

Permit F

by Al Fadhil

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Film data

Year:
2008

Format:
HD video, colour, stereo sound

Duration:
10:20 minutes

Credits

Cameraman Marco Beltrametti

Photo by G. Schera

Editing Antonella Kurzen

Produced by Fine Arts Unternehmen

Synopsis

This is a video documentary of the performance entitled Permit F, realised by Al Fadhil inside the "Shifting Identities" exhibition at the Zürich Kunsthaus during the summer of 2008. In permit F, the artist responding to the project in spirit, seeks to put into focus an important aspect of Swiss society today, the presence of political refugees. In fact, the Swiss Confederation is known as a land of asylum. Because of its policy of neutrality and solidarity laws, Switzerland has hosted in its cantons many people who have left their country of origin for political or religious reasons, or because they belong to certain ethnic or racial groups. In the Swiss parliament, particular laws were enacted in order to allow the temporary admittance of refugees, according to their situation. The permit granted to these refuge-seekers falls within category F.

But this is a controversial permit, which allows only limited freedom, and often its rules are not respected, and their implementation contradicts the principles of transparency and solidarity.

To realize the performance, the artist invited a group of exiles, with their friends and relatives, to a peaceful and creative public demonstration, which took the form of a march from the centre of Zürich to Kunsthaus, terminating inside the museum under the large canvasses of Ferdinand Holder.

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Artist's info



Al Fadhil is an artist whose work is not limited by any artistic boundaries; his artistic practices include painting, drawing, performance, installations and video. He was born on Basrah, Iraq, in 1995 and currently resides in Lugano, Switzerland, and Berlin, Germany. He studied at the Institute of Fine Art in Baghdad, and at the Academy of Fine Art in Florence. The artist has participated in many international art events and workshop residences. His work is to be found both in public and in private collections.

Activity 2008-2007

2008

Shifting identities - Swiss Art Now

"Permit F" Performance

Curator; Mirjam Varadinis

KunstHaus Zürich, Switzerland

June – August

Forced residence

"Slide show, talking, photo and video screening"

at privat ateliér, Kottbusser Tor Berlin, Germany

April - June

2007

Festival Aurora 2007)

"Resistance(s) II" project.

Novembre, Norwich, UK

Emergency Biennale 9th stop

"10th Istanbul Biennale "

Curator: Evelyne Jouanno

Sept – Nov Istanbul, Turkey

Mutamenti Project

installation

Curator: Boris Magrini

Castel Grande Bellinzona, Switzerland

August - November

I.R.A.Q. – I Repeat A Question

Performance (off)

52nd Venice Biennale

June 7.8.9. 2007

Baghdad Café

Under A New Sky

Curator: Peter Lewis

Ladypool Road, Birmingham, UK

March – April

Resistance(s)

Middle East Artisit video screening

Curator: Lowave

- La Générale, Paris

- Centre Pompidou, Paris

May - April

The Nightly News

Curators: Kathleen Goncharov

and Stephan Stoyanov

Luxe Gallery, NY

January – Februray

Made in Iraq

Video screening

Play Gallery, Berlin

february

If you see something say something

Curator: Zanny Begg

- Mori Gallery, Harbour

- Gallery 4a, Sydney

- Chrissie Cotter Gallery, Camperdown,

Australia

January - March

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