

Alexia de Ville de Goyet

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Alexia de Ville de Goyet

1982, Brussels, Belgium

Lives and works in London.

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2007 - 2008 : Double Award in Film & Video Production, LCC (London College of Communication), *London*

2007 - 2008 : Post-Diploma Byam Shaw - Fine Arts, Central Saint Martins, *London*

2006 - 2007 : New media - Time and Space department - photography and video, Kuvataideakatemia, *Helsinki*

2003 - 2007 : Narration - photography and video, ERG (Ecole de Recherche Graphique), *Brussels*

Awards

2007 : Astral Chorus, Best narrative film, DIGITmedia festival, *New-York - USA*

Solo Exhibition

2010 : Harri/deVille (in duo with Sabrina Harri), Gallery UUsi Kipinä, *Lahti-Finland*

2009 : White Lies (in duo with Sabrina Harri), Naisten Huone Gallery, *Helsinki*

Spit on Roses (in duo with Sabrina Harri), Huuto Gallery, *Helsinki*

2008 : Break Me a Story (in duo with Krista Autio), Jozsa Gallery, *Brussels*

Group Exhibitions

2009 : Art Fair Finland 09, Cable Factory, *Helsinki*

Psyche Target, Turn-Berlin Gallery, *Berlin*

Markers 7 exhibition, International Artists' Museum, *Venice Biennale*

Crosstalk, Gödör Club, *Budapest*

Art Brussels, Palais du Heysel, *Brussels*

Affluenza Exhibition, St-John St, *London*

Squelette, Grütli Theater, *Geneva*

S1/Salon, S1 Artspace, *Sheffield*

Manpower, Cosmic Mega Brain, *Lisbon*

2008 : New Contemporaries, BLOOMBERG, Rochelle School, *London*

Spiritual Promises from Lost Prophets, Shoreditch House, *London & Beyrouth*

Jeune Création, Halles de la Vilette, *Paris*

New Contemporaries, BLOOMBERG, A Foundation, *Liverpool Biennale*

The Third Bicycle, Lauderdale Gallery, *London*

Binocular, Kingsgate Gallery, *London*

2007 : Cartes Flux, Weegee Museum, *Helsinki*

The Consequence, Intermedia Gallery, *Glasgow*

Windows, Le Bonheur, *Brussels*

2006 : Humans and animals, tilaVÄLlivosi Gallery, *Helsinki*

Unknown city, Kaivopuisto Observatory, *Helsinki*

Nos Restes, La Quarantaine Gallery, *Brussels*

Performance

2009 : MosEspa/Art-en-Ile, live video performance with YERMO, *Geneva*

Camus Lit L'Etranger, French Institute, *Istanbul*

Terre des Hommes Remix, Pathé Palace, *Brussels*

Camus Lit L'Etranger, Salon du Livre, *Paris*

Camus Lit L'Etranger, Foire du Livre, *Brussels*

Soirée Squelette, live video performance with YERMO, Grütli Theater, *Geneva*

2008 : Videologia Festival, *Volgograd*

Camus Lit l'Etranger, Live video performance, PassaPorta, Pathé Palace & Arrière-Scène, *Brussels*

Les Inattendus Festival, CNP Bellecour, *Lyon*

VJFest, Ghetto and French Culture Institute, *Istanbul*

2007 : Videologia Festival, *Volgograd*

Optica Festival, *Gijon*

Raw Festival, *New York*

DIGITmedia Film Festival, Tusten Theater, *New York*

Name Festival, La Condition Publique, *Lille*

Tehdas, Weegee Museum, *Helsinki*

Pixelache Festival, Kiasma and City Happenings, *Helsinki*

Artichoke Women Film Festival, Bio Rex & Mbar, *Helsinki*

Artist Statement

My practice is based on video, but also applies to drawing, sculpture, performance and installation.

In my work, formal research and experimentation with the narrative codes are essential, as well as the questions of Identity, quest that we face through all the steps of our life. The medium itself is a central point, the act of framing being, in my point of view, very similar to the process of selection by memory itself.

My videos consist most of the time of actors rehearsing texts that I write, in an unconcerned, detached way and with a neutral voice. They are active and passive at the same time. The language becomes a music, a tune where the shouts remain shouts but where the text makes us dive into the characters' inner voice.

Cinematographically, I mix, alternate and copy out the style of documentary, french cinema à la Godard, as well as performance art, where the limits between reality and fiction fade and convert. My influences are diverse, like my development that led me to travel and to absorb the different cultures around me (belgian, finnish, english,...), richness of the languages that I try to use in my texts as well, to the point where the words sometimes escape me, lost in the translation.

My texts interweave of generalities, states of mind and intimates or personal anecdotes, but also of recycled material, found sentences placed side by side, that don't belong to me and give to the characters of my videos a certain fragility, transparency, dissolution of their body. It leads the viewer to different layers of interpretation, on himself or on the world in general, and places him in a state of solitude, seen in my work as a fatality in modern society.

My work widens also to sculpture, as it goes in the duo project with the finnish artist Sabrina Harri: Harri de Ville, or in relation with my video works. The objects set in the space interrelate with the texts of the videos and involve the viewer, not anymore only mentally, but also physically, as they are emplaced in the same spatiotemporal as the other.

Performing, as writing, is a way for me to embody my work, whereas using different characters allows me to create gaps and to claim my own contradictions as an artist and a person.

From the Unknown City

Video, 4 minutes 55
2006

Monologue of a woman alone, and lost in the world of the images.
Today's society feeds us with hundreds of images every day. They get lost and mixed up in our heads.
How can we make a selection ?
She wonders...



This video has been realised in studio so that we are in a kind of no man's land. We are in the character's head. It is filled with images. Some of them she chose, some of them she didn't. She would like to erase, to format these images of her head, to be able to see things with a fresh look, and not be influenced in her choices. In our capitalist society, we are all the time influenced by images, publicity, education, and so on. How is it yet possible to create a next thing ? How is it possible to make our own choices ?

That is the purpose of this film, and it is directly addressed to the viewer as my character often faces the camera while she speaks.



Astral Chorus

Video, 11 minutes
2007

Three portraits of women, of different ages, which scroll in the same house, and ask themselves loud questions about social games, education, beauty, love and life... They do not cross each other, but success one another as three edges of the same life.



What I try to reach in this video is the inside wonders of women, at different edges of their lives. The text is a kind of inside voice that is said loud, even in the middle of a party. The rest of the world erases itself in front of the girl's thinking. They say how they feel about many subjects such as images, beauty, love, society, life, fears, death, music, fairytales, education,...

The last part with the wolf is a walk back to instincts and animality. It is the only exterior scene, away from this house in which they are representing the women as they are asked to be by the society around them.

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Natural Histories

Video Installation
2008

Natural Histories is a moduable video installation made of four short narrative videos. Those four narratives treat about our point of view on the world, our imagination and our dreams as a child or a teenager. They also question our notion of Identity, quest that we face through all the steps of our existence. The medium itself is also a central point in Alexia's work. The characters talk about the act of framing through the photo or video camera, but also through the process of memory. The wonders of her different characters allows her to stage her own contradictions.



The piece has been thought from its beginning as a modulated work. The four videos could be projected in a linear way, one after another; but could also work in multi-screen installation, in the way that the different characters interact simultaneously in one or several separated spaces.



Hyde the Curse

Series for Installation

This Series is defined as an experimentation and an installation research around the basic and geometric shape of the hexagone. This research around a shape that reminds us of the diamond leads to a range of different installations assembled under the title of “Hyde the Curse”, and content of a video in two parts (*Hyde the Curse*), a river of plastic diamonds flowing from a wall’s corner (*Hyde the Curse - Untitled #1*), as well as a giant light diamond sculpture (*Hyde the Curse - Untitled #2*).

Diamond is a magic word, it makes you think of kings, adventurers and stars. The stories of diamonds are the stories of adventurers, researchers, artisans, doctors, scientists, lovers and astronauts.

The diamond is always basically associated to a use, but in this installation, it is seen as an imaginary and fragile symbol. It is desacralized, in an esthetical and narrative way. There is an displacement of the notion of identity by the change of scale and the reproduction in serial of this stone, supposed to be precious. It is here, in its representation, neither an object, nor a furniture or a jewel.

The diamond is used here for its thematical and formal vertus, but also as a reference to the piece of Damien Hirst: “For the Love of God”. With this skull incrustated of 8000 diamonds, he places himself as the most expensive artist of the world.

The sculptures are installed in the space with a video in two parts, that traces the endless run of two characters. They are linked, not in the space of the video, but in the space of the architecture itself. The characters as well as the light sculpture follow and answer to each other, even though they never enter in direct contact. The viewer has to move his own body in the space of the installation to recreate the narrative.

Just like in the previous works, I try here again to explore the uncertainty in the heart of the human experience: love, life, death, loyalty and betrayal.

Hyde the Curse

Video
5:55 min & 4:05 min
2009



Hyde the Curse - Untitled #1

Sculpture
Neons, wood
130 x 135 x 120 cm
2009



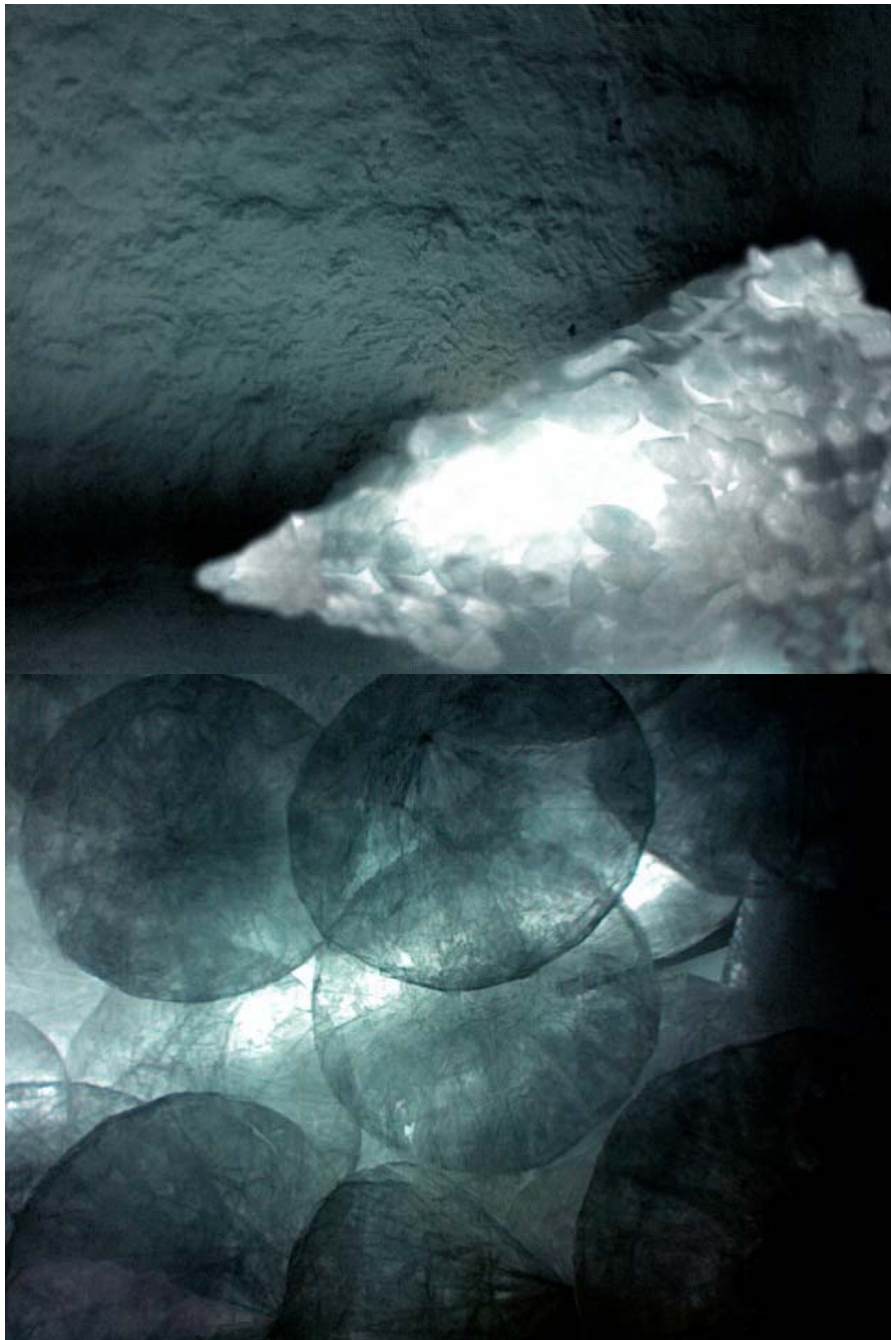
Hyde the Curse - Untitled #2

Sculpture Installation

Plastic tape, neons

Variable size

2009



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Harri De Ville

A Poetic of Spaces

Series by **Harri De Ville**

Harri De Ville is a duo project by Sabrina Harri and Alexia de Ville de Goyet. Sabrina Harri (1979, Espoo) and Alexia de Ville de Goyet (1982, Belgium) met accidentally in Helsinki in 2005. They have started working together since then on different projects, mainly with video performance, and lately with sculpture and installation.

Sabrina Harri articulates her creative practice around core issues on our perception of reality and its representations. Not without a certain humour, she embodies this theme in fragile and modular installations, drawings, videos and actions that ably disrupt common sense. By diversion and game, Sabrina Harri discreetly moves objects, as well as social conventions, towards a form of disillusioned poetry. Her work, at first glance trivial, subtly questions the changing values and cultural taboos of contemporary Western society.

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“Our latest serie of sculpture-installations merge under the title *Poetic of Spaces*. The series is reffering, on one hand, to the text by the french philosopher Gaston Bachelard, about the way we comprehend our environment, natural or artificial, and consist on another hand on a research around the reappropriation of iconic forms of minimalism.” **Harri De Ville**

“The poetic image is not subject to a growth. It is not the echo of a past, it is quite the contrary: by the glare of an image, the distant past resonates of echoes and we don't see up to what deepness those echoes will be reflected and vanish.” **Gaston Bachelard** "La poétique de l'espace"

"Houses are square, windows and doors are square, furniture is square, computers are square, tiles are square, A4 issquare...What I see around me is standardization in squareness(...)"

Satoru Eguchi "Paper House"

A Poetic of Spaces - Untitled #2

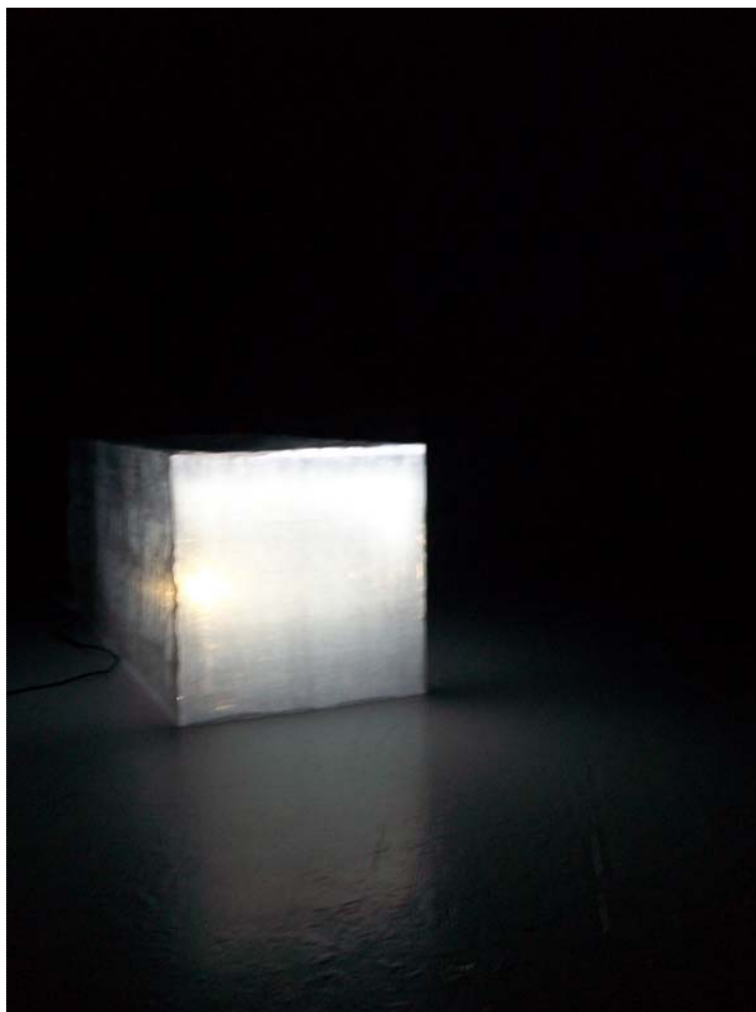
Video Sculpture

In collaboration with the Finnish artist **Sabrina Harri**

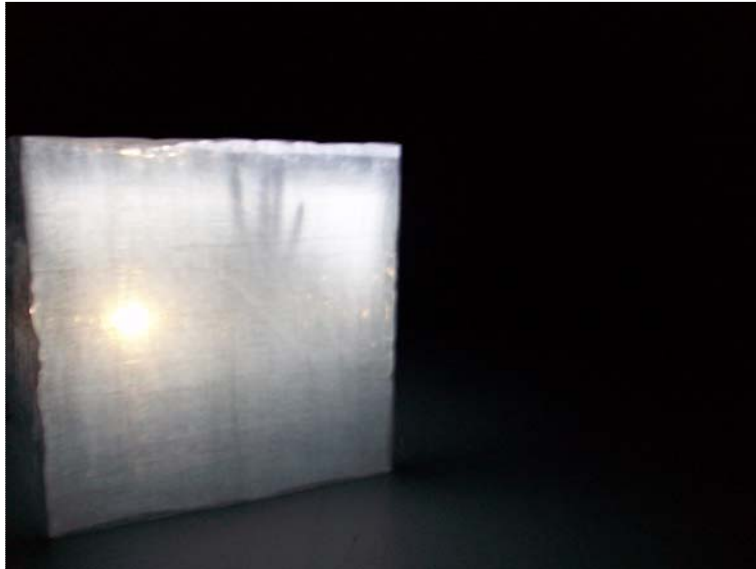
Plastic tape, video projection in loop 35 min, projector, dvd player

130 x 45 x 45 cm

2009



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A Poetic of Spaces - Untitled #3

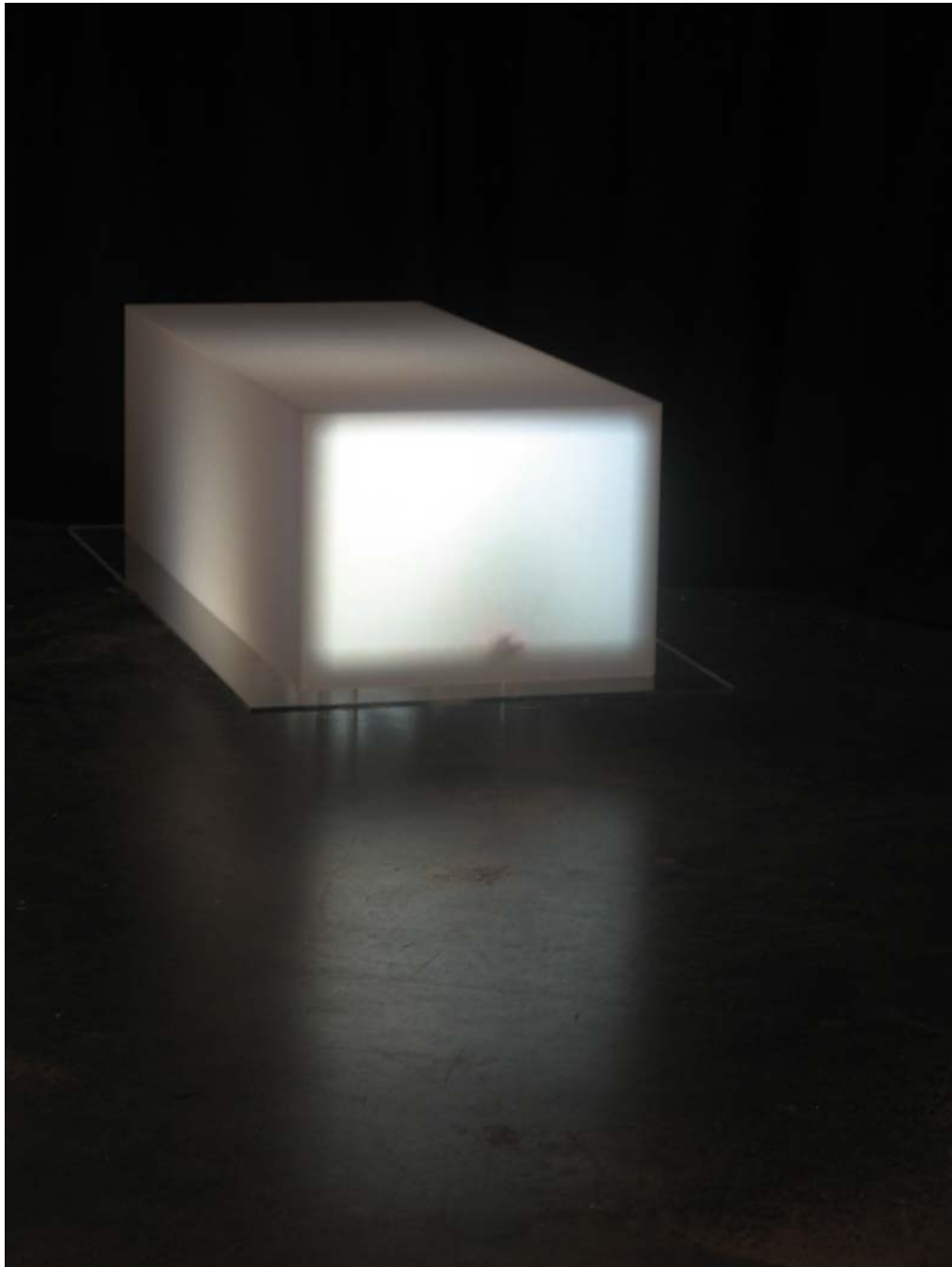
Video Sculpture

In collaboration with the Finnish artist **Sabrina Harri**

Sandblasted plexiglass, video projection in loop 35 min, projector, air fan, dvd player

170 x 60 x 45 cm

2009



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A Poetic of Spaces - Untitled #4

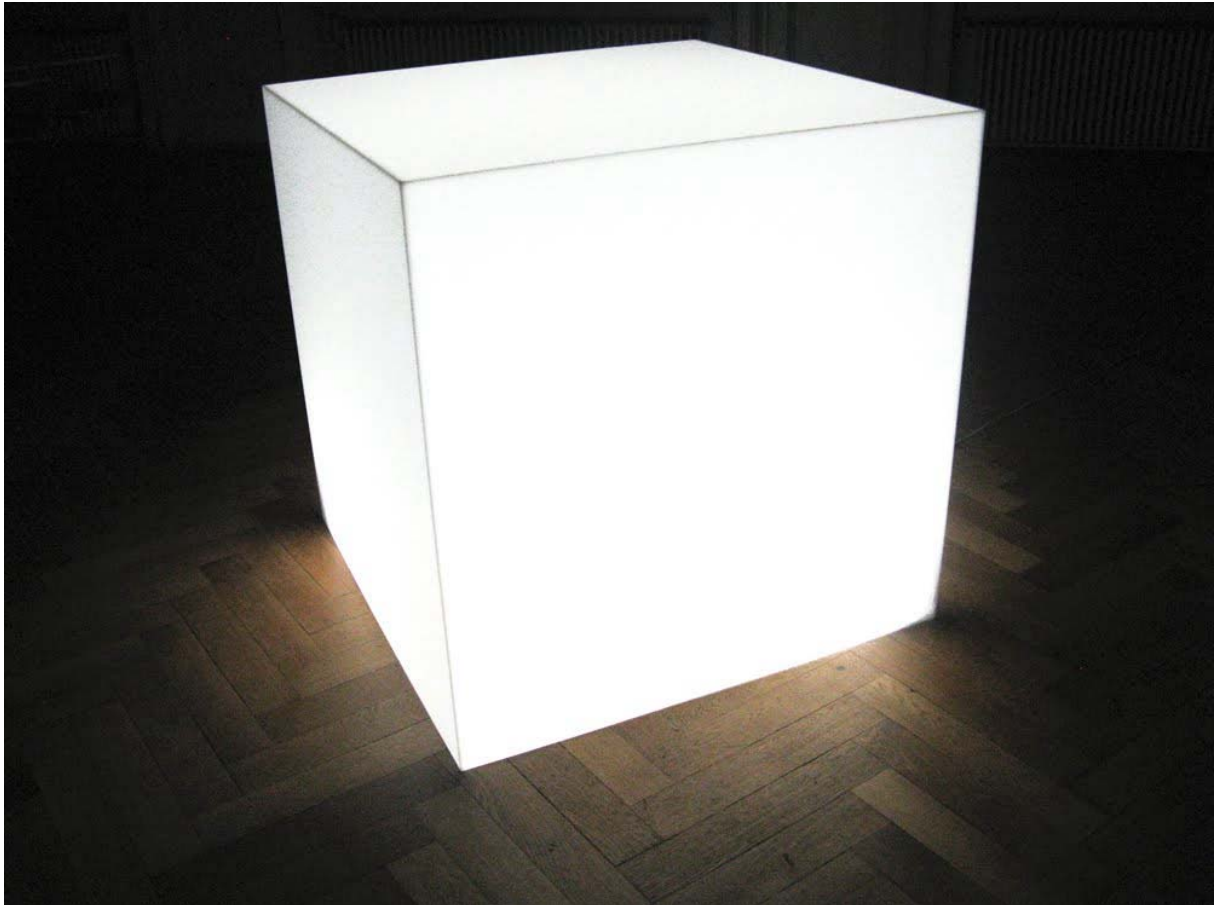
Sound Sculpture

In collaboration with the Finnish artist **Sabrina Harri**

Sandblasted plexiglass, loudspeakers, sound, neon

100 x 100 x 100 cm

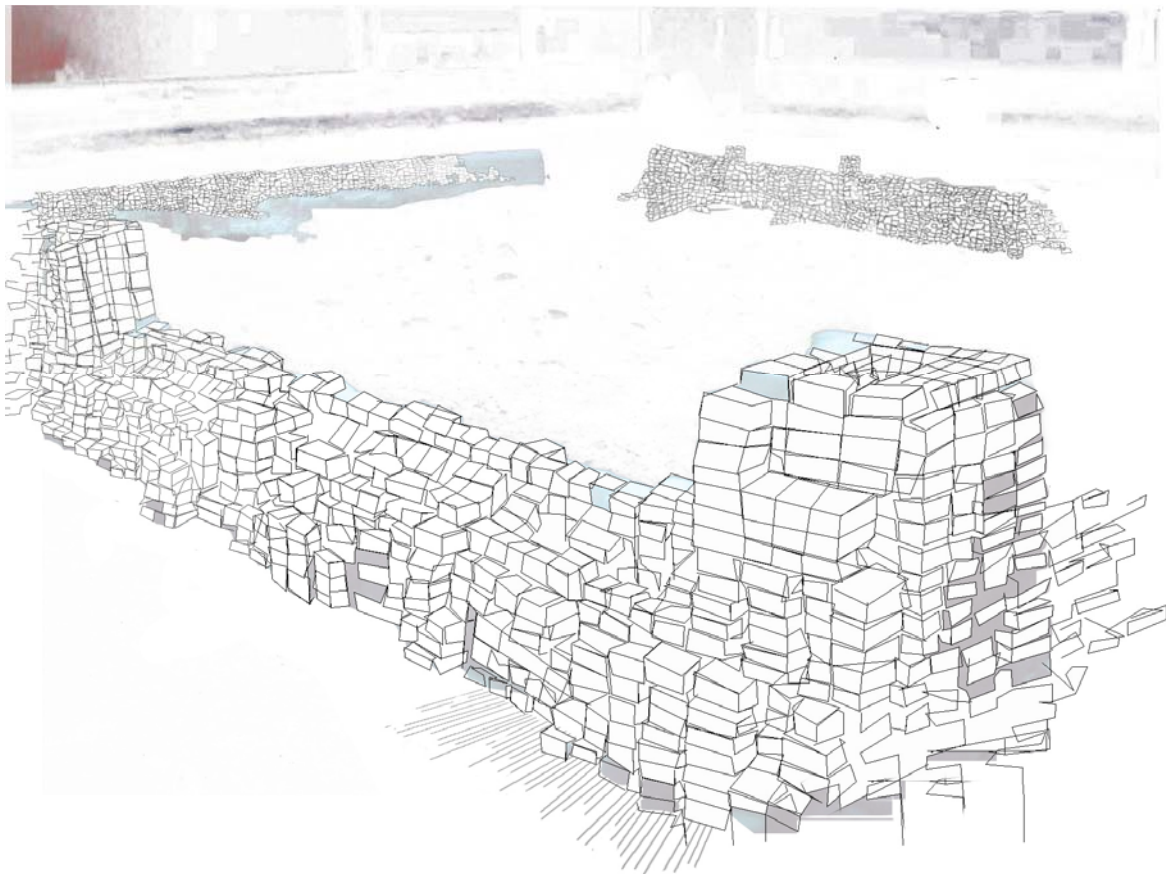
2009



Drawings

Untitled

Computer drawing,
2006



La Piste des Loups

Drawing windows installation
2007



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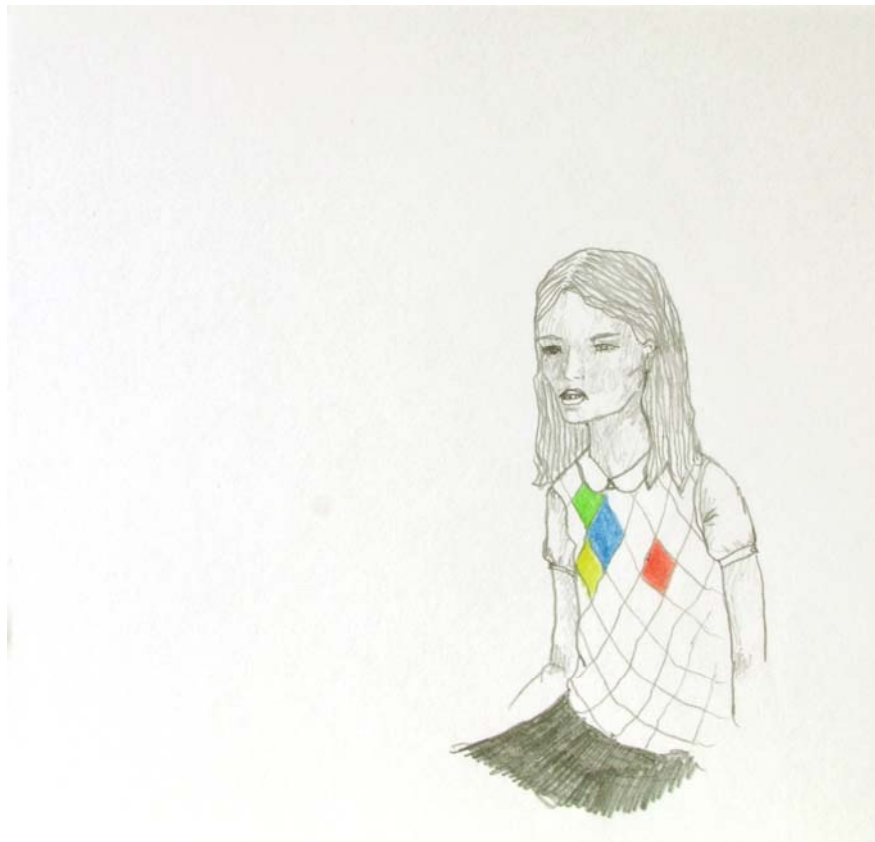
Untitled #1 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
118,8 x 84,1 cm
2009



Untitled #2 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
20 x 20 cm
2009



Untitled #3 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
29 x 21 cm
2009



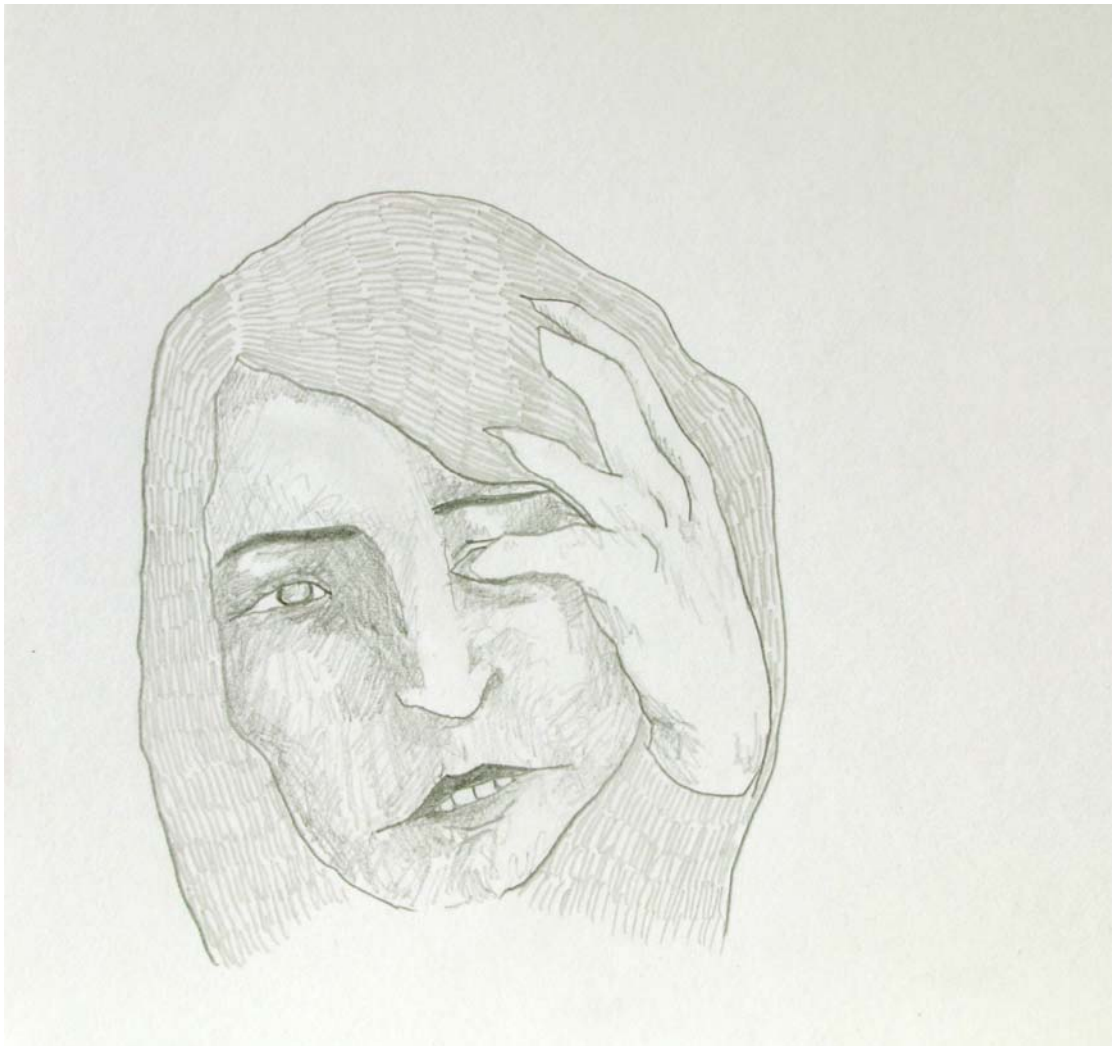
Untitled #4 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
84,1 x 118,9 cm
2009



Untitled #5 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
20 x 20 cm
2009



Untitled #6 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
29 x 21 cm
2009



Untitled #7 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing
43 x 29 cm
2008

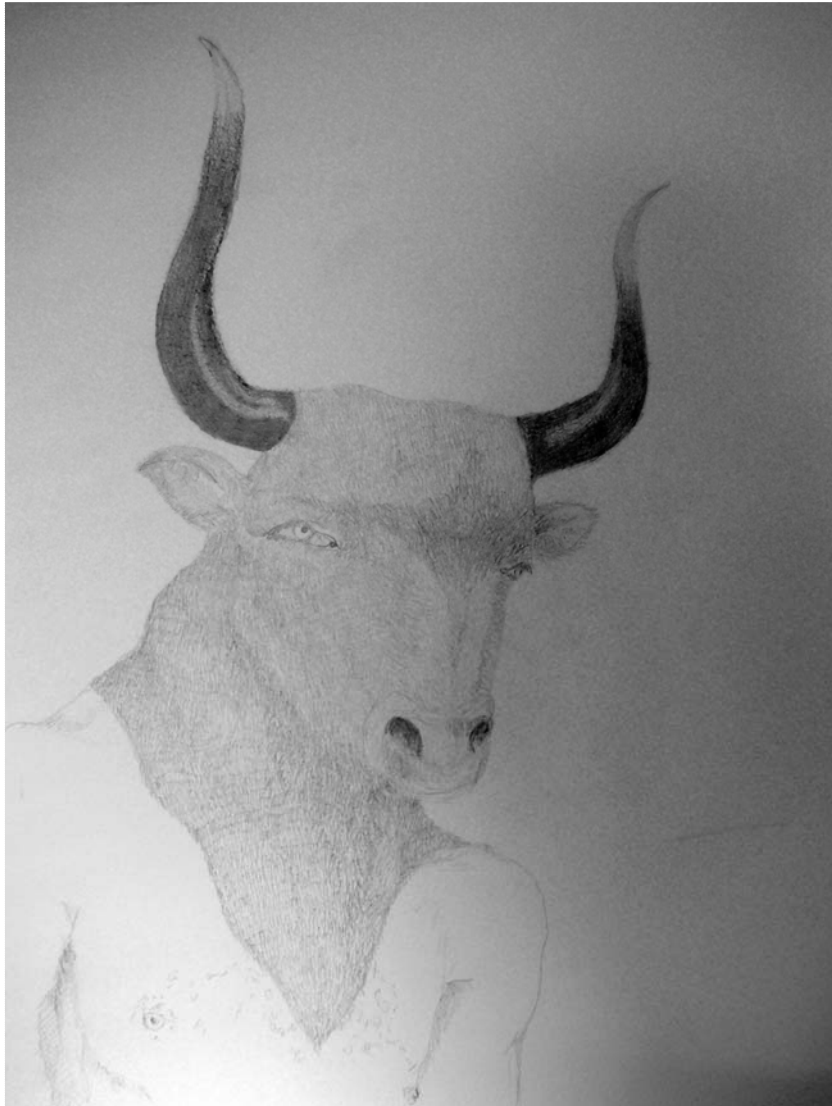


Untitled #8 - "Gravity Will Get Me" Series

Pencil Drawing

43 x 29 cm

2008



Untitled

Blue pen Drawing
2005



Untitled

Blue pen Drawing with painting,
2005



Untitled

Blue pen Drawing
2005



Untitled

Photography installation
2007

