17.SET'98 12:30 PHOTO!SCLARANDIS

File - Nek Chand

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P.1

PIERGIORGIO SCLARANDIS

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Torino 17-09-1998

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alla cortese attenzione Seymour Rosen

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DEAR MR. ROSEN,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RAPID AND VERY KIND REPLY. I WILL ATTEMPT HERE TO ANSWER THE VARIOUS QUESTIONS RAISED AS TO MY EXHIBIT PROPOSAL. I MAY HAVE OVERLOOKED TELLING YOU THAT NEXT YEAR, 1999, IS THE 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE "BIRTH" OF LE CORBUSIER'S PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF CHANDIGARH AND QUITE A CELEBRATION IS PLANNED IN THE CITY DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY. NOW, I AM NOT REALLY A BELIEVER IN THESE TYPES OF CELEBRATIONS, HOWEVER, IT IS CERTAIN THAT MUCH ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THIS EVENT AND THUS IT WOULD SEEM IDEAL TO PROPOSE MY PHOTOGRAPHIC PROJECT DURING THIS TIME PERIOD. ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE WRITTEN TO AND RECEIVED INTEREST FOR MY PROJECT FROM MR. JAGDISH SAGAR, ADVISOR TO THE ADMINISTRATOR OF CHANDIGARH. IN FACT, I'M ON MY WAY TO CHANDIGARH THIS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, FOR A PERIOD OF 2 WEEKS TO MEET WITH VARIOUS ADMINISTRATORS AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TO COMPLETE ASPECTS OF BOTH THE LE CORBUSIER AND THE ROCK GARDEN PROJECTS. HERE IS AN OUTLINE OF MY INTEGRATED PROJECT PROPOSAL:

1# Space & Architecture A selection of approx. 20/25 from the book show the extraordinary architectural invention of Le Cobusier's plan. During this upcoming visit I plan to complete this section with 6/8 additional images of buildings representative of this vision.

2# Chandigarh: A Future Vision.

To live in this city today and project a vision of its future.

Again, in my September visit, I will produce approx. 15 images that document day to day life in Chandigarh at present, as well as address, the expansion of the city outside its originally established urban plan.

3# The Rock Garden, A Metaphor of the Never Ending Circle of Life. This body of photographic work already exists and the photographs portray the idea of "rebirth" thru the spectacularly creative recuperation of waste materials. The format remains identical to that used in" Chandigarh: Le Corbusier in India". Torino17.SET'98 12:31 PHOTO!SCLARANDIS

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P.2 pag. nr 2

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AS YOU CAN SEE, THE ROCK GARDEN IS ONE ASPECT I PRESENT OF CHANDIGARH, MY OPINION IS, THAT THE MORE PEOPLE ARE MADE AWARE OF THE EXISTENCE OF THIS MARVELOUS PLACE, THE BETTER, OR MORE HELPFUL IT IS FOR MR. CHAND. IN THE PAST, THE GARDEN HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO VANDALISM (SCULPTURES AND WALLS HAVE BEEN PURPOSEFULLY BROKEN AND DESTROYED) AND IT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN INSTIGATED BY SOME FACTION IN THE GOVERNMENT OF CHANDIGARH AS THE LAND ON WHICH THE GARDEN IS BUILT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A SOURCE OF CONTENTION BETWEEN MR. CHAND AND CHANDIGARH'S ADMINISTRATION. THUS, CONCERNING OUESTIONS OF PRESERVATION OF THE ROCK GARDEN, LET ME SAY THAT MY PART IN THIS IS SIMPLY THAT OF DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHER BRINGING THIS PARTICULAR SUBJECT (THE EXISTENCE OF THE GARDEN- NOT NECESSARILY THE PROOF OF VANDALISM) TO THE ATTENTION OF A PUBLIC J AM NOT ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN ANY GROUP OR ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE GARDEN THROUGH FUND RAISING OR WHAT HAVE YOU. MY INTEREST IS TO RAISE AWARENESS THROUGH THE PUBLICATION OF THESE IMAGES (I.E., THROUGH EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS) SO AS TO REACH AS WIDE AN AUDIENCE AS POSSIBLE, AT ANYRATE, I WILL MEET WITH MR. CHAND DURING MY VISIT AND WILL HAVE MORE INFORMATION FOR YOU CONCERNING PRESERVATION PLANS, OR PROBLEMS, IF ANY EXIST AT THIS TIME.

MR. ROSEN, I AM DELIGHTED THAT YOU HAVE SHOWN INTEREST IN HELPING TO EXHIBIT THE IMAGES OF CHANDIGARH AND THE ROCK GARDEN IN AMERICA AND ,INDEED, I WOULD LIKE THIS VERY MUCH. NOW, HOPEFULLY, HAVING EXPLAINED MORE CLEARLY MY PROJECT AND THE INTEREST I HAVE IN SHOWING IN CHANDIGARH DURING THE 50 YEAR CELEBRATIONS YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED IN THIS, AS WELL. IN THIS MOMENT, I HAVE NOTHING SPECIFIC TO ASK OF YOU, HOWEVER, I THINK SOME FORM OF COLLABORATION COULD BE INTERESTING FOR THE BOTH OF US AND I INTEND TO CONTACT YOU UPON MY RETURN. SHOULD YOU NEED TO CONTACT ME IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE CALL OR FAX AT THE ABOVE LISTED NUMBERS AND MY WIFE WILL HELP YOU CONTACT ME.

SINCERELY.

PIERGIORGIO SCLAR