PORTRAITS
Anne James Chaton

curated by Bruno Barsanti
and Alessandro Carrer
CRIPTA747, Torino

01.06.2016 / 09.07.2016
The exhibition includes two series of works that the artist has been carrying on for years, enriching them from time to time with new elements. Assuming that we are defined by the writings we spread, Anne-James Chaton realizes portraits composed by all the textual matrices that the subject carries with him during the meeting with the artist. Chaton’s Portraits are based on the literal transcription of the content of everyday life documents defined by the artist “poor literature” such as ban statements, subway tickets, restaurant and shopping receipts. Portrayed subject are chosen according to their craft or profession. The information are collected and assembled so as to build a long sequence of data resembling a written litany in which meaning and identities dissolve and re-form over and over again. Conceptually symmetrical to the Portraits, the Muséographies shift the focus to the circulation of “poor images” as well as on the accessibility and fruition of art. The series originates from Chaton’s interest about photo reproductions of modern paintings - mainly portraits - that appear on admission tickets to museums. Each of the final images follows the original size of the reference painting and retains the signs and information originally printed on the back (or front) side of the ticket, such as bar codes, dates, names, prices and typology. The artist starts from a transitory and ephemeral support bringing on the same level the symbolic dimension of the artwork and the material conditions of its accessibility.

Anne-James Chaton is a French writer, artist and poet. He published several collections with Al Dante Editions and in 2016 he published Elle regarde passer les gens with Gallimard's Editions Verticales. Since 2011 he collaborates with the electronic music label Raster-Noton. Recent publications include Événements 09 and Décade. He has developed a multipolar body of work that led him to collaborate with foreign artists like the Dutch rock group The Ex, the English guitarist Andy Moor (The Ex) and the German electronic musician Carsten Nicolai – aka Alva Noto (for Unitxt and Univrs). Recently, he created the trio ‘Décade’, performing with Andy Moor and Alva Noto. In 2013 he started collaborating with singer and composer Nosfell and that same year he founded the project Heretics with Andy Moor and Thurston Moore, guitarist and singer of the group Sonic Youth. In 2016 he conceived the project RADIO for Foundation Louis Vuitton in Paris. Anne-James Chaton produced visual works that have been shown over the years in several solo and group exhibition in France and abroad.
Anne-James Chaton, Portraits, 2016, Installation view, Criptà747, Torino
photo Sebastiano Pellion di Persano
Anne-James Chaton, Portraits, 2016, Installation view, Cripta747, Torino
photo Sebastiano Pellion di Persano
Anne-James Chaton, Portraits, 2016, Installation view, Cripta747, Torino
photo Sebastiano Pellion di Persano
Anne-James Chaton, Portraits, 2016, Installation view, Cripta747, Torino
photo Sebastiano Pellion di Persano
Anne-James Chaton, Ritratto di signora, 2016,
Digital printing on Arches paper, mounted on dibond, 42,6 x 46 cm
Courtesy of the artist