49 ALBEMARLE STREET. LONDON W1S 4JR TEL: +44 (0)20 7409 7979 FAX: +44 (0)20 7409 7879

Donato Paolo Mancini, <u>Muttering Retreats</u>, 2007, Inkjet print, 60 x 90 cm. Edition 1/2

PRESS RELEASE : FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11 October, 2010

Faggionato Fine Arts are delighted to present <u>My Right Eye Is Blind</u>, the first show by Italian photographer Donato Paolo Mancini, curated by Antonio Manfreda.

The rich textures of dereliction tinged with romantic light from polluted skies are captured in a series of deeply evocative scenes from the urban outlands. Summoning the abject city spirit, intense and fleeting visions soaked in light and shadows are overlaid on infinitely complex grids and cubes of the cityscape, (72 and *Batteria Nomentana*, both 2010). Mancini plays games with perception, too: shots taken from disorienting angles (*Muttering Retreats* and *Self*, both 2007) confuse our recognition and draw subtle compositions of depth and tone from mundane settings.

In the interiors of the tenement blocks, Mancini uses the same shadows and grids of the architecture as a frame for portraits without identity, where staged interpositions of bodies and limbs occupy the spaces lightly and namelessly; faces averted, in scenes that are both distanced and disconcertingly intimate (*Eugenia*, 2009, *Untitled*, 2004).

In a text written for this exhibition, Patrick Kinmonth writes:

"His photographs are poetic understatements. They grow in their impact as you come to know them. At first sight they are familiar, quotidian. Then they unfold like epigrams. They are images which might have passed us by without record or comment, but which once arrested, have the charged potency of melancholy dreams."

Donato Paolo Mancini was born in Rome in 1991 and lives between Rome and Berlin.

Exhibition: 16 October – 19 November, 2010 Reception for the artist 15 October 7.00 – 9.00 pm

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 – 5.30. For further information or images, please contact: Faggionato Fine Arts on 0207 409 7979 or <u>info@faggionato.com</u>

¹©2010 Patrick Kinmonth