Lingua Catholica











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4 lambda prints on aluminium 120 x 150 cm eachone 2007

Placentia Arte, Piacenza, October 2007

Four large format photographs reproduce the confessionals of St John in Lateran's Basilica, that is mater et caput (mother and headquarter) of all the churches in Rome and in the world, since forever epicenter of pilgrimages and a place of encounter from travelers coming from all over the globe.

Each structure is clearly marked by a sign in Latin that indicates the language with which is possible to be confessed in. On the top of the confessional we can find in relief: "PRO HISPANICA LINGUA", "PRO LINGUA GALLICA", "PRO GERMANICA LINGUA", "PRO LINGUA ITALICA".

The work addresses the presence of different languages and cultures inside the catholic community. The words have a key role: the use of the speech on one hand reveals a control device and on the other hand is an instrument of a intimate religious practice that can be professed everywhere, even far from the borders of a specific community.

The attention to the use of the language, together with the organizational forms of the Catholic Church, is the starting point for a wider and more actual investigation that attempts to reveal the complex relationships between individuals, local cultures and global balances of power.