

Press Release

Mark Wallinger | *spacetime*

May 20 - June 28, 2003

Opening: Saturday, May 17, 2003

We are delighted to be able to present Mark Wallinger's first solo gallery exhibition in Germany. Wallinger questions social and national identities, often with a keen and subversive sense of irony. In „*spacetime*“ the artist takes a site of recent German history as the starting point for his investigations.

„spacetime continues my preoccupation with thresholds. It is a meditation on the borders of sense using a road sign and two photographs of Glienicke bridge.

„Henceforth space by itself, and time by itself, are doomed to fade away into mere shadows, and only a kind of union of the two will preserve an independent reality.“
(Hermann Minkowski)

Spacetime was a term coined by the mathematician Minkowsky in his wish to make Einstein's theory of relativity available to a wider audience. Since there are three dimensions of space, and one dimension of time, spacetime has four dimensions.

Space and time as experienced by us everyday are the defining conditions of our existence; they give us our measure and our identity. Space and time have their own discreet systems of representation. To understand otherwise is to will a kind of synesthesia: the displacement of one kind of sensory experience for another.

Like being in two places at the same time, East and West synchronised their watches and lived for awhile in a parallel universes. My time and space are the name on a sign, a line which then denotes itself as no time / no space / no thing but this: Mark Wallinger. (I have no business being here.) The entry and exit to this place is the time it takes to expose the film - the instant I pressed the shutter photons hit the photographic emulsion at the speed of light. Whether the shutter was set at 1 / 2 / 4,000 of a second is immaterial. The two cars cross the divide simultaneously. If they could reach the speed of light at the border they would disappear like the deLorean in Back to the Future. Seeking to escape the nightmare of history and waking up to oblivion.“ (Mark Wallinger, Berlin, May 2003)

Mark Wallinger currently lives in Berlin. 2001/02: DAAD Artists Programme, Berlin. 2001: The 49th Venice Biennale, British Pavilion; „No Man's Land“, The Whitechapel Art Gallery, London. 2000: „Ecco Homo“, Trafalgar Square, London and Vienna Secession. 1999: „Lost Horizon“, Museum für Gegenwartskunst, Basel. 2003: „Body Matters“, The National Museum of Contemporary Art, Oslo; „nation“, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt; Art Unlimited, Basel 03; Bodysong, ICA London; 2004: „Contemporary Art in the Traditional Museum“, Russian Museum, St Petersburg. From 28 May - 3 August you can see other works by Mark Wallinger in the exhibition „Warum! Ebenbild - Abbild - Selbstbild“, Martin-Gropius-Bau in Berlin.

Sebastian Diaz Morales | A K Dolven | Tracey Emin | Michel François | Meschac Gaba | Hans Hemmert | Jonathan Hernández | Thomas Huber | Anne-Marie Jugnet & Alain Clairet | Aernout Mik | Jean-Luc Moulène | Peter Pommerer | Bojan Sarcevic | Erik Schmidt | Christian Schumann | Thomas Schütte | Santiago Sierra | Fred Tomaselli | Sophie Tottie | Janaina Tschäpe | Luc Tuymans | **Mark Wallinger**