

Body of evidence

By Karl Börzlin

For the Herald

“**P**izza Piola”, the restaurant, may be famous for its pizzas and cool style, and for its hip and trendy people; but this month anybody can and should enjoy a visit to this joint, if only to see the sensual and stylish photographs taken and manipulated by artist Moira Antonello (27).

A walk through the restaurant will immediately reveal a series of slick, highly sophisticated images of naked bodies that range from the most figurative and erotic to the most abstract and mystifying. Antonello takes uncontrolled and direct pictures of the human anatomy and then she starts playing with them once she gets to the lab. The black and white pictures are distorted or set out of focus during the enlarging process, the colour ones are actually black and white pictures pigmented through the very chemicals used for the developing process, and there there are the photographic collages done with talent and taste. In all of these cases, however, there is a widespread search for that border where the recognizable becomes a dream land of sensuous textures, dazzling lights, and unpredictable movements.

“Everything I’m exhibiting here,” says Moira Antonello, “belongs to a series of photographs that I’ve been producing since 1995 plus some new stuff from this year. In my work you will always see bodies, but only bodies of people I know (I don’t work with models); for I’m always searching for the most internal dimension of people, sentiments, feelings, the most intimate dimension of communication as well which I try to express in the most open of ways; in fact I tend not



One of the photographs (untitled) by Moira Antonello on display at Pizza Piola.

to title my works so as to not condition people’s reactions or interpretations.”

Indeed, for Moira Antonello, the art of photography is not confined to the actual second of the snap but it starts with the selection of the people to be portrayed and prevails ad

infinitum in the beholder’s experience.

At Pizza Piola, Libertad 1078. Metamorphosis, photographs by Moira Antonello. Through February 7. Sun through Wed 12 noon to 2am. Thurs to Sat 12 noon to 3am.