

*twombly, italia*

ewa monika zebrowski

*a limited edition artist's book with poems & photographs*



*nothing has changed (and) everything has changed*



GAETA, MOMENT

Empty frames, empty rooms,  
heat of summer invades.

The view of the sea  
in the haze from the window.

A painting from another era.



## BOATS

The boats carry the warriors to battle.  
Thermopylae, Lepanto, Troy.  
Boats that resemble ancient vessels  
rowed by mortals.  
The sweat, the power, the determination.  
The sea raging, beckoning, challenging.  
The men caught in the emotion of the moment.  
And the dream of victory.

*Say Goodbye Catullus, to the Shores of Asia Minor.*  
Do I read the work from left to right,  
or right to left?





## LOOKING AT TWOMBLY

I invest my emotions when looking at you.  
Your messages, almost hidden.  
Written in pencil, scribbled quickly,  
Your traces, your erasures.  
Fragments.  
Poems, words embedded.  
Inaudible.

The words, almost illegible,  
Layers of poetry, of history, of myth.  
Archeology. Your genius.

I tremble,  
as I approach the work that fills the room  
I think of the energy, your energy.  
The physical act of painting.  
Like a loud cry, echoing in the silence,  
in the light.

*Artist's Statement*

*This has been an incredible journey for me.  
Although I began with the intention of taking photographs,  
I started to write poetry.  
I was so moved by Cy Twombly's work that I wanted  
to have a conversation with him.  
He became my muse.  
Layer, upon layer,  
I began to discover his universe.*

*Twombly lived in Italy for 50 years.  
Italy fueled his soul.  
He drew inspiration from mythology and ancient stones,  
and from the life around him.  
He left behind an epic legacy of paintings, sculptures,  
and lesser known polaroid photographs.  
A few years ago I came upon a book of his photographs.  
His photographs inspired my work.*



*twombly, italia* is a limited edition artist's book  
that includes a sequence of 10 poems and 21 photographs .

I wanted to create a narrative about Cy Twombly's sojourn in Italy, a kind of legendary myth,  
with some element of truth, that pays homage to this renowned contemporary artist.

The all- white book unfolds to reveal two books, an accordion book of images,  
and a separate hand stitched book of poems.

The poems address questions of time and absence, memory and remembrance,  
fleeting moments of recognition and passage.

The photographs, inspired by Twombly's polaroids, are visual fragments.  
They echo his experience of Italy. Images recall the landscape that fueled his life and  
his artistic production.

I want to thank the Nicola Del Roscio Foundation, the Menil Collection and the American Academy in Rome  
for their continued support of this project.

COLOPHON

*Photographs & Poems\** Ewa Monika Zebrowski  
*Design* Francine Savard, Ewa Monika Zebrowski  
*Printing & Binding* Datz Press

Typeset in Garamond 3  
Printed on Munken Print Cream,  
photographs on 90g, poems on 70g  
Size:

Limited edition of 70 numbered copies  
and 10 HC copies presented in a slipcase

*\*Two Polaroid photographs by Cy Twombly  
used with special permission from  
the Nicola Del Roscio Foundation,  
courtesy of Nicola Del Roscio  
X POEMS selected from complete  
cycle of XIX POEMS twombly, italia  
by Ewa Monika Zebrowski*

This publication was made possible with the generous participation  
of the Nicola Del Roscio Foundation.  
© EMZ 2015

