

# IRENE KUNG

curated by Ludovico Pratesi

28 November 2006 – 21 February 2007

Opening reception Tuesday 28 November at 19.00

**valentina bonomo** arte contemporanea  
via del portico d'ottavia 13 00186 roma  
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## PRESS RELEASE

valentina**bonomo**artecontemporanea is happy to announce the personal show of Irene Kung, which will open on Tuesday 28 November at 19.00 in the exhibition space of the cultural association on via del portico d'Ottavia 13.

A series of images taken from various locations – the Pantheon, the Auditorium, Peking – made almost exclusively in black and white, are exhibited in the first photographic show of the artist, who usually prefers painting as her medium of expression. Kung's artistic endeavors are focused on light, a mysterious energy that the artist investigates with great efficacy. The light in her paintings seems to emanate from within the subjects, while in her photographs it wraps around and strikes a harmony with the objects, removing them from their spatial-temporal dimension, and allowing us to enter into an intimate communication with their secret souls. The images are born in suspension, evoking the mystery of creation and transmitting a sense of solidarity that, at the same time, is made light and airy by her use of light.

*Cupolas, trees, plants, gargoyles and horses. Splashes of water and clouds, images both dark and dramatic as well as clear and evanescent. The objective of Irene Kung is to explore the nature of these essential forms, luminous presences in ambiguous and indefinite territories, where things are lost in their sense of origin, trying to situate themselves in a thin crest between the eye and the mind. Spaces where the photograph loses its connotation of objectivity and brings itself closer to*

*a capacity evoked through painting. Every image filtered by the eye of the artist moves to a different place, where the selected object of her regard is purified first by her suggestion of a different viewing. In this way Irene Kung brings us a silent "Voyage autour de mon regard" to wake us up to the soul of the forms in which these objects live.*

*Ludovico Pratesi.*