



xxx (solitary act on Rue d'Amsterdam in Paris on 25 June 2007)

location: Paris, France

witness of act: 46 digital photos

2010

act / installation (81 slides, carousel slide projector, podium)

On the map of Paris, Mako Ishizuka found a street called Amsterdam, the city where she spent three years and formed a strong attachment to. The street locates in the European quarter where many streets are named after other European cities. She started to fantasise about Amsterdam just looking at one line on the map. She decided to make a solitary act, a round trip going up and down the street and taking photos of anything that made her think of Amsterdam.

The point of the act was to project her idea of Amsterdam to a Paris street, vision of one place to another physical place. The street did not appear typical Paris that tourists would dream: She saw straightforward mentality with rough aesthetic that she misses from Amsterdam. Apart from cliché-Amsterdam and views of urban landscape that are common in any big cities, street furniture that are instead in Paris style conversely provided her the delusion of Amsterdam streets. The walk took approximately 45 minutes, and she took 46 photos during the journey.

The photos became the witness of the act. It captures the sequences of what the artist observed during the walk where she made association between two different cities, often on a personal level.

For the exhibition at Gallery Naïve, the photos were transferred to 35mm slides and presented with a carousel projector on a tall podium. Extra 35 empty slides were added between the ones with images in such a way that a round of slide projection reflected the rhythm of walking and taking photos during the solitary act.

