

## **MARENKA GABELER**

Holanda / Holland

### **NOTAS BIOGRÁFICAS**

Marenka Gabeler (Holanda, 1975) que con 32 años es la más veterana de los artistas seleccionados para esta muestra, se vio arropada por algunos de los personajes más significativos del panorama artístico internacional, mucho antes incluso de haber completado su formación académica. En 1998, Marenka inició "The School Uniform Project", en colaboración con el célebre dúo Glibert & George. Recientemente, la obra de Gabeler ha merecido el interés de críticos internacionales quienes han incluido su trabajo en muestras colectivas junto a la obra de artistas consolidados tales como Sarah Lucas, Gavin Turk y Gilbert & George.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

Marenka Gabeler (1975, Holland), who graduated from MA Painting at the Royal College of Art with distinction, producing a series of works which curators hastened to include in group shows alongside other consolidated artists such as Sarah Lucas, Gavin Turk and Gilbert & George, whom she completed one of her projects with. She has won numerous awards and participated in exhibitions across Europe.

## MARENKA GABELER

### Artist Statement

I am interested in the idea of memory and how memory is constructed. Marcel Proust is 'ever nostalgic for a moment that points towards an event that never happened. He founded his "search for lost time" on a systematic process of forgetting what happened to nihilism described by Nietzsche and elaborated by Sartre that is the foundation of an existence comprehension of the self and the world' (The Architectural Uncanny). I am also interested in the building as a body with memory, and in the idea of the building's psychology (for example, the façade is the face of the house, the attic is the place in the mind where you put things to be forgotten, the basement is of the body, a chest is where secrets are kept). The chapel is the most private place in the house. In the body it is the place of spirituality and morality. If that is inside, but outside it is the place of conflict and oppression, chaos of man.

Marcel Proust's character 'remembers something to later understand it a different light'. In Can Marqués I want to create memories of today, working with ideas of inside and outside and the poetics of space, using religion as its thread (Majorca's struggle throughout history with religions), jumping back and forth between memories and contemplations on religion today and in the past.

My work deals with masks, the artificial, with hiding and revealing, with identity. I work in different media, exploring the subject through performance, photography, video, drawing and painting. I am like a method actor in that I undergo my subjects (I walked around in a school uniform for a year to explore British culture, I wore a white mask, a plaster cast of my face, for two weeks to experience what it is like not to have a face and how this affects interaction, I re-enacted a Goya painting by covering myself with a white sheet walking blinded through a train compartment). In my paintings I have an interest in art history and play around with the representation of Old Master paintings. I see paintings as masks and objects with their own life. The act of painting is complex and it becomes an act of covering and erasing, masks building up into faces that can never be grasped. Site specific work that I create always has to do with mixing the past and present into absurd reality.

## **MARENKA GABELER**

CV

### **Education**

2004 – 2006 Royal College of Art, London, England. MA Painting (Distinction)

2000 Masterclass Photography, Workingmen's College, London.

1999 Photoshop Course, SKVR Rotterdam, Netherlands

1997 – 1998 Guildhall University, London, England. Erasmus Exchange Program. Fine Art: Painting, Photography, Graphics, Time Based Media

1993 – 1997 Utrecht School of Art, Netherlands. Teaching Course Art Education. Diplome, June 1997 (UK PGCE/FE equivalent)

### **Exhibition**

2006 Underground, groups show, London, England

Arcade, group show, London, England

Zur Gluecklichen Borste, group show, Hamburg, Germany

Generation, degree show, Royal College of Art, London

2005 Interim Show Royal College of Art, London

Les Shops a Let dans l'Air We Breath (sympathy powder, dust particles and the brilliant mid summer sun), group show, London

Kersvers, group show, Amsterdam, Netherlands

A sharp intake of breath, group show, Contemporaryartwest, London

2004 Series of performances as The Hormones, punk group, London

2003 Detour, Group Show with students from the RCA, Neon Gallery, London

The Hormones, performance, Fordham Gallery, London

2002 Drawings, Group Show, Vertigo Gallery, London

The Hormones, performance, Museum of Installations, London

2001 I am someone else, Group Show, Amsterdam

2000 Paris Photo, International Photography Fair, Louvre, Paris, France

Nieuwspoor, Dutch Young Talent, The Hague, Netherlands

Gabeler- Tollens, Gallery Serieuze Zaken, Amsterdam

1999 Lightning 6, exhibition and performance at Museum 'Beyerd', Breda, Netherlands

Kunstrai 1999, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Art Primeur 1999, Group Show young talent, Center of Visual Art, Dordrecht, Netherlands

More Oeuvre, Gallery Serieuze Zaken, Amsterdam

1998 Oeuvre, International Group Show, Gallery Serieuze Zaken, Amsterdam

Degree Show, Guildhall University, London

Degree Show, Utrecht School of Art, Netherlands

### **Awards and Collections**

2006 Parallel Prize

2004- 2006 Projectsubsidie, Fonds BKVB

2000 Startstipendium, Fonds BKVB

1998 Caldic Collection, Netherlands

1997 Nominated for Piet Bakker Prize

### **Publications**

May 2001 Posing, photo book, edition 5000

Dec 1998 The School Girl's Diary, book, edition 20

### **Future Projects:**

In September I will be in a group-show in Paris, called 'Divination'. "Divination" is a travelling exhibition, held in artists' run spaces in a number of European cities. 'The artists exhibiting are from different nationalities and cultures, living in or passing through London, many of whom operate internationally, and when travelling carry their diverse cultural baggage with them' (Emily Collard)

The show traveled from Hamburg (May 07) to Paris (September 07) to London (Jan 08). In this travelling exhibition I work with Lucy Pawlak on a collaborative performance piece that continuously evolves specifically to the space and location.

For more info see [www.divination.org.uk](http://www.divination.org.uk)

In November 07 I will have my first solo exhibition in London at the Museum of Installation (MOI). The owners of the gallery create non-commercial exhibitions of young artists who make installation work. Their current project is a research into artists for whom concepts surrounding 'identity' are a key to making work. For example one of the artists, showing in September, takes on different identities when working and thus several different bodies of work (paintings), seemingly schizophrenic, develop.

In Jan 08 I will show again in the Divination exhibition, this time in London.

**Prizes and Collections:**

Winner of the Parallel Prize for Painting (2006)

Awarded Project Subsidie Fonds BKVB (2004-2006)

Awarded Startstipendium Fonds BKVB (2000)

Nomination Piet Bakker Prize (1997)

Works purchased by Collection Alison Jacques, Collection Torch Gallery and Caldic Collection