



# Works

Tanja Boukal

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[www.boukal.at](http://www.boukal.at)

## **Works. Tanja Boukal**

For the exhibition of Tanja Boukal at Gallery Peithner-Lichtenfels in May 2008 3 new works were added to this catalogue, which originally was published in 2007 for an exhibition at the Deutschvilla in Strobl am Wolfgangsee.



Art is political and sociocritical, it triggers in us new perceptions which enables us to see the world from a different angle, that still needs to be captured. Tanja Boukal follows this path consistently in the most differentiated artistic media, yet she does not miss any opportunity for allowing an (ironic) smile or twinkle. She packs her socio-critical attitude into a box of sweets with a somewhat bitter aftertaste and thus unmasks the fact that we actually really love getting trapped into superficial esthetics.

Mag. Tina Teufel, MAS

# White Dreams

Vienna, Barcelona, 2004–2007

Mixed Media

5 pcs., 60 x 29,5 x 22 cm each





„In a certain way doll's houses reflect the moral attitudes and the military ambitions of a distinct epoch ... only at the surface they are toys, but in a deeper sense they are representatives of their times.“

(Jo Elisabeth Gerken)



# Ego is(t)!

Vienna, 2007  
Installation, Sewacryl  
120 x 80 x 68 cm

Nothing is for sure, but everything is possible  
Nothing is possible, but everything is for sure.  
Being determines consciousness.

It is inevitable to comply to images.  
It is inevitable not to become a stereotype.  
It is inevitable to demonstrate initiative.  
It is inevitable to assimilate.

It is? ... Ego is(t)!





# Fraction

Salzburg, 2002

Body cast, wooden boxes, silicon

98 x 132 cm

Fractions of me ...

... forced into

conceptions and

expectations ...

... 30 x 30 cm

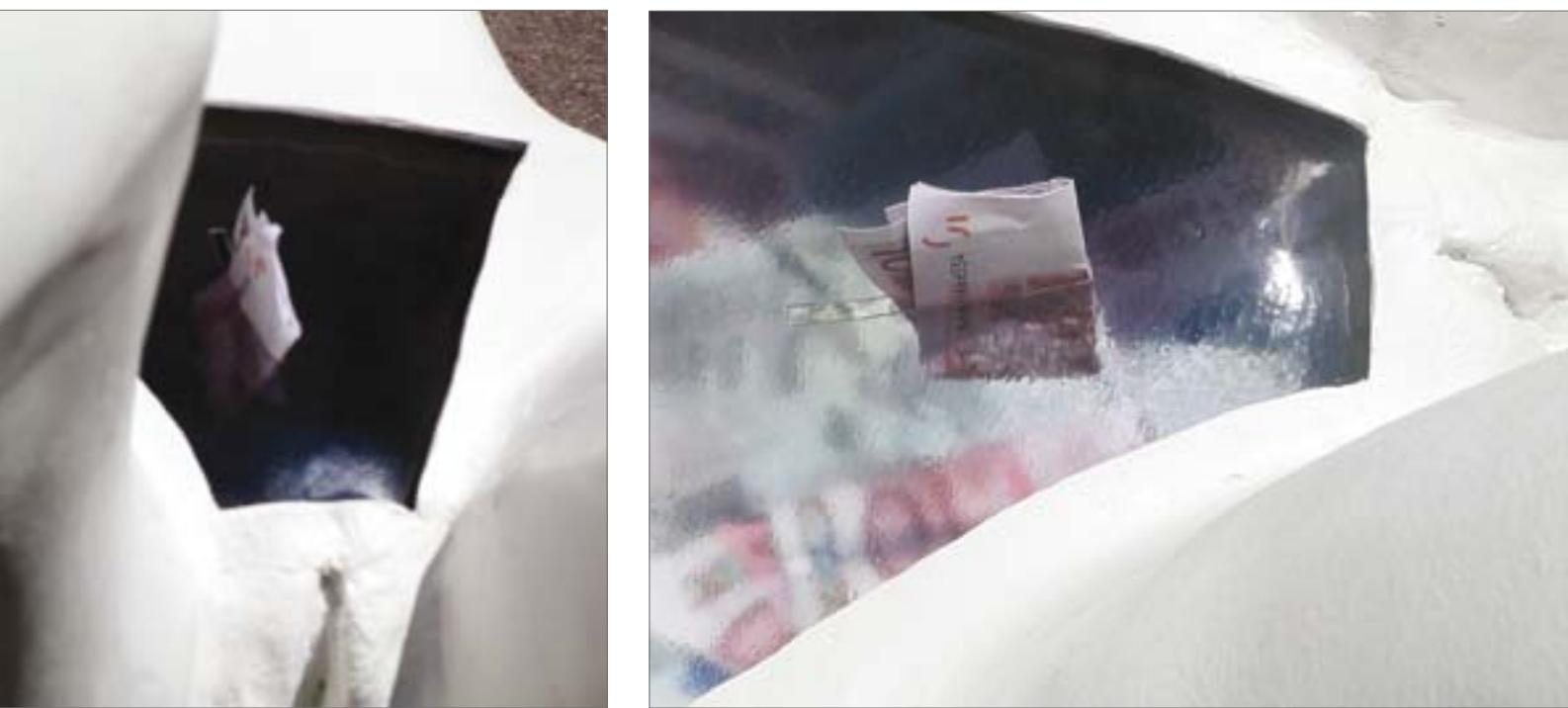
scope.



# Market value

Vienna, 2003  
Epoxy, colour copies  
90 x 72 x 45 cm

75 Euro – my market value...  
... investigated in the red light district of Vienna.





# Internal security

Vienna, 2003  
Mixed Media  
79 x 79 cm

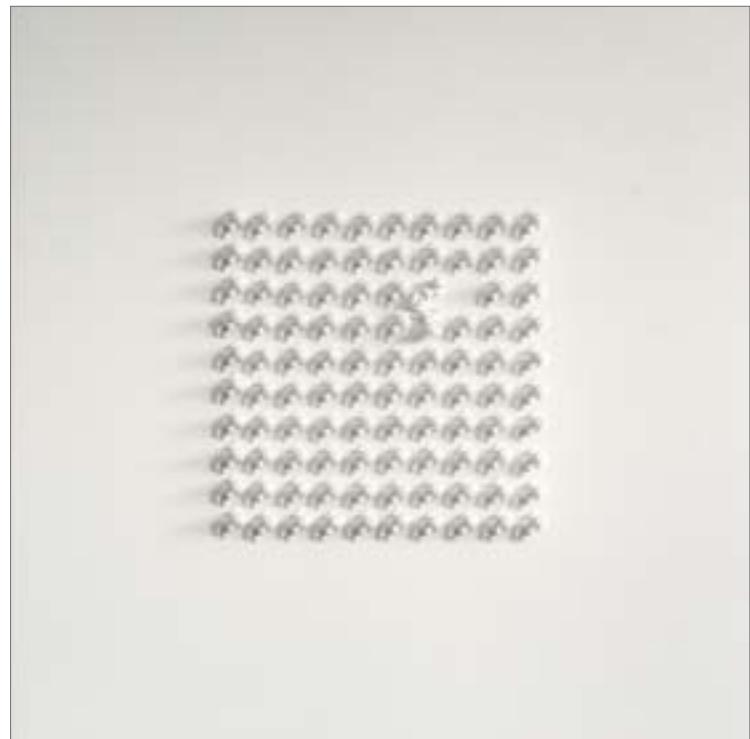


Vienna, 2003  
Mixed Media  
79 x 79 cm

# Zoom up



**Handmade**, Vienna, 2007  
Crocheted Acrylic, Installation



# resistance/stillstand



Vienna, 2000  
Paper mache  
2 pcs., 73 x 60 cm each



# For Sale

Vienna, 2006  
Paper mache  
9 pcs., 33 x 33 cm each

Single copies, thousandfold.  
meaningless, essential?  
Industry.

Recopied, genuine.  
Meaningful, disposable?  
Art.





# Souvenirs from Medialand

Do all inmates in Guantanamo wear orange clothes?  
No, there are white ones also. Did you know this?

In this series of works, I present some of my souvenirs  
from medialand. My pictures? Are they mine?

nd

Vienna, 2006, work in progress  
Fimo, glas, wood, water, „snow“  
various sizes



# Better Houses



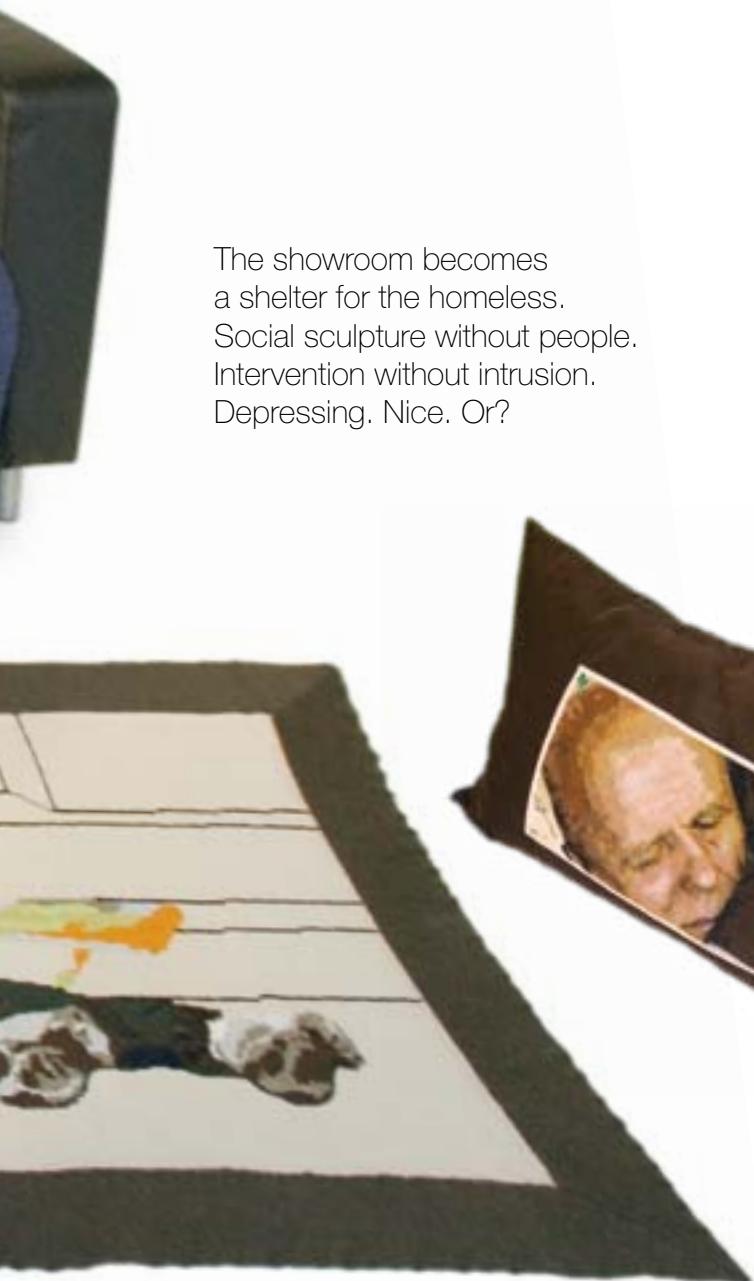
Vienna, 2007

5 knitted plaids, Merinowolle, 100 x 160 cm each

1 pillow with stiched pic, 40 x 60 cm



The showroom becomes  
a shelter for the homeless.  
Social sculpture without people.  
Intervention without intrusion.  
Depressing. Nice. Or?



# Off shore

Vienna, 2008

Paper mache, 28 pcs., app. 21 x 5 x 5 cm each  
Stiched pictures, 2 pcs., 23 x 23 cm each

## December 2007

83 corps repêchés en une année  
Plus de 1.500 harraga arrêtés  
(31/12/07)

One dead, several missing in  
migrant boat accident in Turkey (28/12/07)

Fallece en Ceuta un inmigrante marroquí  
al intentar trepar a un barco (28/12/07)

Death toll reaches 51 in illegal  
migrant tragedy in Seferihisar (26/12/07)

Griechenland auf der Suche  
nach 31 Vermissten (25/12/2007)

Coast guard looking for survivors from  
possible wrecked migrant boat (24/12/07)

Death toll rises to 8 (19/12/07)

Another migrant disaster in Bodrum:  
Seven dead, one missing  
18.12.2007)

1400 Flüchtlinge sind 2007 im  
Golf von Aden ertrunken (18/12/2007)

In einer Woche mehr als 200 Flüchtlinge  
vermutlich ertrunken (17/12/2007)

29 immigrants still missing  
(14/12/2007)

Oran 19 harraga marocains secourus,  
3 morts (12/12/2007)

43 tote Flüchtlinge vor türkischer Küste -  
Ägäis wird zum Meer des Todes  
(12/12/2007)

Über 100 Tote bei Schiffstragödien  
mit Flüchtlingen (10/12/2007)

Bouzedjar Dix autres harraga secourus,  
un corps repêché (10/12/2007)

Flüchtlingsboot sinkt bei Izmir  
mit um die 50 Toten (10/12/2007)

Partie de la Casamance avec 130  
clandestins à Bord : Une pirogue échoue  
à Yoff avec 1 mort et 14 blessés graves  
(10/12/2007)

Una patera con 50 inmigrantes naufraga  
en aguas marroquíes (10/12/2007)

Llega a El Hierro un cayuco con 80  
inmigrantes, uno de ellos muerto  
(9/12/2007)

8 Tote bei Flüchtlingsdrama (8/12/2007)

Teneriffa - Flüchtlings stirbt nach Überfahrt  
(7/12/2007)

Τραγωδία με παράνομους μετανάστες  
στην ανατολική Κρήτη (6/12/2007)

10 Tote bei Flüchtlings-Rettungsaktion vor  
Spanien (6/12/2007)

Tres inmigrantes muertos entre los 91 que  
han llegado esta noche en dos cayucos a  
Tenerife (6/12/2007)

Au moins deux clandestins morts après  
une collision avec un bateau de la police  
française (4/12/2007)

Trois opérations de sauvetage au large de  
Mostaganem 23 harraga sauvés, 11  
portés disparus et un corps repêché  
(4/12/2007)

Drei Tote Flüchtlinge vor den Kanaren  
(3/12/2007)

Rescatado un cayuco con 48 africanos  
y dos cadáveres sin rumbo en el mar  
(1/12/2007)



Where your feet are standing,  
is the center of the world

# nding,

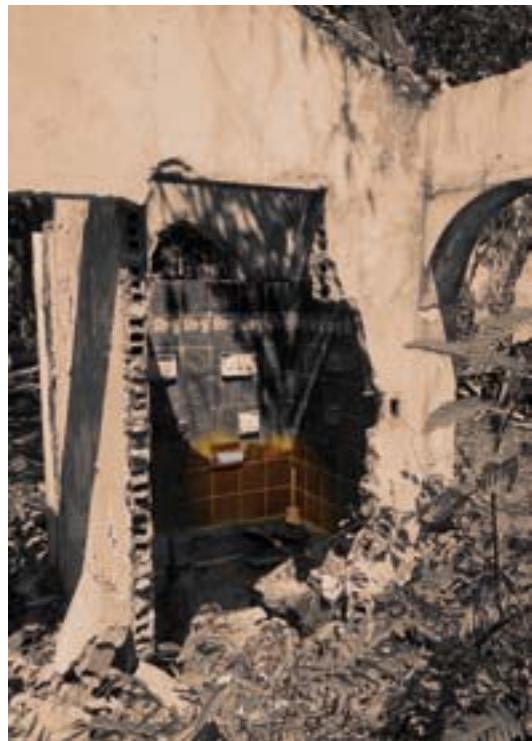
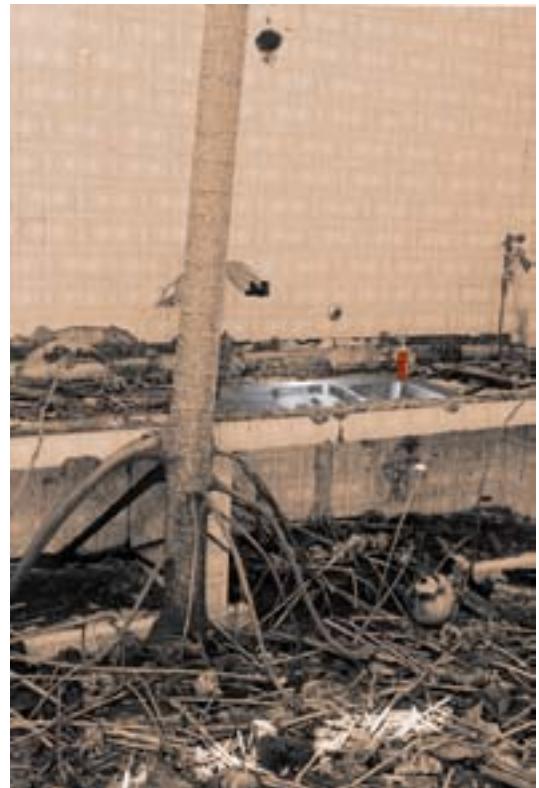
Vienna, 2008

Paper mache

various sizes



# Rewind: Pablo's Portrait



Vienna, Doradal, 2006/2007

6 C-Prints on enamel

28 x 40 cm each



Pablo Escobar is one of the most well known Colombians, even if he is dead since years. He was hated by his enemies within the Colombian state machinery, itself massively linked to drug syndicates – but not the Escobar one. On the other hand he was – and still is – admired by many normal Colombians for his social commitment: building schools and hospitals and creating “jobs” in Colombia’s most successful industry.

Pablo Escobar himself lived in enormous luxury. Within these ruins of a once outstanding finca, the spirit of a weird genius, that proved that a man stays a child all live long, is still around.

The photographs of the original site were enhanced with flashes of the presence, both in a matter of time and in a physical matter. The photographs are presented as prints on enamel in a very old-fashioned way, but produced with the most modern printing technology. This underlines the contradictory correlation of presence and past.

Do you see Pablo's daughter playing in the Jurassic park or just a concrete dinosaur fading away?

# Cimarrones

Colombia, 2006  
15 C-Prints  
40 x 60 cm each

African slavery in Colombia began in the first decade of the sixteenth century. The Afro-Colombian slaves fought for their freedom from the beginning of their arrival to the country.

In the jungle of Choco they built free African towns called palenques where Africans could live as cimarrones - that were Africans who escaped from their oppressors. The Afro-Colombian communities developed their own living patterns, which are very respectful of the environment and emphasize social values such as peace, friendship and solidarity, rather than money and capital accumulation.

The exuberant rainforest, complex ecosystem, wealth of natural resources and preservation of their ancestral traditions and culture, have not been enough to pull them out of endemic poverty. Historically, large companies have reaped the wealth of their mining and forestry resources. They have left the people with extremely poor living conditions - the poorest in the country. In addition to these serious social problems, the cruelty of the armed conflict has come to the territory. Now they are the military targets of armed actors, especially paramilitary units who terrorize the population, committing horrendous massacres leading to great indices of displacement.

Faced with this formidable attacks on their cultural, economic and physical well being, they still preserve assertiveness. They are the pride African heart of Colombia.





# Tanja Boukal Curriculum Vitae

Born 1976. Lives, works and thinks in Vienna, Austria.

## Studies

- 1995-99 Decoration and Stage Design, Wiener Kunstschule, Vienna, Jitka Plesz  
1999 Paper and Photo, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Barbara Fuchs  
1999 Papierereien [Paper Experiments], International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Gomera, Tone Fink  
2000 Molding, Casting and Installation, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Jean Silverthorne  
2000 Humor in Arts, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Nancy Davidson  
2001 The Viability of the Body, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Paloma Navares  
2001 Politics and Arts, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Wolfram Kastner  
2002 Inscriptions of the Body, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Paloma Navares  
2002 Sculpture and Installation, International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg, Frieda Baranek

## Group Exhibitions & Projects (Compilation)

- 1997 «Jugend hat Kultur» [Youth has culture], Rotpunkt, Vienna  
1999 «Wer eilt, verschwendet seine Zeit» [Those who hurry, waste their time], Wasserwelten, Vienna  
1999 Exhibition of the International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg  
2000 «Eclipse», Alte Sternwarte, Vienna  
2000 Project «kulturlos» [cultureless/culture lot], Vienna  
2000 Exhibition of the International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg  
2001 Project & Exhibition «Rückgabestelle» [Restitution Point] Gallery 5020, Salzburg  
2001 Exhibition of the International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg  
2001 «Fotonoviembre - 6<sup>th</sup> International Biennale of Photography», Tenerifa, Spain  
2002 «Papierkunst» [Paper Art], Papierwespe, Vienna  
2002 Exhibition of the International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg  
2002 «spazialità condivisa» [Divided Space], Centro d' Arte Puccini, Florence, Italy  
2003 «all about: female sex», Gallery Academia, Salzburg  
2003 «Papier ist geduldig» [Paper is patient], Gallery im Palais, Vienna  
2004 «Collection Piramidon», Piramidon, Barcelona, Spain  
2004 «verKÖRPERung» [emBODYment], City Hall, Mainz, Germany  
2005 «Heimat@t» [Homeland/Art], Deutschvilla, Strobl, Austria  
2005 «Fotonoviembre - 8<sup>th</sup> International Biennale of Photography», Tenerifa, Spain  
2006 „dilna“, Exhibition of the Mikulov Symposion of Fine Art, Barockschlössl, Mistelbach, Austria  
2006 „Industry, Paper, Art“, IAPMA, Papiermuseum, Steyermühl, Austria  
2006-07 „Industry, Paper, Art“, IAPMA, Stadtmuseum, Deggendorf, Germany

## Individual Exhibitions

- 1999 «Sinnesförderungsraum» [Sense Development Room], Pädagogisches Institut, Vienna  
1999 Permanent Installation of teh «Sinnesförderungsraumes», School for Handicaped Children Paulusgasse, Vienna  
2000 «a fish is a fish», Gallery im Alcatraz, Hallein, Austria  
2001 «oberflächlich betrachtet» [Superficial View], Gallery Celeste, Vienna  
2001 «Solange die Jäger die Geschichte schreiben...» [As long as the Hunters write History...],  
Gallery in the Alcatraz, Hallein, Austria



2002 «Tanja freut sich» [Tanja is Happy], Gallery in the Alcatraz, Hallein, Austria  
2003 «selbst [?] sicher» [self [?] secure], Gallery Vernissage, Vienna  
2005 «Werkschau» [Selected Works], Gallery Ephram, Mikulov, Czech Republic  
2007 «Preview, Review», Q202, Vienna  
2007 Intervention: «Establishment of a Temporary Disguise», Arnetzhoferstraße, Vienna  
2007 «Von der Notwendigkeit, Augen im Hinterkopf zu haben» [The Necessity, having Eyes at the Back of the Head], Deutschvilla, Strobl, Austria  
2008 «Wo deine Füße stehen, ...» [Where your feet are standing, ...], Gallery Peithner Lichtenfels, Vienna

## Scholarships & Studios

2002 Scholarship of the International Summeracademy for Fine Arts, Salzburg  
2003-04 Artist in Residence, Centre d' Arte Contemporani Piramidon, Barcelona, Spain

## Teaching Assignments & Assistance

2000 Papiermaché Workshop, Papierwespe, Vienna  
since 2001 Objektgestaltung & temporäre Rauminstallation, Teaching Assignment, Wiener Kunstschule, Vienna  
2003 self and work, Assistance of Rona Pondick und Robert Feintuch, Summeracademy, Salzburg  
2005 self and work, Assistance of Rona Pondick und Robert Feintuch, Summeracademy, Salzburg  
2005 vegetable papyrus, Workshop, Papierwespe, Vienna

## Subsidies & Grants

1999 for the „Sense Development Room“, Department of Education  
2003 for the formation of my studio, Department of Arts

## Catalogues & Publications

Saison 2000/2001, Gallery im Alcatraz, 2001  
Fotonoviembre - 6<sup>th</sup> International Biennale of Photography, 2001  
All about: female sex, Gallery Academia, 2003  
Heima@t, Tina Teufel, Deutschvilla, Strobl am Wolfgangsee, 2005  
Fotonoviembre - 8<sup>th</sup> International Biennale of Photography, 2005  
Industry-Paper-Art, IAPMA, 2006  
„Die Kunst trägt ihre Aussage in sich selbst“ oder das dekorative Element der Anpassung, Kulturrisse 2/2007

## Upcoming Projects

July – August 2008 Moscow International Biennale for Young Art, Moscow, Russia

# Just Like to Play



GX\_R, 2005  
C-Print  
43 x 48 cm



