

19 mars – 19 april 2009

IN CHARACTER / ROLE CONTROL

Saskia Holmkvist



0047 are proud to present the Swedish artist Saskia Holmkvist's first exhibition in Norway.

Saskia Holmkvist's recent films *In Character* and *Role Control*, both from 2008, are complementary inasmuch as they reciprocally develop a narrative that explores ideas of credibility, social strategies and the way we engage in role-playing in certain situations of conflict.

The two works originate in four kinds of 'conversation situations' with diametrically opposite aims, dealing with interpersonal and political positions: the job interview, the interrogation, couple therapy and political arbitration. These situations where relationships are worked on and negotiated and which require strategies for productive dialogue and conflict management are woven together in Saskia Holmkvist's work into an investigation of the factors that define and control power relations and how these relations can be negotiated. The works ask questions about the fine line between dialogue and the demonstration of power, both at the individual level and in the political arena.

In the films Saskia Holmkvist has made use of staged situations and actors who, in the course of the films, gradually swap positions and force the conversation over a boundary where the dialogue changes meaning and forces the viewer towards a new interpretation of the situation.

In Character and *Role Control* are produced by Index – The Swedish foundation for contemporary Art i Stockholm, in collaboration with Arnolfini in Bristol and Frankfurter Kunstverein.

In Character, 2008, 9 min

Role Control, 2008, 8 min

The exhibition is supported by Arts Council Norway

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