



NEW RELEASE KEHRER VERLAG

Francesca Catastini *Petrus*

Texts by Francesca Catastini, Veit Stratmann,
Albrecht Wiegenlied (Alberto Nannini)
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Subtle study about the human search for a definite form

Petrus reflects on a certain rhetoric of masculinity in Western culture. It is about the human drive to define ourselves and the world through a definite form. Form is never stable though. It is the ever-changing result of a never-ending tension between forces pushing from within and pressures coming from without. Through a cynical, tender, and arbitrary analysis of what probably cannot be sliced and diced Francesca Catastini plays with archetypes and images considering the way they sculpt ourselves and shape our views. Looking for subtle discrepancies her images go beyond their figurative meaning in order to activate new analogies and connotations.

From the text by Francesca Catastini:

»Dear Petrus,

I named you after a bottle. A dark one, with a red cap. The bottle of liquor advertised during the 80s as the perfect drink for the the strong man. The man living according to nature. But what is nature?

When I met Albrecht it was hot. I had been to the quarry that day. He was spending his holidays in his former home. Those kind of holidays which are not real ones. Just before leaving he gave me the keys to his place and asked me to take images of it. Albrecht liked the idea of having some memories to look at when away. The house was empty and not. Halfway between the habitual and a certain sense of putting life on hold. Going away with no goodbye just to come back and then leave again.

I found his things there. I had never seen them before but I thought I kind of knew: objects belonging to the schoolboy, the footballer,

the student, the smoker, the musician, the believer, the husband, the engineer, and the teacher. Albrecht in a suit. The construction of a form.«

Francesca Catastini (b.1982) is an Italian artist based in Tuscany. Having initially studied biology, Francesca went on to complete an MA in Photography and Visual Design in Milan in 2009. In 2016 her book *The Modern Spirit Is Vivisective*, co-edited and with a text by Federica Chiocchetti, won the Vienna PhotoBook Award and was published by Anzenberger Edition. Catastini often combines images with text and illustrations to create analogies in a cryptic and open assemblage. Selected publications and features are Der Greif, 1000 Words Photography Magazine, American Suburb X, Photoworks Annual, The Photocaptionist, RAW VIEW Magazine and Co-Curate Magazine. Francesca Catastini won the competition ITmakES Art at PHotoESPAÑA 2019 and is one of the selected artists of Futures Photography 2019.

www.francescacatastini.it

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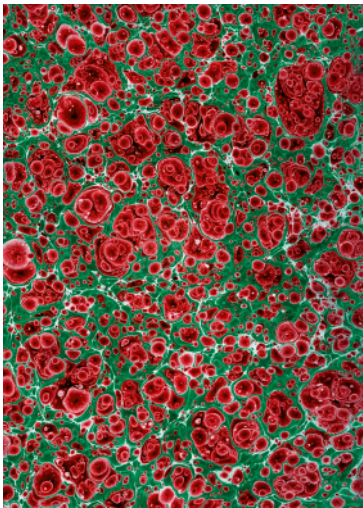
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