

IMMIGRATION IN SUITCASE



at MONTAG MODUS I; CHB (Collegium Hungaricum Berlin), Berlin, Germany – 4 May 2015 / <https://youtu.be/KpXADREmnn4>

Description:

It could be done directly on a street or in gallery space: in the open luggage-carrier a very small and old red car is visible closed suitcase. In the suitcase or box there is an alive man in embryonic position, who is the author of the project – Neno. Inside the box he is filming himself with video camera, which broadcasts video signal to a multimedia projector (beamer) or TV screen. The image of the sweating and suffering man in very uncomfortable position of the body in very tight space is projected on a big screen or wall or on TV monitor.

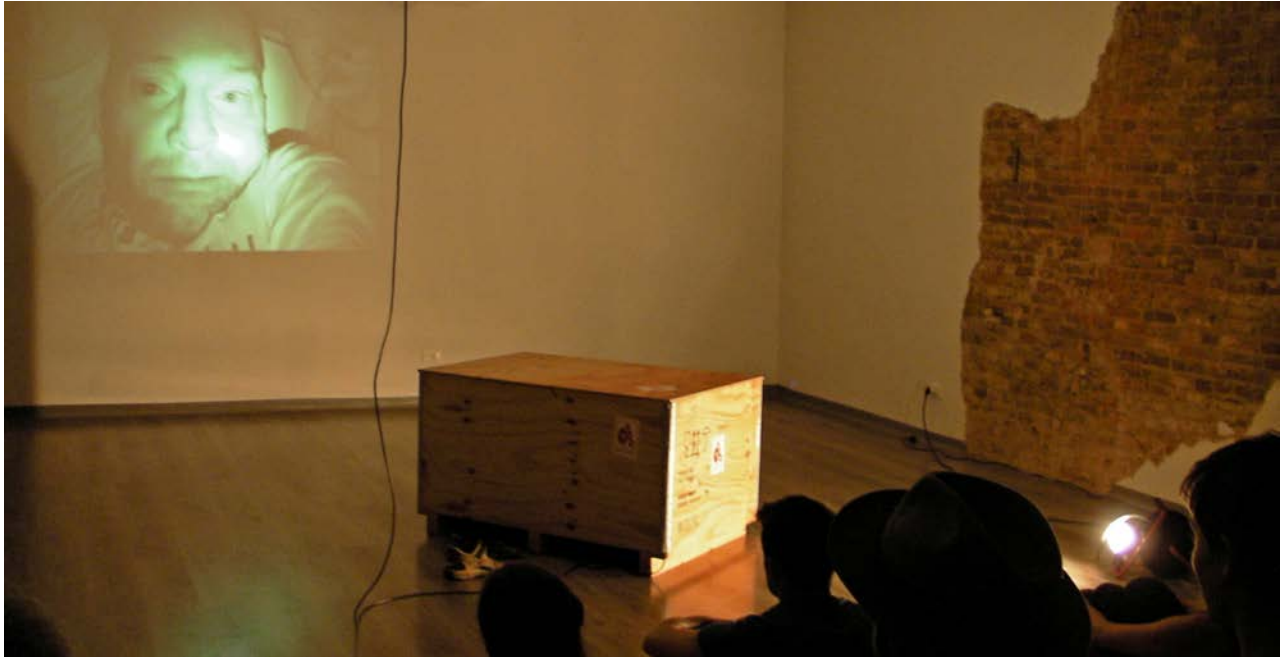
For example, the performance can be done also in cardboard box for home electric tool as big washing machine or similar - it is not obligation to be in suitcase (travel chest) or luggage carrier of a car (please, see the attached photos and the video-documentation!).

I plan do the proposed video-performance, around 30-35 minutes but not less and later to exhibit a video-documentation of the performance. So, I need beamer or TV screen and media or DVD player. Also I need beamer or TV screen for the performance itself as well as come cables, flash-light. For this public environment performance, I will also need probably some other things and materials - some of them I'll take with me as camera and flash-light, other can be rented or covered by the budget expenses (if there is such possibility), as stickers, which I designed for the performance (please, see the attached photos!).



The performance at the opening of Kaunas in Art: "Contexts" festival for contemporary art, Kaunas, Lithuania, 11 December 2008

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The performance at TPA: Torino Performance Festival; gallery Green Box, Turin, ITALY – 14 June 2013 <https://vimeo.com/69328038>

Conception:

For different reasons, outcast from their native born places, many people undertake dangerous journeys with the purpose to find better place for living. Many of them die during the way, traveling in suitcases, luggage-carriers and containers. Neno makes this performance as a research, to understand: what is it, which force so many people to immigrate in other country. What is the value of the emigration? And what is the value of the “better” life/ better?

Based on the idea that we unconsciously feel empathy with the characters in movie or in the picture, we watch; or in the book, we read, this performance is a result of the author's desire to identify himself with the immigrants and to drive the spectators to put themselves in the place of the immigrants and to feel their suffering.

Not the governments, which accept them, but rather the governments, which force them go abroad, have to think on this problem, because the main reason for immigration is not the availability of good conditions in some countries but the absence of same conditions in some other countries.

Neno believes that there are a lot of people, who sympathize and help the immigrants, but he also believes that this is not enough. He feels himself close to this theme, because before years he had a friend, who immigrated in Germany in a suitcase.



The performance at the opening of REDline exhibition in Porto, Portugal, 23 October 2008.

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This image is from the real time screening of the performance in Shenzhen (23 October 2009) <https://vimeo.com/17814039>

Material required:

- a big suitcases (a traveler's chest) OR a baggage carrier a small and old red car OR cardboard box for home electric tool as big washing machine or similar;
- an old video camera (for the performance - I have it);
- beamer (under rent for rehearsal and performance itself);
- long cables to connect the beamer with camera or other things (I have them);
- or a video transmitter and a video receiver (for the performance – **optional**);
- electric torch (I have it);
- stickers (please, see the attached photos and files) around 1000 stickers to be given to the visitors;
- a pillow and a blanket for inside (**optional** - in case the weather is cold);
- photo and video documentation;
- maybe some other, but small things, which I forget now.



The performance at Shenzhen (23 October 2009) <https://vimeo.com/17814039>

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The performance at Shenzhen (23 Oct. 09) <https://vimeo.com/17814039>

Previous participations:

10 November 2017 - **30th INSTANTS VIDÉO FESTIVAL**, CINÉMA LES VARIÉTÉS, curators: Naïk M'Sili and Marc Mercier, (catalog), Marseille, France; <https://youtu.be/v65HMdTH2C>

4 May 2015 – **MONTAG MODUS**: gallery CHB (Colegium Hungaricum Berlin), curator: Lena Szirmay-Kalos; Berlin, Germany; <https://youtu.be/KpXADREmnn4>

3 July 2014 – **ZooArt2014**: site-specific exhibition in former zoo gardens, (catalog), curator: Michela Giuggia, Cuneo, ITALY

14 June 2013 – **TPA**: Torino Performance Festival; gallery Green Box, Turin, ITALY; curators: Manuela Maco and Guido Salvini; <http://vimeo.com/69224004>

8 June 2013 – **OTETZ PAISIY**: the street festival, curator: Stefka Tzaneva Plovdiv, BULGARIA, <http://opsfestival.com/>

August 2010 – **AUGUST IN ART**: International Biennial for Visual Arts, curator Maria Vasileva, (catalog), Varna, BULGARIA

23 – 25 October 2009 – **THE INVISIBLE GENERATION IN SHENZHEN**: Vision Forum in 4 consecutive cities; curators Per Huttner and Daniele Balit, Shenzhen, China; <http://www.visionforum.eu/>
<http://theinvisiblegeneration.blogspot.com/>

11 - 13 December 2008 – **KAUNAS IN ART "CONTEXTS"**: festival for contemporary art, curator Krzysztof Stanislawski, (catalog), Kaunas, Lithuania, <https://vimeo.com/61336024>

23 October 2008 – **BORDERING ON US: 2008** year's edition of REDline is framed by the ideas of community, identity and representation. Porto, Portugal <http://redline08.wordpress.com/03-exposicao/>



In 2007, before the realization of the project, Neno Belchev's ex-girlfriend Pavlina Mladenova demonstrated the idea, because he was too big for the biggest suitcase, which they had in their home.