



CATALINA NICULESCU/WORKS



CATALINA NICULESCU

Born 1978 in Bucharest, Romania
lives and works in London/ UK

EDUCATION

- 2008 MFA Slade School of Art, London, UK
2005 Diploma in Fine Art, Academy of Art and Design,
Offenbach am Main, Germany

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Collection of Natural Environments and Experimental Habitats,
Niklas Schechinger Fine Art, Berlin, Germany
Cité Radieuse, Milton Keynes Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK (screening)
Rectangular forms and other shapes, GAD, Marseille, France
2009 Catalina Niculescu, Riflemaker Gallery, London, UK

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 Jump Cut, Dialectic Dream, The Barber Shop, Lisbon, Portugal
Physical Center, Yinka Shonibare's Space, London, UK
2010 Catalina Niculescu & Rachel Champion, Copenhagen Pl., London, UK
Crash Taste, Vasarely Foundation, Aix-en-Provence, France
TINAG Festival, London, UK
Destroying Public Harmony, Museum Brukenthal, Sibiu, Romania
Catalina Niculescu and Alex Hartley, Liangwest, London, UK
Trace, Shanhe Museum, Hangzhou, China
Musrara Mix Art Festival, Jerusalem, Israel
Sala d' attesa, Cinema Teatro Sarti, Ravenna, Italy
2009 Game People Play, Homeprojects, Milan, Italy
Normal Service Will Resume, Wolstenholme Projects, Liverpool, UK
Closed Forever, Autoitalia, London, UK
The Culture Industry at VOX, Athens, Greece
Giatrakou 28, Remap (parallel to 2nd Athens Biannual), Athens, Greece
After The Curtain Falls, Wolstenholme Projects, Liverpool, UK
2008 Illuminations, Interval, Manchester, UK
The Rehearsal Room, FormContent, London, UK
Screen Banditas, Edinburgh Film Festival, Edinburgh, UK
The Nothing and the Nothingness, L T Blouin Institute, London, UK
Taenu, Tactile Bosch, Cardiff, UK
Films we like, Plan B, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2007 Trace, Stoltzstrasse I I, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Trace, Woburn Studios, London, UK
2005 Kunsthalle Berlin-Pankow, Berlin, Germany

PUBLICATIONS

- 2011 Turn Press, London, UK
- 2010 Destroying Public Harmony, Pavilion Unicredit, Bucharest, Romania
Trace, Shanhe Museum, Hangzhou, China
7000 Articulations, Marseilles, France
Domusweb, Milan, Italy
- 2009 The Evening Standard, London, UK
The Daily Post, Liverpool, UK
The Independent, London, UK
- 2008 IRP, London, UK

AWARDS/ RESIDENCIES

- 2010 Arts Council England, Grants for the Arts, London, UK
- 2010 Triangle France Residency, Marseilles, France

THE RITE OF SPRING



**AN INSTALLATION BY CATALINA NICULESCU
PERFORMED BY
MATTHEW LEE KNOWLES/ CATALINA NICULESCU
4.58 MIN/ PIANO/ SLIDE PROJECTORS/ 2008**

ARTISTIC STATEMENT

Absurd and strangely poignant, Catalina Niculescu's practice exists in the space between performance and documentation, between the live and the mediated. Seemingly impulsive responses to the places she encounters result in a series of interferences with architecture and urban structures, recorded and sparsely edited to create enigmatic, transferable events in film, video and photography.

Ever present in her work her actions are frequently short interventions that would remain overlooked, were it not for the presence of the camera. To present this back to the viewer in the gallery suggests that otherwise something of importance would have been missed. What that something is, or what it means, opens the work up to a variety of possible readings and equally manages to frustrate a definite interpretation while consistently engaging the viewer through their simple realization.

Formal framing encourages a theatrical sense to these often-slight episodes, revealing a peculiar relationship between the moving body and the static environment. The absence of a camera person or crew adds to the urgency and intimacy of these unrehearsed scenes inducing an air of mischief to the performance that belies a complex idea employing simple means to powerful effect. Although the projected moving image is looped it is the internal loop located in the editing of live episodes that structures the work.

In exhibitions Niculescu's work is presented as installations, live performances take place as a series of collaborative and improvised shadow plays in large scale slide projections of urban landscape settings. The artist cuts classical music scores into sections and passes the geometrical shaped elements onto musicians (e.g. piano player, beat boxer, trombone player) for interpretation. Together the performers generate a composition marked by the sound of scissors, rips of paper, moments of silence and by visibly and audibly adding or extracting melody. The imagery converges and diverges with the soundtrack creating an audio-visual collage of projected film, slides and resonance.

Further performances include e.g. *Blackout*, set in a slide installation which the artist projects as a black and white slide onto a white canvas. Related achromatic objects support the environment and the character of the image. During the live performance Niculescu flamboyantly paints the canvas black with wide, energetic brush strokes and thus turns the entire scenery into its negative image.

Cinematic, black and white silkscreen posters, produced to mark each performance and subsequent film, reinforce the idea of a missed encounter. Reminiscent of posters advertising films in the 1960s they in fact publicize an event that has already happened, presented in the gallery they are artefacts of the event they explain. More than documentation however, these pieces condense both the durational aspect of the work into a single frame and its conceptual concerns to the level of a sign, echoing Boris Groys statement that "artistic documentation, whether real or fictive, is primarily narrative, and thus evokes the unrepeatability of living time".



VALHALLA/ INSTALLATION/ 2009





VALHALLA/ SLIDE/ 16 MM FILM/ PERFORMANCE





BLACKOUT/ INSTALLATION/ PERFORMANCE/ 2009





A GOLDEN THREAD/ INSTALLATION/ 2009





GUEST/ VIDEO INSTALLATION/ 4.10 MIN LOOP/ 2008





TO THE END OF THE NIGHT/VIDEO INSTALLATION/
5.12 MIN/ LOOP/ 2009

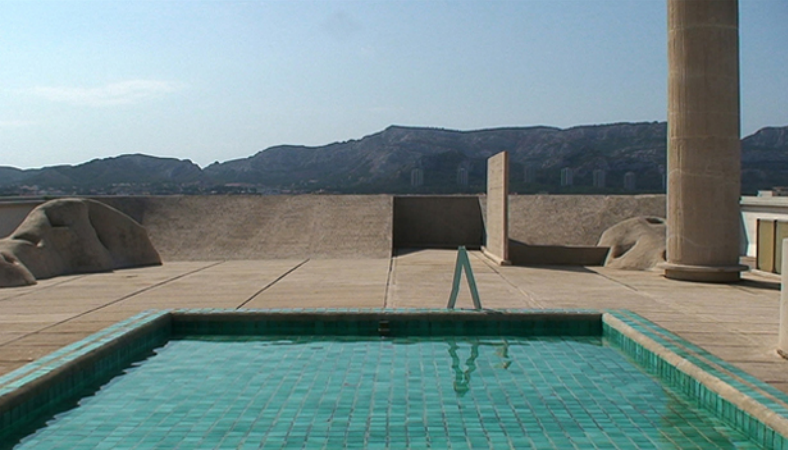
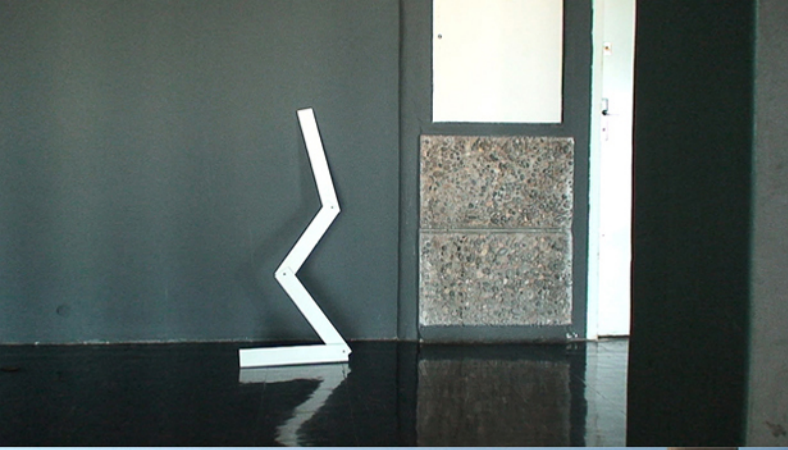


SCHALL UND RAUCH/VIDEO INSTALLATION/
4.50 MIN LOOP/ 2009

PRELUDE



**A VIDEO INSTALLATION/
WITH AND BY CATALINA NICULESCU
MARSEILLES/ STAIRWAYS/
3.35 MIN LOOP/ HDV/ 2010**



CITE RADIEUSE (EPISODES 1, 2, 3, 4) / HD VIDEO / 21 MIN / 2009 - 2010





NEUSCHWANSTEIN/ HD VIDEO/ 6.50 MIN/ 2009 - 2011

