

Valerio Paolo

FOREWORD

Mosco

We have decided it would be worthwhile to start this new cycle of *Viceversa* with a critical anthology.

In the past, such anthologies of selected writings with commentary had a dual function: that of gathering the texts considered most outstanding or in any case most significant, and that of offering comments, an exegesis capable of substantiating and thus widening the reasoning of the texts in question.

We have agreed that this format can work very well today, in a moment when the burgeoning quantity of news and viewpoints makes getting one's bearings in current thought increasingly complex and bewildering. So we asked Giacomo Pala to begin a true investigation, to find the people best suited to provide this exegesis. Each of them has been asked to choose a text from recent years and to comment on that choice, to definitively undertake a meta-critique, a critique of criticism. Of course those invited were granted absolute freedom of choice. The suggested time span starts from 1989, the year of the fall of the Berlin Wall, but also the year that marked the outset of the digital revolution through which, with the birth of the Internet, information has not only expanded out of all proportion, but has also moved through new channels and new communicative media.

Therefore this is a critical anthology for orientation and to try to hold things together, but also to bear witness to the fact that in spite of defeatist stances and millenarianism, in these complex years there has been plenty of architectural criticism, and often of high quality. This compendium will be followed by other critical anthologies, also coordinated by Giacomo Pala.