



Vincent Geyskens
Tâches de beautés 3 (moles) | 2000
Oil on canvas | 75 x 60 cm |
© photo: Galerie Annette De Keyser

demands of a new society. Here, the viewer is confronted with violence, aggression, escapism, outsider culture, loneliness and the individualisation of experience. Between the Urbanscape and the Innerscape, a third section reveals a more committed way of ad-



Els Dietvorst
Filmstill from "Song for the Prize of a Goat" | 2002 | DVD

Artists

■ Bayerstrasse

Reflections on Identity, Globalisation and Integration

Urbanscape | Didier Marcel (FR) | Maria Papadimitriou (GR) | Miha Štrukelj (SI) | Melita Couta (CY) | Anne Daems (BE) | Richard Billingham (GB) | Anna Malagrida (ES) | Otto Snoek (NL)

Innerscape | Alexandra Vajd/Hynek Alt (SI) | Brunella Longo (IT) | Panayiotis Michael (CY) | Claire Harvey (GB) | Vincent Geyskens (BE) | Enrique Marty (ES) | Els Dietvorst (BE) | Jesús Palomino (ES)

Socioscape | Antonio Riello (IT) | Hussein Chalayan (CY) | Marc Bijl (NL) | Mark Titchner (GB) | Róza El-Hassan (HU)

■ Erhardtstrasse

Identity Fusion | p2p

Identity Fusion | Nevin Aladag (DE) | Asta Gröting (DE) | Regina Möller (DE) | Natascha Sadr Haghighian (DE) | Luchezar Boyadjiev (BG) | Kalin Serapionov (BG) | Pravdoliub Ivanov (BG) | Daniel Knorr (DE/RO) | Lia Perjovschi (RO) | Anca Gyemant (RO) | Maria Crista (RO) | Rodica Tache (RO) | Matei Bejenaru (RO)

p2p | Jasper Sebastian Stürup (DK) | Joachim Koester (DK) | Kathrine Ærtebjerg (DK) | Veli Granö (FI) | Jari Silomäki (FI) | Tellervo Kalleinen (FI) | Anu Tuominen (FI) | Jacob Dahlgren (SE) | Frida Fjellman (SE) | Uglycute (SE) | Hale Tenger (TR) | KUTU (TR) | Ahmet Ögüt (TR)

Impressum

Exhibition sites

The exhibition is divided between **two sites**
■ EPO | Erhardtstrasse 27 | 80469 Munich (S-Bahn "Isartor" | U-Bahn 1 and 2, "Fraunhoferstrasse") and
■ EPO | Bayerstrasse 115 | 80335 Munich (S-Bahn "Hackerbrücke" | U-Bahn 4 and 5 "Theresienwiese")

Information

Tel. +49-89-2399 1813/4 | <http://epart.epo.org> | e-mail: epart@epo.org

Organiser

European Patent Office | Principal Directorate Communication
Project management | Monica Poalas
Exhibition management | Erika Wäcker-Babnik
General coordination | Axel Hahnemann/Mano Giesen
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Title: Kalin Serapionov | The Hot Soup and My Home Community | 1998
© Photographers and authors | April 2006



Check-in Europe

Reflecting Identities in Contemporary Art

18 May - 13 July 2006
10 am - 5 pm daily

European Patent Office | Munich |
Bayerstrasse 115 & Erhardtstrasse 27

Check-in Europe

Reflecting Identities in Contemporary Art

What does identity mean in the Europe of today? Is there such a thing as a 'European identity', in an age of economic globalisation and mass migration, mixing cultures and languages? What are the criteria that define the sense of belonging to a particular society or sphere?

The spontaneous feeling of rootedness, in the cultural forms of everyday life, in a particular social group and local community, has been replaced by a continual process of extracting, reinterpreting and recombining elements of past identities to form a new whole. Concepts such as ethnicity and nationality are increasingly being questioned and deconstructed, yet the idea of a cultural memory persists, as a structure of feeling which emerges over time and defines a particular group. Identity arises from the interaction of the private with the public, with all their intermediate forms. The relationship between these spheres is increasingly governed by the media, as the membrane which allows the private to permeate into the public realm (for example, in the television talk show), while hinting at a sense of connection, a consensus residing in the mainstream culture which makes the individual part of a wider group. The contemporary relevance of this topic, coupled with next year's 30th anniversary of the creation of the European Patent Office,

provided the impetus for launching this exhibition project, over a two-year period, to investigate identities in Europe.

The heart of the project is a two-part exhibition of contemporary art works from the EPO's 31 member states.

Part 1, under the title *Check-in Europe – Reflecting Identities in Contemporary Art* presents a total of 47 artists who approach the central topic from widely differing angles. There are to be seen works from all medias, such as paintings, drawings, photos, installations and videos.

The exhibition has been assembled by five international curators: Beral Madra (Turkey), Erno Vroonen (Belgium), Marketta Seppälä (Finland)/Veronica Wiman (Sweden) and Marius Babias (Romania/Germany).

Different as the various artistic positions may be, this survey of current European art can be taken as a seismographic indicator of particular trends. The viewer finds parallels and oppositions, similarities and differences, which point towards specific nuances of tone and mood, in individual terms, but also at the national level and in the context of Europe as a whole.

Munich, April 2006



Pravdoliub Ivanov
Confusion | 2002 | installation (carpet/wall)



Regina Möller
Regina Maria Möller (left) | 1993 | Still Life (middle) | 2001 | Wendemantel (right) | 2004 | © Foto: Fotostudio Bartsch



Natascha Sadr Haghighian
made in [] | 2000 | Black rubbish bag | 6 drawings | 80 x 100 cm

Identity Fusion

Art and culture offer a means of interrogating the construction of identity, ethnicity and nationality and can assist in formulating a positive vision of community in the new Europe of the future. With the eastward expansion of the EU, art is acquiring a new range of tasks.

By engaging critically with European unification, artists can actively shape the process of acculturation and act as mediators between east and west. The works in this exhibition thematise the re-formation and the renewed assertion of 'European identity'.

The development of artistic formats as media for storing knowledge, experience and memory is the focus of this presentation of artists from the EPO member states Romania and Bulgaria, and from Germany, including some who live in Germany but are migrants from elsewhere.

Marius Babias

Marius Babias is art theorist, university lecturer and curator; commissioner of the Romanian Pavilion, Venice Biennale 2005; co-curator of the Periferic Biennale in Iasi (RO), 2006; He lives in Berlin.



Daniel Knorr
Rotterdam 2000 | 2000 | Photography | 50 x 70 cm

p2p

The polarised cultures and environments of countries such as Turkey and the Nordic states are often seen as metaphorical extremes. This provides an interesting point of departure for investigating the current topic of European identity. By focusing on local places and niches in the areas between these southern and northern counter-



Hale Tenger
Can't come close – Dancing Queen | 2005 | Plexiglass | mirrored light bulbs | sound

parts, the exhibition seeks to undermine prevailing ideas about unity and identity in general.

The concept of p2p – "peer-to-peer" – offers a prism through which the conditions for constructing „identity“ in times of globalisation – or "Europeanisation" – can be reflected. It refers to the term



Frida Fjellman
Vulcanos | 2006 | © Frida Fjellman



Anu Tuominen
Unofficially 3 | 2006 | rubber

in the world of IT, exemplifying an open and collaborative landscape where personal expression exists within a context of common understanding and capacity. This perspective encourages both diversity and interaction. It relies on its participants and on sharing within the network, in which individual voices can use a space and assist one another through local variations, so that all forms of expression can be seen as equally important and necessary.

**Marketta Seppälä/
Veronica Wiman**



Jari Silomäki
My Weather Diaries | 2006 | C-Print | 28 x 28 cm

Marketta Seppälä is the director of FRAME (Finnish Fund for Art Exchange), editorial director of Framework: The Finnish Art Review, and curator; commissioner of the Nordic Pavilion, Venice Biennale 2001. She lives in Helsinki and Tampere.

Veronica Wiman is an independent international curator. 2005 De Appel – CTP program in Amsterdam; curator in residency at ISCP, New York and NIFCA, Helsinki; Coordinator for the 7th Istanbul Biennial 2001. She lives in Stockholm.

Reflections on Identity, Globalisation and Integration

This is a selection of current art production by curators from different parts of Europe that presents a merge of the political with the personal, the society with the individual and the exquisite workmanship with an intelligent humour. In this sense, *Check-in Europe* is designed to be an all-encompassing sphere of a multifaceted art production for a sensible, receptive, perceptive and responsive world.

In its design and concept the exhibition in general proclaims: Rejoice the gaze of the artists; they aim to show the present urban realities, the ambiguous momentum of the individual and the effects of the

socio-political transformations and environments on culture in European countries.

In the exhibition launched at the Pschorr Building of EPO, the artists invite the viewer to go through the passageways of multifarious images and objects which display selected fragments of their common world. They will see welfare and established capitalism as well as representation or simulation of poverty. They will glimpse uncanny situations versus the redundancy and glamour of the urban space. They will distinguish private realms and metaphors of the individual ruptured and enchanted in between the local and the global



Antonio Riello
Ceramic Gun | 2006 | Ceramics



Róza El-Hassan
Naivety against racism/dismant | 2003 | paper + collage | 29 x 21 cm



Miha Štrukelj
The City XII | 2005 | Oil on canvas | 170 x 140 cm | Courtesy Galerie Ernst Hilger, Vienna

realities and dreams. They will also recognize the significance of collective memory as the evidence of continuity. They will walk from individual to social positions of dislocation, from universal insecurity and alienation to metaphors and phenomena of human thinking, soul and psychology. Among the common concerns, problems and dilemmas, they will also discover through these works ordinary details of the daily life. Produced with interdisciplinary technologies and languages, these paintings, drawings, photography, post-media and computer manipulated photography as well as installations create either disposed or transgress images and post-pop-art kind black humor or they are pathos-filled and reflect an elegant sense of colour, texture, and shape.



Hussein Chalayan
Abandoned Airplane | 2004 | Digital print

It might vibrate with romanticism or idealism, but I still would like to say that in the global continuous-chaos we are living in, the sphere of this exhibition somehow propose the possibility of different thinking and behaviour in order to move off from the edge of the abyss.

Beral Madra

Beral Madra is art critic, author, university lecturer and international curator, directing BM Contemporary Art Center (since 1990). Coordinator of 1st (1987) and the 2nd (1989) Istanbul Biennale; several times commissioner of the Pavilion of Turkey, Venice Biennale; president of AICA, Turkey. She lives in Istanbul.

Urbanscape, Innerscape, Socioscape

The PschorrHöfe part of the EPO's exhibition *Check-in Europe* exemplifies three different approaches to the reflection of identities. At the entrance to the exhibition is the "Urbanscape" section, confronting the viewer with images of various architectural environments and questioning how our society represents itself vis-à-vis

the "other" and where the limits of integration lie in our everyday environment.

There follows a series of more personal reactions to the idea of a unified, or uniform, world. This section, called "Innerscape", shows various ways of finding a balance between the ego and the



Anna Malagrida
Without title | Interiores 2000 - 2002 | C-Print | 100 x 140 cm



Otto Snoek
FUN! | 2001 | C-Print on dibond | 50 x 75 cm