

VIDEO SCREENING

Tuesday March 2, 2010 at 6:30pm

EFA PROJECT SPACE
323 West 39th Street NYC 10018
WWW.EFANYC.ORG

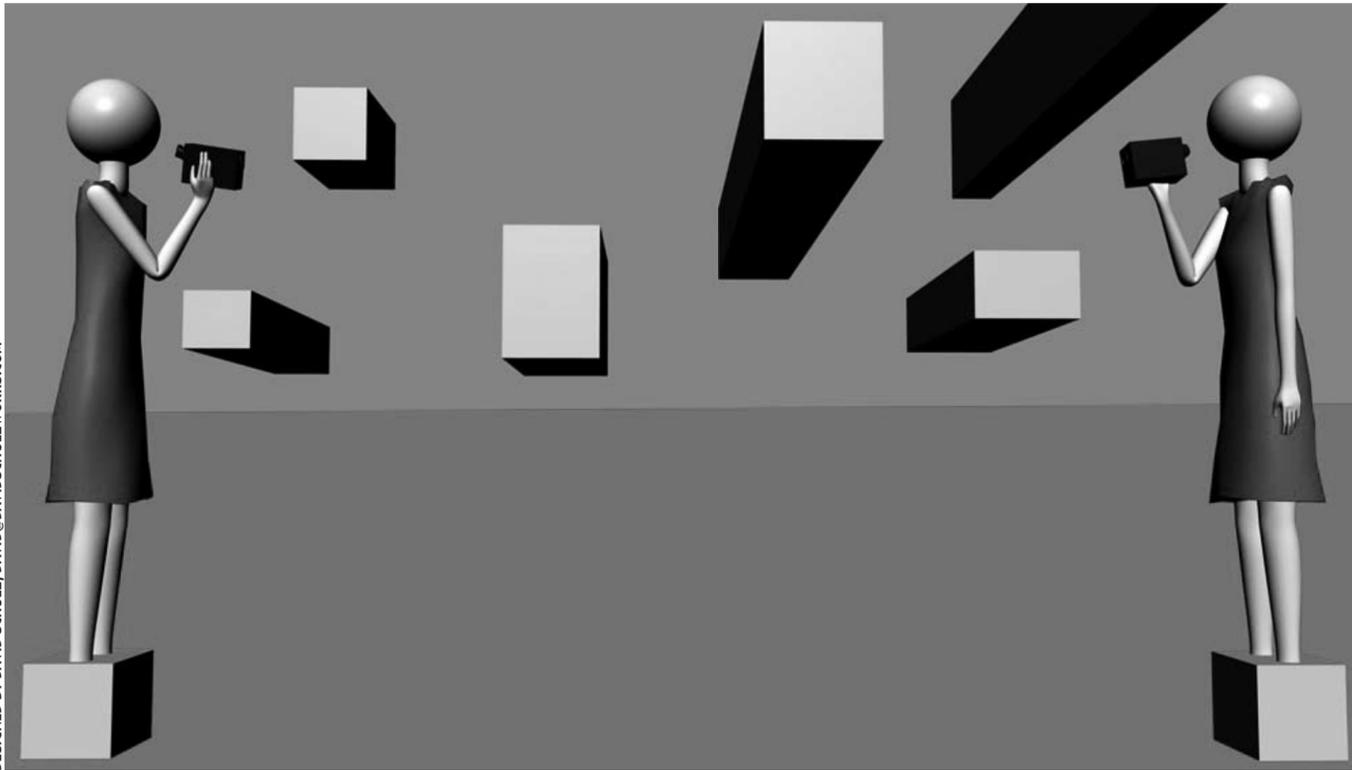
AVE is an international exchange program and initiative between artists and curators that promotes the production and circulation of video programming worldwide.

FORMAT NETWORK is an artists' group based in Bristol, UK that focuses on staging activities of exchange and engagement, including screenings and exhibitions, lectures by invited artists, critics and theorists, and open-mic performance evenings.

Selected works by contemporary artists from Norway, Russia, Serbia, and the UK

A VIDEO SERENADE

DESIGNED BY DAVID SCHULZ, DAVID@DAVIDSCHULZWORKS.COM

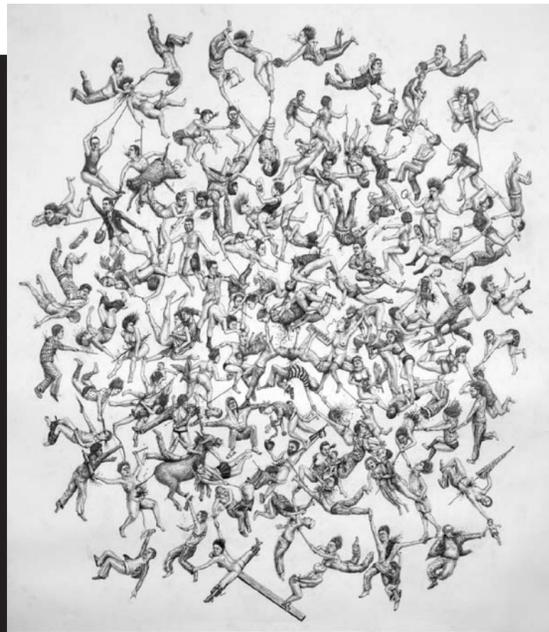


TOP: *Feedback/*
Maxsim Svishev;
BOTTOM:
Felix Culpa,
A Handmade
Massacre/
Martin Skauen.

TOP: *Feedback/*
Maxsim Svishev;
BOTTOM: *Big Bang/*
Bojana Romic.

A VIDEO SERENADE presents a wide range of contemporary video, from the performative to the personal to the fictive and the documentary. The program aims to reflect the unique mix of themes and approaches to video as exemplified by the artists supported by **Art Video Exchange** and **Format Network**.

A VIDEO SERENADE is organized by Madeline Djerejian, **AVE-USA**, in cooperation with **ArtVideoExchange (AVE)** and **Format Network**, with support from the **Office for Contemporary Art (Norway)**, **CYLAND Media Art Laboratory (St. Petersburg, Russia)**, and the St. Petersburg branch of the **National Center of Contemporary Art (NCCA)**. A special thanks to **EFA Project Space**, a program of the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, for hosting this event.



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EFA Project Space is pleased to present **A VIDEO SERENADE**, a screening of recent works selected by **ArtVideoExchange (AVE)** and **Format Network**.

A VIDEO SERENADE

Selected works by contemporary artists from Norway, Russia, Serbia, and the UK



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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
FPS (First Person Shooters or
Frames Per Second)/Wim Janssen;
Clay Pigeon/Milos Tomic; Atomic
Watch/Nenad Kostic; Exhaustion
of Europe/Jovan Cekic.



AVE Serbia

PROGRAM CURATED BY BOJANA ROMIC

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NEVER GONNA GIVE YOU UP

Goran Micevski / 2006 / 4:00 min.

The video shows two upper halves of the body of a naked man (the artist) shot from bird's-eye perspective and edited to meet each other in the middle of a bed. At first glance it looks as if this is an image and its reflection in the mirror, only to turn out that these are two halves of the same whole, trying in vain to get rid of one another.

Goran Micevski graduated photography at the Faculty of Applied Arts in Belgrade, Serbia. Micevski has taken part in several group exhibitions and has had numerous solo shows in Serbia and abroad.

CLAY PIGEON / Milos Tomic / 2005 / 6:41 min.

A love game is interrupted by serious events but the lovers don't want to finish their game.

Born in Belgrade in 1976, Milos Tomic studied film direction and animation in Belgrade, Praga, Berlin, and Madrid. www.milostomic.com

ATOMIC WATCH / Nenad Kostic / 2006 / 1:13 min.

Atomic Watch represents one minute of time, within the frame of nuclear destruction. A clock whose arrow is a ballistic missile, changing different types with every second. These are technical drawings so they also have the length of one meter beside them. Atomic Watch deals with time and space (two dimensions defining our existence) in their basic measures, and with the fact that they are as instable as uranium inside nuclear warheads.

Nenad Kostic was born in Belgrade. Kostic completed two years on the MFA program at the Academy of Art University, San Francisco in the 2D animation department. His work has been exhibited in numerous group and solo shows in Europe and the USA. He is represented by Art Zone 461 Gallery, San Francisco.

FPS (FIRST PERSON SHOOTERS OR FRAMES PER SECOND) / Wim Janssen / 2006 / 3:08 min.

In FPS a shoot'em up computer is simulated with Super-8 cameras. Two contenders try to locate each other in their field of view and fire. The game last as long as a roll of film. The result is projected side-to-side in a form that resembles the interface of a multi-player game.

Wim Janssen lives and works in Belgrade and Antwerp. He studied experimental film at Saint Lukas Hogeschool, Brussels. Janssen makes film, video and installation art. His work often focuses on the strategies and technologies of vision.

BIG BANG / Bojana Romc / 2009 / 2:30 min.

The choreography of one drop of water against the eye's surface.

Bojana Romc is an artist and theoretician currently based in Belgrade. Romc's theoretical research concerns the problem of authorship on Web 2.0 applications such as YouTube and Wikipedia, and she has been involved in several international projects focused on long-distance learning and media literacy. Romc is currently a member of the AVE network, working as a curator of video art.

EXHAUSTION OF EUROPE / Jovan Cekic / 2005 / 8:07 min.

The video questions the extent to which global changes and political events, even in regions geographically close to us, affect the everyday life of ordinary people.

Artist and theoretician Jovan Cekic is author of the book, "Cutting Through the Chaos."

LEFT: *Never Gonna Give You Up*/Goran Micevski;
BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT: *Bull Miletic*/Par Hasard; *Che Guevara's Rolex*/Birgitte Sigmundstad.



AVE Norway

PROGRAM CURATED BY MONA BENTZEN

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AMERIKA / Ane Lan / 2003 / 3:15 min.

In this idiosyncratic short video, Amerika, Norwegian artist Ane Lan, dressed as a woman in Middle Eastern attire, reclines in an Orientalist setting while singing: "America, America, where are you now?"

Ane Lan was born in Oslo, Norway in 1972. He graduated from the National College of Art and design in Oslo in 2002 and is working in the field of performance, music and experimental film/video. He has participated in various international exhibitions; The Whitney Museum of American Art, NYC, Paco das Artes, Sao Paolo, the 51st Venice Biennial and the 10th Istanbul Biennial. Lan has also participated in numerous film & video festivals worldwide. www.anelan.com

CHE GUEVARA'S ROLEX / Birgitte Sigmundstad / 2009 / 4: 40 min.

A picture of Che Guevara with his Rolex was used in the magazine "Watch Time". This led to enormous reactions from readers, both positive and negative. Their posts about this footnote in our recent history unexpectedly became a micro-cosmos wherein the sense of justice, freedom of expression and commercialism are fighting for attention.

Birgitte Sigmundstad, b. 1969, Norway. Education: BA honours from The Surrey Institute of Art & Design (1995-1998). Solo Exhibitions: Stenersen museum, UKS, Oslo and Troms kunstforening. Group exhibitions: UKS, Preus Museum, Grimstad Shortfilmfestival, Eurodok. Received Einar Granums Art award in 2007. www.birgittesigmundstad.com

PAR HASARD / BULL.MILETIC / 2009 / 5:15 min.

Par Hasard takes Paris at face value as a post card and commodity. As the ultimate symbol of tourism, the Eiffel Tower is the starting point for a journey through the city's many significant locations in history, manifested in its lasting architecture and emphasis on past grandeur.



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Art Video Exchange

OCA
Office for Contemporary Art Norway
WWW.OCA.NO

BULL.MILETIC is Synne Bull (Norwegian, b. 1973) and Dragan Miletic (American, b. Yugoslavia, 1970). Central to their artistic practice is the question of how reality is perceived through moving images. Exhibitions include: Henie Onstad kunstsenter, Norway, Whitney Museum of American Art's Artport, New York, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Victorian Arts Center, Melbourne, Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, Walter and McBean Galleries, San Francisco, MoCA, Los Angeles, Transmediale, Berlin and IMPAKT, Utrecht, The Netherlands. www.bull.miletic.info

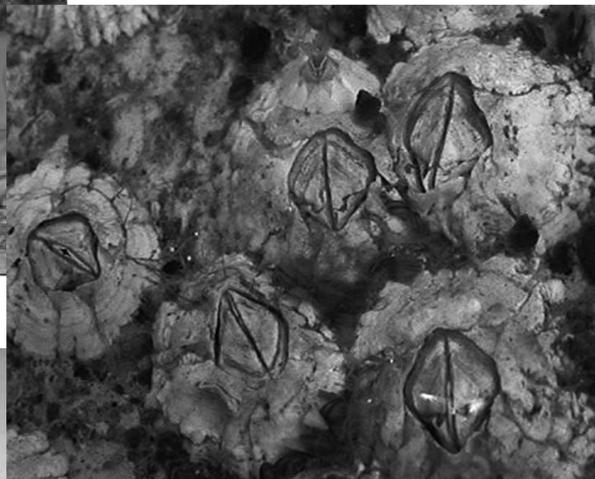
OPACITY / Farhad Kalantary / 2005 / 5:30 min.

Opacity is a short 16mm film exploring the surrounded fear of an interior space. "Fear is omnipresent and there is nowhere to hide". Opacity is about such crisis of interiority. It finds itself on the borders of color and B/W and on the constant shift of exposures between under and over exposed film and generates its own unstable conditions of visibility. The film borrows sound from several movies such as Seven, Psycho and Nostalgia, whose traces are barely recognizable. With tensions of the space and the absence of inhabitants, Opacity brings about an action-thriller film without the people.

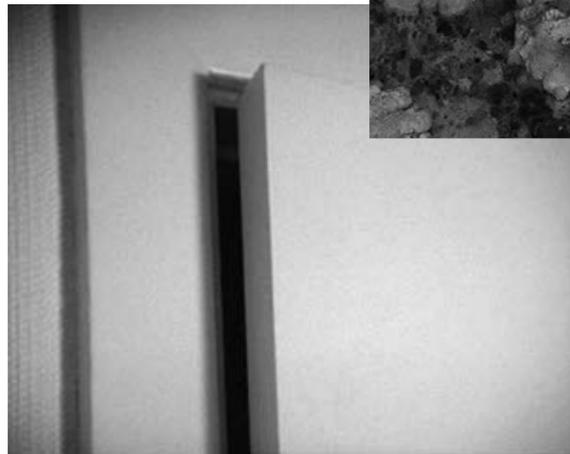
Farhad Kalantary (Tabriz, Iran, 1962) is a visual artist working primarily with non-narrative films and video installations. He has studied at San Francisco State University (BA, 1992) and San Francisco Art Institute (MFA, 1996) and he is now based in Oslo, Norway. His works have been shown in various international film festivals as well as in galleries and museums in the US and Europe, and they are part of the collections of Moderna Museet, Stockholm, and the Arts Council Norway. He is a co-founder and the leader of the artist-run space Atopia in Oslo. www.atopia.no



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM:
Erase/Margarida Paiva;
Amerika/Ane Lan; Rur/
Mona Bentzen; Opacity/
Farhad Kalantary.



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AVE Norway continued

ERASE / Margarida Paiva / 2009 / 3:30 min.

With: Sigrid H. Kopperdal and **Sound Design:** Øyvind Blikstad.

Erase is an image-poem that touches on themes such as loss and displacement. Distant sounds are counter-pointed with images of walking ghosts in a white landscape.

Margarida Paiva was born in Portugal in 1975, currently living and working in Oslo. Paiva studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Oporto and at the Academy of Fine Arts in Oslo. Her video works are based on fragmented stories that explore inner states of mind, resembling dreams and memories. Melancholy, loneliness and fear are subjects that always remain in these works and are expressed through poetic imagery. www.margaridapaiva.net

FELIX CULPA, A HANDMADE MASSACRE

Martin Skauen / 2007 / 5:06 min.

The video is like an animated Judgement Day – a grotesque and violent universe where people are divided into two categories; those who eat and those who are eaten...! With his distinctive technique Skauen leads the camera across the large-scale drawing and create the illusion of movement in a never-ending claustrophobic room. In Felix Culpa, Skauen has created a frightening dark and self-annihilating world - a world totally out of order, inhabited by the most primitive and destructive forces.

Martin Skauen is educated at the National Academy of Fine Arts, Oslo, 1998-2002 and Mølla Art School, Moss 1996-1998. Residency: Kunstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, 2008. Exhibitions include: 1st Athens Biennial, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Göteborg Kunsthall, Laura Bartlett Gallery (London), Galleri MGM (Oslo), Mihai Nicodim Gallery (Los Angeles), Kunstlerhaus Bethanien (Berlin), Galleri F-15 (Moss) and UKS, (Young Artist Society). www.martinskauen.com

RUR / Mona Bentzen / 2010 / 2:16 min.

Small creatures in the sea looking like the female vagina – a bit disappointed maybe. They are many and they have closed and they are holding back – or perhaps they are waiting for that special one, or maybe they just need time to open up by themselves.

Mona Bentzen works with video and installation and as a curator/producer: www.artvideoexchange.com Bentzen was educated at the Bergen National Academy of the Arts, University of Volda, Media and TV/Film/ Animation. Video and documentary screening, f.ex Art Museum KUBE, Norwegian Broadcasting NRK TV 1, 7th Art Film Festival, Slovakia, Laznia Centre for Contemporary Art, Polen, Pasadena Museum of California Art. Current: Solo exhibition at Rauland Art Association. www.monabentzen.bek.no

FORMAT NETWORK UK

Format is a Bristol, UK artists' group focused on the idea of exchange and engagement around contemporary art practice. The primary function of this artist-led group is to develop discussion events that address specific themes and ideas. Such events have ranged from open-mic song/performance nights and invited guest lectures to screening and exhibitions. Our aim is to expand the context of our art practice and generate ideas in the public realm. WWW.FORMATNETWORK.COM

SONG ARCHIVE / Yvonne Buchheim / 2009 / 5:00 min.

Yvonne Buchheim explores contemporary song culture in a visual art context. Her ongoing Song Archive Project acts as a framework to question cultural belief values while playfully suggesting the complexity of identities through song. Her art practice incorporates a variety of media, ranging from video, site-specific installation, performance to live art.

Yvonne Buchheim has recently received a publication award from arts organization Saft, Wales, for the Song Archive Project and the book will be launched in 2011. Previously she has been awarded artist residencies and commissions in the UK, Ireland, France, Germany, USA and Iran. Recent solo exhibitions include "Music City – Do It, Dare It, Chance It" at the Cheekwood Museum of the Art, Nashville, USA (2008) and an underwater sound installation titled "Earworms" at the Cardigan Swimming Pool in Wales, UK (2009). www.song-archive.org

WEIGHTLESS / Matt White / 2008 / 7:55 min.

The artist used self-hypnosis in an attempt to free himself from the force of gravity; the result of this experiment, Weightless, is the uncovering of two opposing, highly charged and deeply engaging emotional states.

Matt White frequently act as the protagonist in his own work, devising working processes that force an element of isolation to explore how personal and moral conflicts are sited within a wider socio-political landscape. From the position of a skeptic he has undergone hypnosis to explore past lives, undertaken an epic journey across Europe to recreate the frame of mind of a French composer and located and documented the geographical mid-point between right and wrong. These tasks, or experiments, become the starting point for a series of processes that pose questions about the nature of belief and the way in which the mind can be manipulated. www.matt-white.org

format

Video and Photography Network



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CLOCKWISE,
FROM TOP LEFT:
Song Archive/
Yvonne Buchheim;
A Hard Place/
Ronnie Close;
Weightless/Matt
White; Curtain/
Peter Bobby.

AVE Russia

PROGRAM CURATED BY VIKA ILYUSHKINA

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SON OF KING / Julia Zastava / 2008 / 4.29 min.

Music by ALOG

Son of king is about the boundary state of a dream. This animation was made from my photos of Count Orlov's palace (Orlov, one of the favorites of Catherine the Great), one of the largest palaces in the suburbs of Moscow. Like almost all other palaces in Russia, after the revolution of 1917 it was harried then abandoned. Now it is nearly a ruin but still very majestic, and I find it tremendously mystical. It is like a fantastic swooning of the XVIII century.

Julia Zastava (b.1982, Moscow). Education: institute of TV and Radio named after M. A. Litovchin in Moscow, director faculty. Solo and group exhibitions in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

LITTLE BLACK / Nikolay Kurbatsky / 2008 / 1.51 min.

Video and sound by Nikolay Kurbatsky.

Text by Jean-Paul Sartre.

Reading by Irina Erisanova.

This work is based on a short text excerpt from the novel "Nausea" by French writer and philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre. The novel depicts the occasional meeting of a man and woman on the street, but in the video I tried to explore and show the constant, bizarre conflicts of relationships in everyday life. Violence, racial problems, disturbing misunderstandings between men and women and between people in general.

Born in Tomsk in 1982, Nikolay Kurbatsky studied at Moscow State University, Faculty of Journalism and Tambov State University, Faculty of Public Relations. Degree of candidate of science in Russian literature. Kurbatsky's work has been included in several group exhibitions in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

I WANT TO LIVE THROUGH YOUR DEATH

Olga Jitlina / 2009 / 5.44 min.

My video is a reenactment of my Mom's suicide, 10 years after her death. I woke up very early the morning of March 23rd 2009 and went with the camera from my bed to the balcony from where my mother threw herself: I tried to look through her eyes and capture the last thing that she saw in her life. By telling this personal yet at the same time common story of a middle-aged person in Russia in the 1990's, I aim not to provoke a sense of pity or frustration, but rather to share my experience of living through the trauma of loss, saying it is hard but possible.

Born 1982 in Leningrad (St. Petersburg). Graduated from The University of Jewish Studies, from the Russian Academy of Art (2007). Participant: Biennale of Young Art, National Center for Contemporary Arts, Moscow; Amsterdam

Biennale, St. Petersburg pavilion, screening at Kunsthalle, Tallin, exhibition hall, Narva, Estonia, "Fabrika, Moscow Videoart Archive CYLAND", "The Space of Quite", "Krasnoye Znamya" factory, St. Petersburg, "Video Zahvat", Nepokorennye Open Studios, St. Petersburg.

STORAGE / Anton Hlabov / 2009 / 2.20 min.

We live in a world where the amount of processors and microchips produced each year contains a number of transistors one hundred times higher than population of ants on our planet. The density of the artificial system in different communication devices and instruments everywhere surrounding us allows us to consider the operations and processes occurring inside them as a certain micro-space, where our everyday actions such as checking e-mail or sending SMS are reflected by multiple events and metamorphoses. The plot of the video develops from the rhythmically pulsating sound of a dial-up modem, a reminder of the work of a life support system. We gradually see a materialization of those pulses linking scattered moments of time, stretching over a line, connecting callers to the unknown device where all the actions go on.

Photographer and multimedia artist Anton Hlabov was born in St. Petersburg in 1986. Since 2005 Hlabov has been studying New Technologies in Modern Art at Institute Pro Arte. His work has been included in: Festival "OutVideo '06", the parallel program of festival SITM (2007), the parallel program of 2nd Moscow Biennial, in the video-program "the Glass field", Avanto Festival 07, Kiasma (Helsinki).

EXPULSION FROM PARADISE

Andrey Ustinov / 2003 / 2.01 min.

This is a video-documentation of an action that took place on May 1st, 2002 in a McDonald's restaurant in St. Petersburg. This action is a radical expropriation of all goods turned into capital by our civilization. The action was directed as a remake of a biblical plot. Artists, like Adam and Eve, are walking in the "garden" of McDonald's and "tasting" its fruits, collecting meals from the tables of the visitors. The furious visitors exile the couple from "Paradise".

Andrey Ustinov was born in Luga, Leningrad area. Studied in St. Petersburg: Theatrical Academy; State Academy of Art and Design, in Humanitarian Academy, branches of the Linguistics and Psychologies; finished "New technologies in modern art" course at Institute Pro Arte. Currently a student of the High School Art Kunsthochschule Kassel, Germany. Ustinov works with comics and video installation. Ustinov's work has been exhibited at the Short Cinema Festivals Oberhausen51/Germany 2005, 'Blicke aus Ruhrgebiet', Bochum/Germany 2005. "Expulsion from Paradise" was awarded the prize for best video performance at Independent cinema festival TROMANALE, Berlin, 2005.

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: *Son of King/Julia Zastava; Little black/Nikolay Kurbatsky; Storage/Anton Hlabov; Expulsion from Paradise/Andrey Ustinov; Never Ending/Masha Sha.*

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VERTIGO / Kirill Shuvalov / 2003 / 1.43 min.

Enigmatic guillotine-object for toy Barbie-doll, constructed from the garbage bin. Or an allegory for the infinitely revolving wheel of life?

Kirill Shuvalov (b. 1969, Perm). Graduated St. Petersburg State Academy of Art and Design, faculty of "Monumental painting" (1999). Exhibitions include: "Artgenda" biennale (1998); Stockholm "Photoimage" gallery, St. Petersburg (2001); "mir'mir", Artagent gallery, Hamburg (2002); "Snowgirl", Zacheta gallery, Warsaw (2002); "Antonio Corpora / Kirill Shuvalov", Augusto Consorti gallery, Rome, Italy (2003); "Actual Art of St. Petersburg", Austria (2004); "Swinging with neighbors", Art-poetry festival, Stockholm (2005); Short Films, "NAVICULA ARTIS" gallery, St. Petersburg, (2005); "Egalitaruty", 1st Moscow biennale of contemporary art, Russia (2005); 51 Oberhausen film festival (2005); "From St. Petersburg", Marat Gelman gallery, Moscow (2005); "Kronshtadt Forever", NCCA, St. Petersburg (2005) "FilmLichter05", international short film festival, Germany (2005); "Women without men", Russian Gallery, Tallin, Estonia (2005); "Videology", Videoart Festival, Volgograd (2007), "Something about authority", L-gallery, Moscow.

NEVER ENDING / Masha Sha / 2005 / 2.12 min.

Endlessly condemned in seeking the real, the true. We are shackled in transitory, grey eternal everydayness.

Masha Sha (Maria Sharafutdinova). Born 1982 in Chukotka. Lives in St. Petersburg. Education: 2007-2009 SUNY Buffalo University, Media Study Department, Fulbright guarantee. Graduated Pro Arte Institute, Foundation for Art and Culture, St. Petersburg, New Media Art Studies Program (2005). Studied Social and Cultural Technologies at St. Petersburg State University of Art and Culture (2000-2005). St. Petersburg College of Optics and Mechanics (2000-2001). Photography. Prizes: First Prize «New Generation» young artist, Russian state competition of contemporary art (2006).

MOM / Yuri Vasiliev / 2002 / 0:55 min.

Either drunk or semi-ill overgrown son dully torments his mother and himself. They are an inseparable pair—the man is always with his mother, still snatches her skirt not being able to get back on his feet. He cries, calls, and rends one's heart. It seems he has been cast off, but it's out of the question, it seems he needs something, but he doesn't, it seems something hurts him, but nothing does, it seems a danger approaches from the outside, but there is no danger. Pain, danger, fear, loneliness are all inside, everything is groundless, aimless, and it comes from tearfulness, swaddleness and nonage. "Mom, leave me alone, set me free, turn me out to hell, the hell with you, mom!",—rushes like waves of red, waves of blood, not allowing to see anything around oneself. —*Ivan Chechot*

Yuri Vasiliev: born in 1950, Kingisepp, Leningrad region. Education: Leningrad Art College (1966-1974). 2000 realizes "Russian Red". "Prussian Blue" project. 2001 Castle Sanssouci, Potsdam. 2002 "Davaj, Davaj" (exhibition of Russian contemporary art), Berlin; MAK, Vienna. 2002 Project "Russian Red", ELECTRIC VISIONS, Media Forum of XXVI Moscow International Film Festival, Moscow, "Our Father" Installation, Kaliningrad. Special project for "Black Square" prize at Art Moscow Workshop. Warsaw-Moscow and Moscow-Warsaw1900-2000. 2005 "RUSSIAN RED", special project of 1st Moscow Biennale of contemporary art. "Human Project", special project of 1st Moscow Biennale of contemporary art. 2006 "Our Father" video installation, International exhibition "ARS 06", museum of contemporary art "KIASMA", Helsinki.

FEEDBACK / Maksim Svishev / 2009 / 5:42 min.

Feedback is a story about a person's relationship to the self. Girls film each other on camera. They look alike, one is a reflection of the other. That is to say, each removes itself. Stereotypes and social stamps are making individuals behave like mechanisms deprived of identity. External and internal noises, flashing images of everyday life thrown into personal internal space, all leading people astray from the inner self.

Born 1982 Leningrad, Maksim Svishev studied in St. Petersburg. The art-professional lyceum, speciality "jeweler". In 2005, graduated from Faculty of fine arts RGPU A.I.Gertsena. Exhibitions include: "The Sensual Attraction", Karpshstadt, Sweden (2007); video installation "A temptation over Antonia"- festival "Videozachvat" open studio Nepokorennye. Petersburg, video installation "Memories of Swimming pool", State Russian Museum St. Petersburg (2008).

PURIFICATION

Veronica Rudyeva-Ryazantseva / 2008 / 4.30 min.

Winter. An elderly woman cleans the carpet in a traditional way. Her motions resemble a ritual dance of magic, coming from the ancient ages.

Veronika Rudyeva-Ryazantseva (b. Krasnoyarsk, Siberia, 1981) lives and works in St. Petersburg. In her work she addresses the episodes of everyday life using very direct, sometimes 'primitive' language. A graduate from the State Academy of Art and Design, faculty of "Monumental painting" 2008, Pro Arte Institute. She Participated in the 1st Moscow Biennale of Young Art "Que Vive?" (2008), Nord Art Festival (Budelsdorf, Germany, 2008), C.A.G gallery St. Petersburg, Start gallery, Center of Contemporary Art Winzavod, Moscow; Luda gallery, St. Petersburg.



CLOCKWISE, FROM ABOVE: *Mom/Yuri Vasiliev; I want to live through your death/Olga Jitlina; Purification/Veronica Rudyeva-Ryazantseva; Vertigo/Kirill Shuvalov.*



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