

Alessandro Minoggi
Passport Size Pictures

The series of paintings *Passport Size Pictures* reproduces, in a style between expressionistic and hyper-realistic, passport size pictures, the kind you snap with friends in the train cabins. This type of picture has been chosen cause it's usually taken playfully and this scratches the political aim this object usually carries.

Objects have often a function related to their own aim; I find wonderful how this sort of pictures are, inside their usual context, completely aimless. They're not taken for ID's or passports – the object is the same, the machine is the same, but in their practical uselessness they have a freedom and a freshness that denies, with sensible aesthetical strength, the pictures taken for documents, restrictive and de-humanizing in themselves.

They're painted cause I liked the idea to compare the expressive charge of these images to the idea of portrait in painting, an interesting opposition like the one with the pictures for documents.

They free you from both portrait and document structures, they smash into the aesthetical image with all their lovely idiocy. They're not portraits and they celebrate nothing but lightness.

Passport Size Pictures is my little homage to relative freedom, that freedom you create and live just with the lightness and apparent superficiality that uselessness often has.