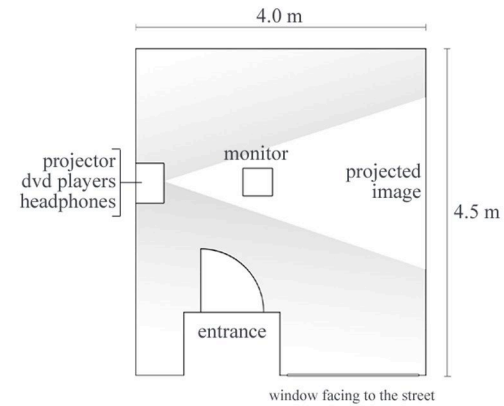




Sbe has her own story to tell

2006

video installation (5 min 55 sec; video projector, monitor, podium, 2 DVD players, headphones)
Malmö, Sweden



It is a video installation that originates from my strategy of how to cope with the language barrier in my everyday life: When I listen to somebody talking and cannot follow, I fill the gap with imagination and create my own version.

The composition of the installation repeats the structure of this gap and filling. The work was designed originally for Swedish speakers, so that they slowly discover the text on the monitor does not necessarily corresponds to what the speaker tells when a Swedish lady narrates her story.

LOOKING THROUGH GLASSES An assortment of personal stories about a pair of glasses, narrated by 6 people of different nationalities, living abroad where local language is not their mother tongue. Speakers have my glasses in hands, project own memory of any glasses, and tell story in their language.

BLACK BOX THAT INTERPRETS English text on monitor is not subtitle for the talks, but my own interpretation of them. With the talks in unfamiliar languages, I tried to pick keywords and use my imagination, reading gestures and facial expressions, tone of voice, and projecting my idea about the speakers.

VOID IN THE COMMUNICATION The elements of the video are presented separately in the space: the image is projected on a wall with video projector, the text is shown with white text on black background on a monitor, and the sound is presented with headphones. The monitor presenting the text interrupts a part of the projection image. Absorbing the unfocused image of the speakers' hands and glasses on its black surface, the monitor creates the missing space in the projection image on the wall.

(left page) installation view at Galleri Ping-Pong in Malmö, Sweden (right page, upper left) composition of the installation (right page, upper right to lower right) six speakers - Japanese, German, Swedish, American, Kenyan, and French.

