

Tad Beck and the Anxious Translucencies

Beck's recent work, "The Star of Hope Cycle", marks a significant advance over his previous period. The new work is about the lagging perceptions and conceptions in a visual imprint. At first glance these images filter into the retina through a fractured surface gliding around a human emeshed in a grandiose environment. The evolving and devolved grid catches the human face and lifts it up just as it is sinking into the labyrinthine places from the building. The initial impression from the images is calm, almost the light seen through the leaves drifting down from a tree on a serene but opaque autumn day.

However on scrutiny all reverse, the closer the images are hugged the more they destabilize and, in certain cases, twist or topple. The ten images from "the Star of Hope Cycle" are all adventures in a sauntering lyricism. For the viewer every thirty seconds or so in perception leads to another lens, a cycling and recycling for sights that tease the retina and force the brain to breathe. In their weaving and shredding through a passion that ranges from the cool to the hot, in the vision that a human can become absorbed by the environment he fashions...in fact transformed and dominated by its soaring spaces...Beck has created the opposed visualities necessary for his contradictory subject.

Beck's work is stunning on a sheer visual level with its shifting and uneasy translucencies, while lagging behind this visual beauty is an ambiguous geography about a human, Robert Indiana, whose home is a majesty.

By Herbert Lust

Author: *Bellmer Photographe; Giacometti, The Complete Graphics and Fifteen Drawings;*

Violence and Defiance; Alberto Giacometti: Drawing and Prints



Tad Beck
The Star of Cycle Number Nine
1990
16x20 inch silver gelatin print