

apexart

Re_dis_trans

Voltage of Relocation and Displacement

Curated by Aniko Erdosi

April 12 - May 20, 2006



left: Wang Jianwei, *Living Elsewhere*, 2005, dvd, color, sound, 40 min. (detail)
right: Myrna Maakaron, *BerlinBeirut*, 2004, dvd, color, sound, 23 min. (detail)

OPENING RECEPTION: Wed April 12, 6 - 8 PM

Artists: Big Hope (Miklós Erhardt and Dominic Hislop), Ian Burns, Sonja Feldmeier, Andrea Geyer, Wang Jianwei, Szabolcs Kisspál, Moshekwa Langa, Little Warsaw (Bálint Havas and András Gálik), Myrna Maakaron, Katarina Sevic

The act of leaving one's given place and occupying another is both emotionally and spiritually intense. Whether it is the relocation of people or the displacement of objects, the negative or positive charge of this movement is determined by cultural, historical, temporal and spatial factors. Is this a common life experience or a poetically charged site with immeasurable potential?

The artworks featured in this exhibition represent the unpredictable personal and cultural psychological effects, as well as the societal impacts, of relocation and displacement. Confrontations with the new, which affect the individual ego or a given social group, are often unexpected and astonishingly powerful. Their effect-mechanisms include culture shock, identity crisis and other complex, refined and imponderable elements. These effects are mostly invisible, even when the acts themselves are radical. The tensions and frictions created by motion activate powerful energies and voltages.

What happens after acts of relocation and displacement? How do these acts influence our personal lives, our mental states, or our cultural perceptions? These questions are relevant in the context of "local-versus-global" intellectual discourse, but they are much more significant in our everyday lives, in which we constantly seek greater mobility. Individuals and groups are relocating themselves geographically. Objects are displaced locally, data and information transferred digitally, and points of view refocused intellectually. How do these acts rearrange a situation, a narrative or an ethos? What happens to these material and immaterial things within their new contexts? How does it shift our illusions about the permanence of things? And most importantly, can we displace our focus without losses?

Aniko Erdosi is an art historian and independent curator from Budapest, now based in New York.

For further information, please see www.apexart.org/exhibitions/erdosi.htm. Gallery hours are Tues - Sat, 11-6.

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