

fake or feint – six scenarios on tactics of marking

[A fake or a feint is moving your body when dribbling the soccer ball in such a way that you deceive the defender into thinking you are going to dribble one way but in actuality you dribble the other. In other words, you are attempting to unbalance the defender so that they cannot recover fast enough to catch you as you are dribbling by them.]¹

Marking is a physical act of altering a surface, as for example to spray or write a graffiti onto a wall. Thereby differences can be created or made visible. *fake or feint* takes the concept of marking as a starting point to pose the question of the politics of the surface and the operational modes of aesthetic tactics. Beyond the notion of a mere indication of locations and identities, the aim is to consider marking as an act embedded in a setting of flexible and interwoven elements.

Public spaces, body surfaces and media images are not only areas where social norms and boundaries become manifest. They also provide opportunities for action by marginalised groups. As for example in his essay 'Kool Killer or The Insurrection of Signs' Jean Baudrillard interprets the sudden emergence of graffiti in 70s New York as a perpetuation of the street riots on the level of signs. For debates on body and gender, practices like drag and cross-dressing have become of significant interest. As a play with gender categories they are credited with a potential for subversion. The mask of the Mexican Zapatistas and their spokesman Subcommandante Marcos again is a prominent example how medial regimes of identification can be strategically used and at the same time be undermined. Their camouflage has become a political icon as well as the vehicle of a supra-personal identity.

The associated questions and ambivalences are the motive for *fake or feint* to negotiate figures of marking in a most diverse spectrum, to stage and reinterpret them in the mirror of contemporary art production and to pose the question of their conditions, constraints and potentials in the present.

Five consecutive exhibition scenarios feature contributions by internationally renowned artists dealing with the theme of marking. An additional scenario takes place as a film program at Kino Arsenal at Potsdamer Platz. The exhibitions are accompanied by a series of seminars, lectures, performances and artist talks. A second section of the exhibition space comprises functions of an archive and lecture room, for which the artist **Katrin Mayer** will design a mutable setting. The project is completed by a publication released in Summer 2009.

fake or feint is produced in co-operation with **Kulturforum Berlin Alexanderplatz e.V. (KFBA)** and is funded by **Hauptstadtkulturfonds**.

Scenario 1 (January 10th to February 7th, 2009)

Claude Cahun
Eran Schaerf

Scenario 2 (February 21st to March 21st, 2009)

Kaucyila Brooke
Sofie Thorsen / Katharina Lampert

Scenario 3 (March 9th, 16th and 23rd, 2009)

A film program curated by **Elena Zanichelli** and **Joerg Franzbecker**, taking place at **Kino Arsenal** at Potsdamer Platz.

Scenario 4 (April 4th to May 2nd, 2009)

Amy Granat
Annja Krautgasser
Katrin Mayer

¹ source: *Soccer Success Today – How to play soccer better*;
<http://soccersuccesstoday.blogspot.com/2007/04/dribbling-viwhat-is-fake-feint-fake-or.html>

Scenario 5 (May 16th to June 13th, 2009)

Daniela Comani
Keren Cytter
Heiko Karn

Scenario 6 (June 27th to July 25th, 2009)

e-Xplo
Daniel Knorr
Eske Schlütters / Axel Gaertner

Events and presentations by:

Martin Beck / Johannes Schülein, Elena Esposito, Tom Holert, Jan Kedves, Hanne Loreck, Annette Maechtel, Performerstammtisch, Markus Rautzenberg, Tim Stüttgen, Michael Zinganel

Team:

Joerg Franzbecker with Martin Beck (**curators**), Adrian Bremenkamp (**catalogue and archive**), Katrin Mayer (**exhibition design**), Flo Gaertner (**graphic design**), Elena Zanichelli (**film program**), Bärbel Hartje (**consultant**).

Duration of the project/exhibitions:

January 10th to July 25th, 2009

Supporter: Hauptstadtkulturfonds, Österreichisches Kulturforum Berlin.

Exhibition venues:

Berlin Carré shopping mall at Alexanderplatz, Karl-Liebknecht-Strasse 13, Berlin
Film program: Kino Arsenal, Potsdamer Platz (March 9th, 16th and 23rd, 2009)

For further and more detailed information regarding the scenarios and events look up <http://www.fakeorfeint.org> or contact the project office.

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