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FONDAZIONE
PASTIFICIO CERERE ONLUS



Marco Barbon "A.O.I.- Tracce di una colonizzazione"

Opening Wednesday 23 May 2007 at 19.00

Until 22 June 2007

Curated by Lorenzo Benedetti

« Italian East Africa » (AOI) - this is the way the italians used to call the territories of Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia as when occupied during the Fascist period. The occupation of these territories was brief - only 7 years for Eritrea, some decades for Ethiopia and Somalia - but it left deep scars, which remain to this day.

This project by the Roman photographer Marco Barbon, who lives and works in Paris, proposes to document photographically this unique syncretism, between the shapes and lines of modernist architecture and the characters of contemporary African society. Barbon's research is based on the transformation of the photographic space into a bi-dimensional and chromatically structured space. He is above all interested in the topography of abandoned places, in the beauty of the ephemeral, and in the resonance that exists between the architectural environment and those who live there.

Marco Barbon.

Born in Rome in 1972, he lives and works between Paris and Rome. After graduating in Philosophy from La Sapienza University in Rome he completed a PhD in Aesthetics of Photography at the *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales* in Paris; he then worked for four years in the publishing department of the Magnum photographic agency. From August 2005 to November 2006 he has been responsible for the artistic direction of the Hachette series entitled Great Photographers, Magnum Photos.

He also works as a freelance photographer and is completing several personal projects, like a book on the Horn of Africa and a series of Polaroid images.