

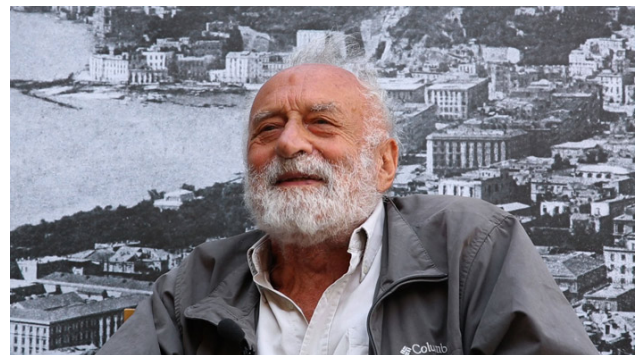
Scusi, ma lei è felice? (Excuse me, are you happy?) Donatella Landi © 2018
Film, color, sound, 74', 44"



Shot in Naples, May 2017, itinerant set in 4 squares: Piazza Luigi Miraglia, Porta Capuana, Piazza Dante, Piazza Municipio.

The interviews with passers-by were shot in front of backdrops reproducing black and white images of ancient Naples, before the urban speculation that began after WW2, known as the "plunder of Naples". The interviewees, each in their own way, reflect on the city and the concept of happiness, perceived as a collective, social, philosophical feeling.

The film wants to verify if it is possible to define happiness and if there is a place able to resist the gentrification, offering itself as an open social fabric in which life flows and maybe happiness too.





Is it possible to define happiness? Is happiness an ancient philosophical topic? Nowadays just used as a “commercial” topic? Is it possible to find a crack, a slit that allows us to live a place - physical and of the soul - not flattened and dried up by the contemporary? Where is it possible to perceive the irrational sense of happiness that life brings itself? Where is possible to perceive the real flow of the existence? And, if there is, where is the human - and urban – space that can allow us to perceive the incongruous happiness given by life itself? But where we can feel life, if the space in which we live is no longer a space?

I thought that Naples could give an answer.

Donatella Landi, Rome, 7 February, 2018