

## ANDRÉ TRINDADE

### *All ready made*

14 MAI - 27 JUN 2009

After receiving an honourable mention at *Fidelidade Award for Young Artists 2009*, André Trindade presents new works at 3+1 Contemporary Art Gallery.

The solo exhibition *All ready made* stands in the path of the young artist with a technical and conceptual drift in relation to his previous proposals. Risking to leave his conventional means - the painting, André Trindade prepared for this exhibition works in photography, collage and three-dimensional objects, pieces that approach as a whole the idea of installation or "total work."

After the *duchampian* concept and a personal questioning about the condition of the artist and the possibility of art in contemporary time, André Trindade presents images that are on the threshold between the shocking and the ironic, the erudite and the popular, the pure and the excessive. His private universe of references enters into this reflection by the use of figures like vampires or porno-erotic imagery and the aesthetics of consumer goods of the industrialized society.

At first glance, this proposal seems to be one more approach to institutional critique.

The artist photographed in a coffin at the Chiado Museum - referring to his condition of a "zombie" ready to be "vampirized" by the system or for his post-mortem glory, or the artist photographed while visiting various institutional exhibitions, a forged sign of Tate Modern Museum where the initials of the artist's name are detached and even the appropriation of classic paintings, taken from art history books - all these seem to indicate an acid and satirical view on the current art system.

However, this point of view does not come from a resentful rebellion against the system. It drifts, indeed, from the need of positioning himself inside it and the questioning about the existentialist reality of his artistic "persona".

The idea that "everything has already been done" confronts the artist with the demand for a greater relevance of his work, believing in the inevitability of the inversion of that assertion. Wrapped in anguish, the artist - even the romantic who believes in a miraculous discovery, starts to question his situation in a system that transcends him, but to which he belongs.. The idea that a work can only be completed when it is shown, serves as analogy for the ontological condition of the artist: his physical tangibility as "man" is of no use unless it meets the vital urgency of his artistic existence, that can only be proved by public recognition.

I am an Artist ... > Am I an Artist? > You are an Artist. > He is an Artist. > I am Artist!

What could sound an egocentric trip is, after all, a modest confession of the bitterness of the creative work. André Trindade examines the vicissitudes and perversity of the art system, the same way he questions himself as an artist, seeking the path of realization for his expectations. And with the glow of someone who has little to fear, he will do it not taking himself too seriously.

Rita Sobreiro