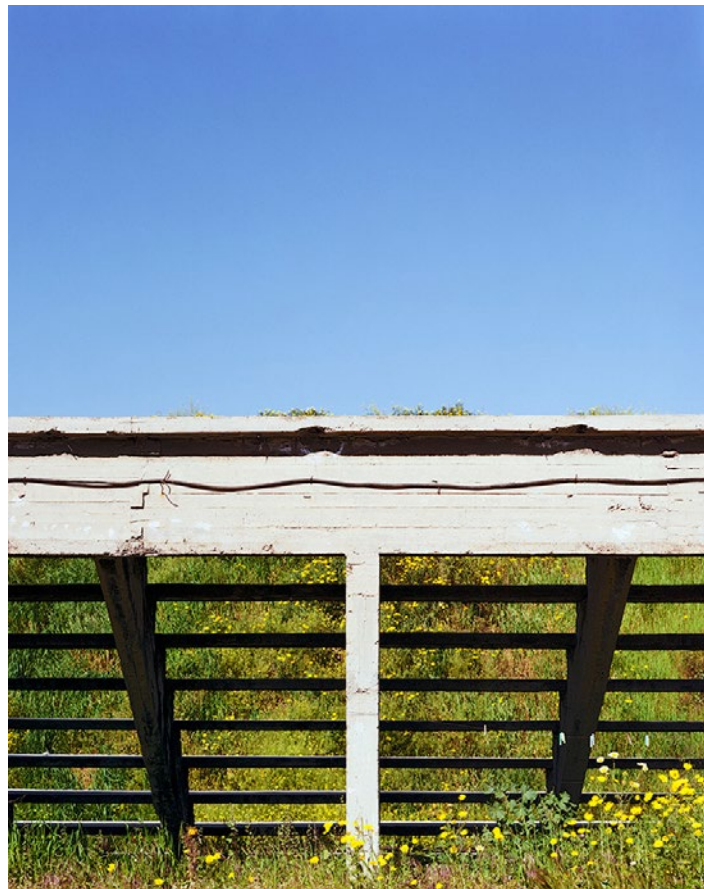
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Untitled

Elefsina 2014

lambda c-print on aludibond 80 x 100 cm ed. 5 + ap2

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Waiting the wave

Waterloopbos, Noordoostpolder 2012

lambda c-print on aludibond 88 x 110 cm ed. 5 + ap2

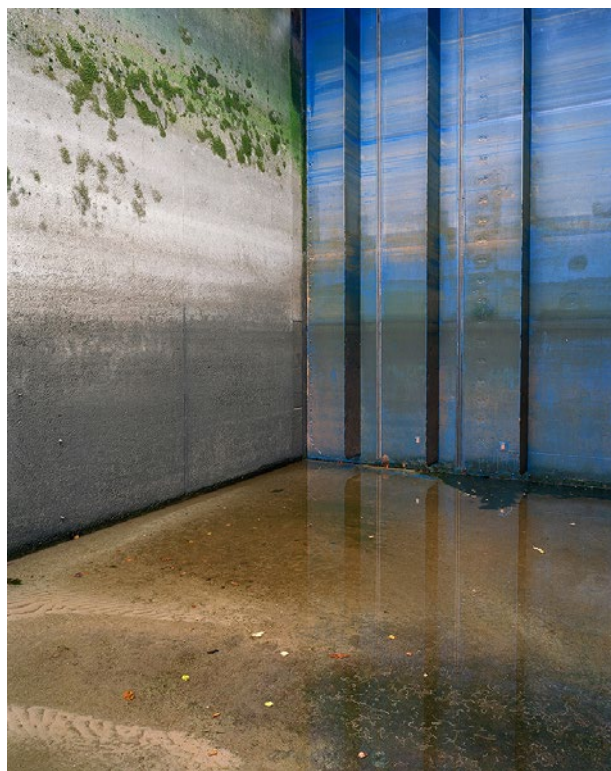
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RGB II

Waterloopbos, Noordoostpolder 2012

lambda c-print on aludibond 88 x 110 cm ed. 5 + ap2

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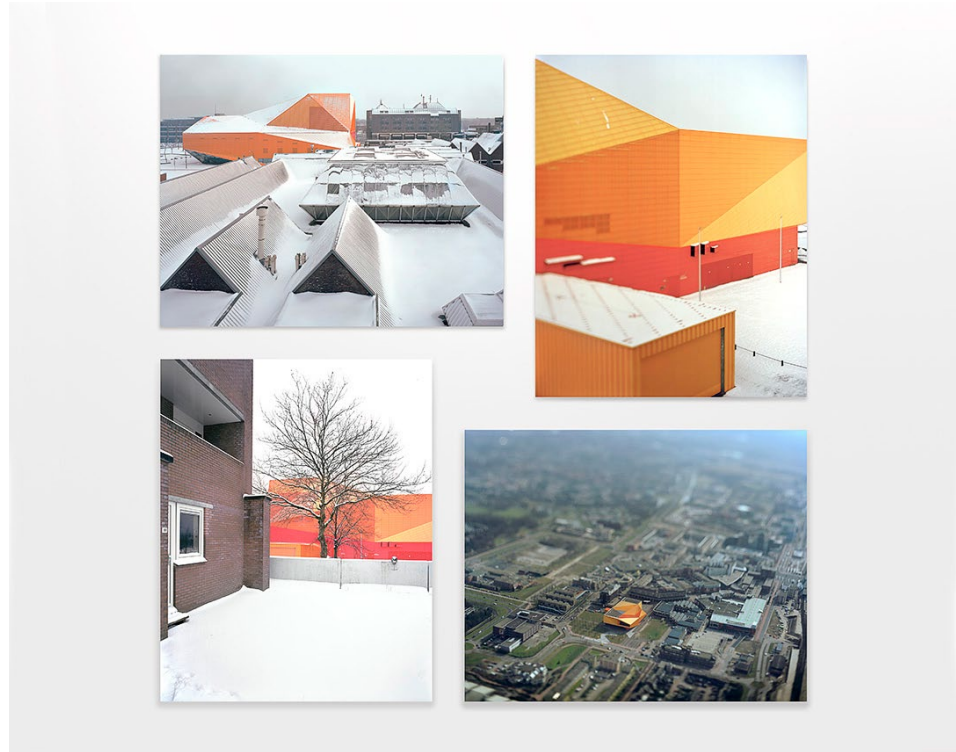
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Agora's perceptual gradient

Lelystad 2010/2013

4 UltraChrome prints on aludibond ed. 5 + ap2

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EXTENDED PORTFOLIOS:

<http://www.denisguzzo.com/projects/freedomland>

<http://www.denisguzzo.com/projects/wasting-mythology>

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best regards,

DENIS GUZZO
