

Inhabit the Time by Luca Bacciocchi

The concepts of "inhabiting" and "time" are intrinsically conflicting: the first one is typically human, the second one is an abstract entity that man, as such, has always struggled to explain and to draw into the sphere of what is considered "unthinkable."

This work stems from an intimate need to explore what may apparently seem nothingness, void, trying to give an interpretation of "place non-place", seemingly always equal to itself but in continuous evolution, of "nothing" as a whole thing, a container of the origin of everything (movement, time) trying to grasp, at the same time, the relationship between these concepts and human action in a harmonious and synergistic vision.

The attempt has resulted in the realization of the two series of images exposed and each one of them, in a different manner, provide an interpretation of the relationship between man and time. Such a relationship is a positive one, since by "inhabiting time" man doesn't let himself overcome by its inexorable flow which, on the contrary, would drive him to an existence made of helplessness and anguish.

In the first series of images, taken in different Italian localities and dedicated to "no longer inhabited places", inhabiting is intended in the strict sense: man, despite his physical presence is no longer there, has managed to leave tangible signs of his passage in the objects, in the walls and in the environments of his daily life that continue to change over time as if they have a life of their own.

The second group of images is the outcome of a work carried out in France, Poland, Slovenia and Italy and provides a more introspected vision of the relationship man-time. Here, in fact, the passage of man is intended in a broader sense as path, as physical and material layout in some cases and as mental ideological shift in others. Both the meanings denote a synchronic relation between the two entities in a pure personal interpretation: man is authentic, he exists, to the extent that he manages and stays in time.

To this extent, time is never something external to man, neither objective nor conventional, in which he must simply live and work, or something that should be used as a measuring tool, but it is the structure that constitutes its own very existence. Human life, therefore, is time.

"The world is a continuous and boisterous proliferation of things, a continuous birth and disappearance of evanescent entities. A totality of vibrations like the world of hippies in the 60's. A world of events, not things. According to the quantum mechanics, even the physical space is made of quanta. Where are these quanta of space? Nowhere.

They are not in a space, because they are the space themselves. Space is created by the linking of these individual quanta of gravity. Our world seems to be less about objects than about relationships.

The flow of time is embedded in the world, it stems from the world, from the relationships between quantum events that are themselves the world and the source of time. There is no longer that space which “contains” the world and neither there is that time “along which” events take place. There are just elementary processes where quanta of space and matter continuously interact between them.

The illusion of continuous space and time around us is the blurred vision of this dense proliferation of elementary processes.

Just like a quiet and transparent alpine lake, it is actually formed by a fast dance of myriads of tiny little water molecules. The images of the universe that we make up live inside us, in the space of our thoughts, but they describe more or less effectively the real space that we are part of. We follow tracks to describe this world better. Our reality is tears and laughter, gratitude and altruism, fidelity and betrayal, the past that hunt us down and peace of mind.” Text taken from “Seven short physics lessons” by Carlo Rovelli