

Here for the weekend: Braco Dimitrijević

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PRESS RELEASE

'This could be a place of historical importance', thus assert the various stone plaques that Braco Dimitrijević has left behind in various places throughout the years.

His work is critically opposed to the idea that history moves in a linear fashion and that any facts that go unmentioned were unimportant. Anything could be of importance as soon as one is willing to pay attention to it.

This principle is expressed clearly in a group of works titled *Casual Passers-by*. For these works Dimitrijević photographs strangers on the street and creates a large print with their portrait. Their magnified appearance is consequently exhibited in a prominent place within public space or an art institution.

In the spring of 1979 the Van Abbemuseum organised an exhibition about the work of Braco Dimitrijević. His work *Casual Passer-by I met at 6:23 PM, Eindhoven* was hung above the entrance of the museum.

Little is known about most of these casual passers-by, but the man that Dimitrijević photographed in Eindhoven sent him a letter a few years later, expressing his admiration for the project and how delighted he was to have taken part.

I found a reproduction of this letter and this was the starting point to delve once more into this work. The letter was signed with the address of this *Casual Passer-by*, which I recognised as the extended street a good friend of mine grew up in. It was hard to resist the temptation to discover other connections.

Unfortunately I quickly found out that the man passed away in 2018. An obituary however mentioned the address of one of his children. This address I recognised as the extended street where I grew up in and where my parents still reside.

Now for the first time since 2011 his portrait will once again be shown. This time at lxhxb, a space that is housed in the extended street of the Van Abbemuseum, present owner of his portrait.

'Chance is a logic beyond reason', said Dimitrijević in 1969 and I couldn't agree with him more.