

## Somewhere far far away

with Videos by **Violana Murataj (AL)**, **Dritan Mesarea (AL)**  
and **Damir Očko (HR)**

curated by Adela Demetja, artist and curator from Albania

Exhibition in the shop windows of the lothringer13/laden  
14 December 2007 – 2 February 2008  
Visible day and night

Opening Thu, 13 December, 20 p.m.



Lothringer 13/ laden presents the work of three young artists as part of the December Program. *Somewhere far far away* features recent works of two Albanian and one Croatian artists. These young artists, whose thinking and preoccupations are strongly related to the society in which they live, showcase in their works a representative part of the logic and concepts which play a significant role in their development as artists. *Somewhere far far away* is a place that in fact doesn't exist in a permanent and real way. This place is an eternal research process for every human being, especially so for the artist. The process of thinking, which is a continuing search for this place, modifies itself and transforms into an art work- that is product of the process itself. *Somewhere far far away* can be everything, everywhere, anytime, but in this case what is materializes and turns it into a visible and understandable form, is the personal and real relationship that the artist creates with this place.

In **Violana Murataj's** case, art is a necessity that flourishes from her individual perception of the world and society - a unique affiliation between her independent inner microcosm and the most intense waves which come from the outside. It's like living a transcendental dream populated with hope and positive will to the extent of obsession. The metamorphosis of the obsession into obligation is one of the strongest driving forces in both her life and her art. In her video *Appel, Heart, Flower* she reflects on the different values of the society in which she has grown up. This intense and poetic work, tells the story of existence itself.

The works of **Dritan Mesarea** show the artist's experience in the place where he lives. The works combine the external reality of the place with the person's subjective feelings about the reality of that specific place. The artist's sensibility, melts into the art work and reaches the viewer through the beautifully simple images and the emotional expansion. Emotion becomes a crucial interpretative tool, which calls not only for your estimation but especially for your feelings. In the simplicity of the video *Waiting* we are reminded the feeling of waiting for something which will never happen. The feeling of searching for something which some times we do not even know what it is. The feeling of the time passing and the increasing distance between us and the world: the people, the time and intention.

Video, film, performance, sculpture, and music are all tools that the Croatian artist **Damir Očko** utilizes in order to grasp the density of a given situation. Working in between the edges of reality

and fiction: he documents reality, while maintaining critical distance from it. Through his focus on cultural transitions through the process of interpreting history as a fact or myth, Damir strives to make us more sensitive to the existence of circumstances and situations we are not always aware of. Adopting his thinking to the given circumstances, space plays host to staged actions and performances, reflecting the environment and time in which they appear. In his most recent works he adopts a poetic assertion, particularly effective at drawing our attention to reflect past, present and future, through his characters that seems to exist in an impossible place despite of everything else going on around them. Damir Očko's new project, developed during his residency at TICA ( Tirana Institute for Contemporary Art) deals with one of the most fascinating myths in the history of our civilization- the myth of Earth being flat. *The end of the world* is a taboo place which has, throughout history, been transposed from myth into a political place. Simultaneously he tries to establish a relationship between the place taboo and the real place.  
[www.damirocko.com](http://www.damirocko.com)

### **Special Events:**

Do, 13.12., 20 p.m. **Artist Talk** with Damir Očko  
**Opening**

Thu, 17.01., 20 p.m. **Albanian Night**  
With music, art, culture and Albanian food

At the same time in **Apollo13: Sandra Filic**

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