



Victor Hagea

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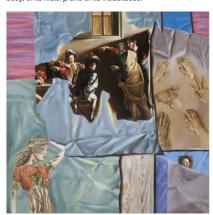
Pyramid of Ephemeral Encounter – The new physics of the post-human body

Pyramid of Ephemeral Encounter belongs to the family of dystopic images, a vision projected also in Victor Hagea's Cinderella. The sublime body of the Cinderella, a mirage-like body of postmodern phantasm, looks as if imprisoned into her crystal palace — matrix-like — out of which she cannot escape.

Such is the dystopic space, an insidious translucent network; a world mapped out and designed as a kind of new panopticum.

Pyramid of Ephemeral Encounter adds a new dimension to this ill-designed, dystopic world, of the post-human. This is the drama of the unbound human relationships, albeit evolving in this well-knotted world. The world of simulacrum, says Baudrillard, is a world of fascination and deceit, a space in which body is in a permanent state of vertigo, which blends fascination with pain. The effect is, according to him, that the real world disappears, and man himself becomes "pure screen." And so become the human relationships and physical encounters - mere shadows. The world of "ephemeral encounter" is a scenic and aesthetic manifestation of drama, a manifestation of pure fascination - which is "psychotropic." (Baudrillard, J., "The Ecstasy of Communication," The Anti-Aesthetic Essay on Postmodern Culture, Bay Press, Washington, 1983, p. 132-33). Indeed, flitting, fugacious encounters, reflect these volatile, vanishing relations, impossible to cement themselves in an ungrounded space. Although anti-gravitational, these bodies are not numinous presences, but vain inconsistent empty bodies, pure phantasms. Paradoxical encounters, never touching one another, never colliding. Such are the psychotropic bodies, mere messages, stockpile of information, data processing.

The ghost-like image of the empty cloth in the centre of the image is exemplary for this kind of vanishing body presence. It is almost iconic for the era of the post-human. Suspended in this anti-gravitational space, this apparition is the apotheosis of the technological world, a kind of chimera in which body vanishes, but not as a Pascal epiphany, but as reversed anti-image, as simulacrum. This is the enshrinement of our time, the dystopia of impermanence and "ungrounded-ness" of the world. As Baudrillard also pointed out, this is the end of the body, of its history, and of its vicissitudes.



Italian project - Oil on canvas - 70x70



Romance - Oil on canvas - 80x60



Windows - Oil on canvas - 82x61



Waiting for Icarus - Oil on canvas - 85x100



Pyramid of ephemeral encounters - Oil on canvas - 61x82