



Capturing Reality

Take a peek into the mind of German filmmaker and photographer Wim Wenders at a new exhibit at Palazzo Incontro. **Tiffany Parks** has the details.

Born in Düsseldorf in 1945, **Wim Wenders** began his career as a filmmaker. Inspired by the New German Cinema movement of the late 1960s, he had become one of the era's central protagonists by the early '70s. His prolific activity in film runs parallel to his career in photography, in which he focuses mainly on the theme of the landscape. Eight years after Wenders's last photography exhibition in Rome, *Urban Solitude* offers a broad and varied look at the artist's vision of reality. For Wenders, analog photography is a tool to secure, capture, and preserve the reality that modern man is gradually moving away from, having been kidnapped, as it were, by the virtual reality of the contemporary age that is encouraged by the use of digital technology. The subject of the urban landscape and the concept of memory are inextricably intertwined

in the exhibition's 25 featured photographs. Each image emanates a feeling of nostalgia and desolation, but also of calm and natural beauty, capturing the stories and actions of strangers that can only be guessed at by the detached artist behind the lens. The first group of photos explores various urban settings, with a clear influence by the work of Edward Hopper. Images from the 2013 series titled *Places, Strange and Quiet* express the artist's personal view of the changing world, reflecting the main areas of Wenders's research: the perception of reality that can be attained through observation and travel. Wenders's images tell, above all, the story of man's journey through his memories of places, in a silent passage of time. Each work on display is accompanied by a short text or haiku by the artist, immortalizing his thoughts on his images. Palazzo Incontro (p55).

Victory and Defeat

Palazzo Altemps plays host to *The Glory of the Defeated: Pergamon, Athens, Rome*, an exhibit exploring themes of loss, courage, and dignity. Look for the ten marble sculptures that make up the famed Small Donarium of Pergamon – typically on display in museums around the world. The sculptures will be reunited in honor of the 500th anniversary of their discovery (p55).

