

# LALA RAŠČIĆ

SELECTED WORKS

LALA.RASCIC@GMAIL.COM

HTTP://LALARASCIC.COM

## THE INVISIBLES

2005

- drawing installation:  
series of 14 computer drawings
- video, MiniDV/DVD/color/stereo/31'

As in the H.G. Wells novel *The Invisible Man*, the idea of physical invisibility in this project is used as a metaphor for the outsider, the socially outcast individual. The drawings touch upon the various aspects of invisibility: social and civil invisibility, the notion of escape, criminal activities, freedom, identity and the 'what-if' reality of a physically invisible person. Along with the prints, the main part of the project is a video showing a performance of an audio drama of the same name: *The Invisibles*. A story of an invisible family planning to go on a vacation is delivered through a conventional narrative structure. This light satire touches upon the absurdities of contemporary society: the bureaucratic mechanisms, collective paranoia and surveillance systems. This work is neither an audio drama nor a video in the full sense; it lingers as the "other", in between the two genres.



*The Invisibles*, 2005, 31', video still

to watch video excerpt go to:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEuGfXKEfec>



*The Invisibles*, 2005, drawing installation, dimensions variable



*Invisible People*, 2005, K3 ultrachrome print on canvas, 60 x 155 cm

*Invisible Man*, 2005, K3 ultrachrome print on canvas, 60 x 155 cm



## SORRY, WRONG NUMBER 2006

- installation:  
video, MiniDV/DVD/BW/mono, 15'  
customized telephone
- series of drawings, chalk on paper, 76 x 61 cm

*Sorry; Wrong Number* is an interpretation of a famous audio drama from the 40's..

The audio track and the image synchronize only at brief moments. The seeming technical mistake evokes the feel of old time TV.

The moments when image and sound are in sync seem uncanny as it becomes evident that the distorted voices are in fact, belonging to the performer. The impossibility of synchronization of audio with the video and with each other comments on the impossibility of communication, it talks of isolation. The same theme is present in the very narrative of the radio play. The main storyline is about an invalid woman who spends all of her days in her room. Her only link to the outside world is her telephone. One night she gets the wrong connection and overhears a plan for a murder. While desperately trying to warn the police, she realizes that she has overheard the plan for her own murder.



*Sorry Wrong Number*, 2006, 15', video still

to watch video excerpt go to:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djggWZh4Exc>



*Sorry Wrong Number*, 2006, installation views

## EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED

2007

- 5 channel video installation  
Mini DV/DVD/BW/Mono, 10'

*Everything is Connected* is a five-channel video/audio installation. On five monitors five characters are having a conversation. They are bosses of criminal groups. The story is set in a situation where they nameless criminals meet in a nameless space to discuss the fate of an unnamed kidnapped child. The video is black and white, the overall atmosphere evokes the "image" of the 1930's. Apart from costume and the camera work, what links us to this time-period is the media-motif of the audio drama; the characters are actually actors in an audio play. In the isolated ambiance of the anechoic chamber of the recording studio, a plot without a denouement takes place.



*Everything is Connected*, 2007, 5 channel video installation, 10', video still

To watch video excerpt go to:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfE6vyKRCHc>



*Everything is Connected*, 2007,  
5 channel video installation, 10'  
video stills, installation view

## INDIVIDUAL UTOPIAS 2008

- *Individual Utopias*, video/performance, 35', DVD/color/mono
- *Testimonials*, video, 35', DVD/color/mono
- *Terracottas*, 11 baked terracotta reliefs, 35 x 23 cm
- *Characters*, 28 drawings, pencil on paper, 21x29,7 cm
- *Individual Utopias*, artist book

The project *Individual Utopias* is based on a true event that took place in the centers for mental health in Mostar during autumn 2007.

Invited to participate in a workshop organised by the Italian organisation Connecting Cultures and SCCA, Sarajevo, I immediately realised the dramatic potential of the events I was witnessing and decided then to write a script for an audio drama where one of the main characters will be a ceramic kiln....

*Individual utopias* is a tragi-comic account of the frustrations and absurdities that make up the every day reality of contemporary Bosnia and Herzegovina, touching upon issues such as the international presence on the territory of this country, the specific atmosphere in Mostar, and the powerlessness of an artist confronted with mental health patients.

As in my other works, I assume the stage casting myself as a number of characters in a live audio-drama performance developed with the Mostar band Vuneny. The project consists of a number of elements including two videos, drawings, terracotta reliefs, an artist book containing the script of the audio drama and a live performance. Each of these elements is thread that feeds into one narrative.

to watch video excerpt go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xw5DqydVuX4>



*Individual Utopias*, 2008, 35', video still



*Individual Utopias, 2008, installation view*

*Individual Utopias, Testimonials, 2008, 35", video still*





*Individual Utopias*, 2008, installation view



*Individual Utopias, The Kiln*, 2009, photo/slide projection



*Individual Utopias, Characters, 2008, artist book and drawing installation view*

*Individual Utopias, 2008, artist book*



## TRAVEL IN THE BOX

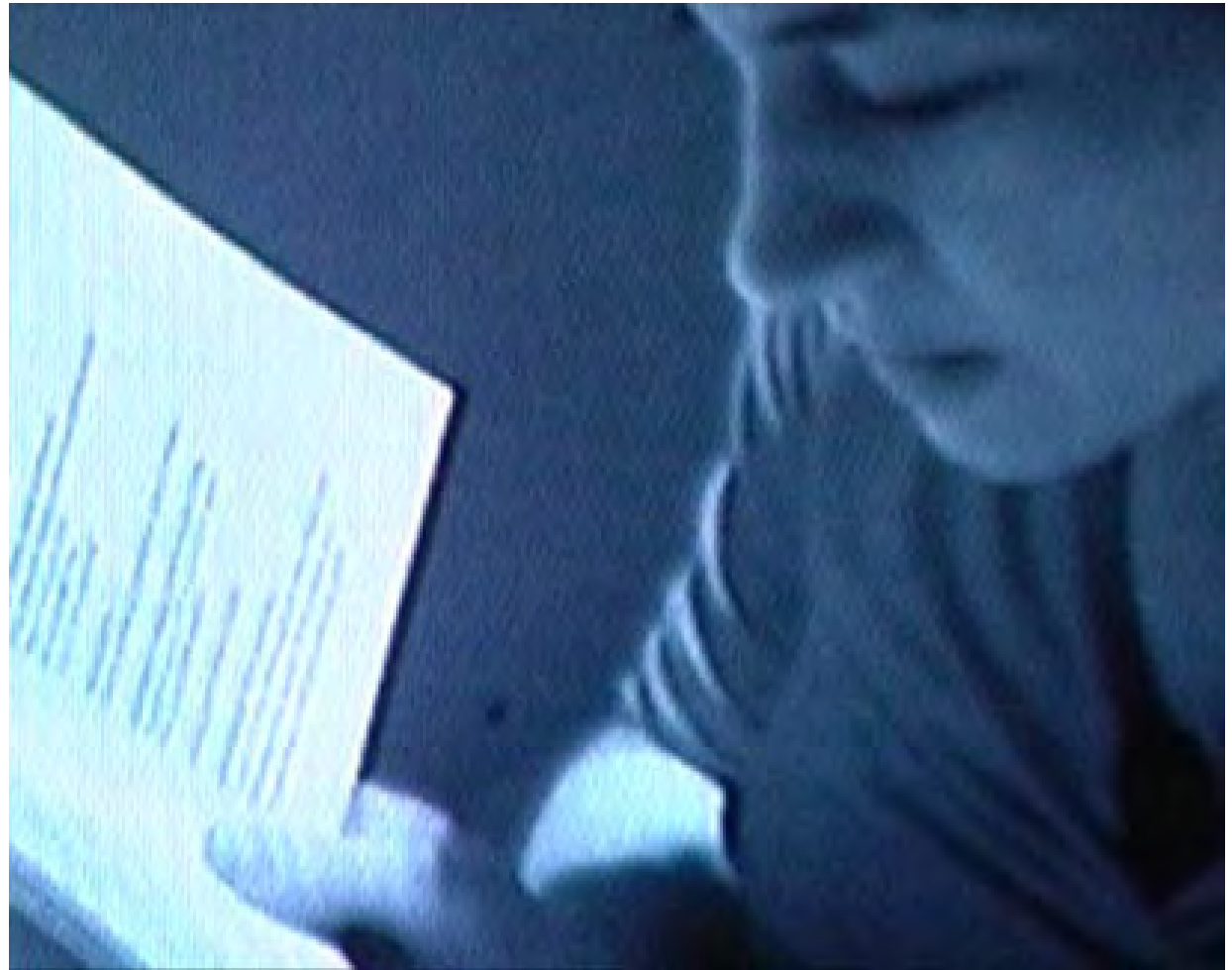
2009

- installation  
6 channel video installation, wooden box, DVDs, audio
- performance  
closed-circuit video
- artist book

I have invited poets and poetesses from Bosnia and Herzegovina to collaborate with me. To react with a poem to two true stories. The stories are of Henry "Box" Brown (1849) and Charles McKinley (2005) who shipped themselves in a box in hopes of arriving at a better place.

These are the poems that I read as a performance *Travel in the Box*.

In collaboration with:  
Mehmed Begić  
Andreja Dugandžić  
Asja Hafner  
Ivona Jukić  
Faruk Šehić  
Marko Tomaš



*Travel in the Box*, 2009, video installation, video still



*Travel in the Box*, 2009, performance





*Travel in the Box*, 2009, installation views



## THE DAMNED DAM

2010

- *The Damned Dam*, video HD, 36'
- *storytelling performance*
- *series of 8 watercolors, 65 x 50 cm*

*The year is 2027. Tarik is a young engineer. Merima is his beloved. They can save the townspeople of Lukavac if they broadcast the radio drama "Catastrophe" from the year 2000. Heroes and fairies, love and dystopia, rivers and lakes, dams and factories, BH and EU, epic geography and oral tradition: between these a future romance is shaped.*

In the *The Damned Dam* the motif of the flood is embedded in the fictional narrative that is composed on the basis of field research and on specific locations and events in the Balkan region the artist undertook in spring/autumn 2010. The collected materials are processed as videos, paintings, audio recordings, a blog and performances that form the elements of this modular project. The narrative strategies that the artist employs in her work are, in this project informed by Bosnian traditions of oral literature. Based on the study of these traditional forms, the artist delivers a fantastical story set in the future that is intersected with socio-political connotations.

<http://prokletabrana.net>

to watch video excerpt go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ph8xDH4kMm8>



*The Damned Dam*, 20010, 36', video still



*The Damned Dam*, 20010, installation views

*The Damned Dam*, 20010, 36', video still





*The Damned Dam*, 2010, watercolors, installation view

*The Damned Dam, Rafts and Houses on Stilts*, 2010,  
watercolor, marker and pencil on paper, 60 x 50 cm



*The Damned Dam, 2010, installation views*

CV Lala Raščić

<http://lalarascic.com>

[lala.rascic@gmail.com](mailto:lala.rascic@gmail.com)

Born in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina in 1977. Living and working in Zagreb, Sarajevo and New Orleans.

1995 School of Applied Art and Design in Zagreb, Graphic Design department

1995 -2001 BA/MA, Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, painting, art education.

2003-04 Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam

#### **solo exhibitions/selection**

2010

- The Damned Dam, Pogon Jedinstvo, Zagreb
- 3 Dam Utopias: 3 narrative performances by Lala Raščić, Zvono, Sarajevo
- Individual Utopias, Museum of Contemporary Art, Novi Sad
- Individual Utopias, Zeta Art Gallery, Tirana

2009

- Individual Utopias, O.K.C. Abrašević, Mostar

2008

- Individual Utopias II, KC Gallery, Belgrade, cat.
- Individual Utopias I, B.O.P Gallery, Zagreb
- Sorry, Wrong Number, Apartman Projesi, Istanbul

2007

- Everything is connected, National Art Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, cat.
- Everything is connected III, Museum of Contemporary Art, Banja Luka
- Correspondences, on-line project, ARC Projects, as part of Edinburgh Art Festival, Edinburgh

2006

- Sorry Wrong Number, Art Radionica Lazareti, Dubrovnik
- Sorry Wrong Number, Gray Area, Korčula

2005

- Icons Share Their Wisdom, with Ana Hušman, Arternativa, artist run space, Zagreb
- Flying Carpet, Gallery Miroslav Kraljević, Zagreb, cat.
- The Invisibles, galerie Dick de Bruijn, Amsterdam

#### **group exhibitions/selection**

2010

- Prospect 1.5, The Good Children Gallery, New Orleans
- Where Everything is Yet to Happen, SpaPort, Banja Luka
- Have a look, Have a Look!, FormContent, London

2009

- Looking at Others, Art Pavillion, Zagreb, cat.
- Art and Terrorism, City Gallery Bihac, cat.
- Urban Festival '09, Zagreb
- City of Women, "Global South", Gallery P74, Ljubljana
- A Generation of Artist's Books 1999 - 2009, O' Artoteca, Milan
- The Flag, The Good Children Gallery, New Orleans

2008

- Salon of the Revolution, HDLU, Zagreb
- Natural Reactions, City of Women, SKUC gallery, Ljubljana
- Land of Human Rights, <rotor> center for contemporary art, Graz
- NO BORDERS (Just N.E.W.S.\*), AICA, La Centrale Electrique, Brussels, cat.
- Palace, Cinema Palace, St. Gallen

2007

- Women on the Crossroads of Ideologies, City Hall, Split, cat.
- Heroes in Transition, Angel Row Gallery, Nottingham, cat.
- Cinemaniac 2007, as part of Pula Film Festival, MMC Luka, Pula
- Bon Voyage, Threshold Artspace, Perth, Scotland

2006

- Zvono Award, Finalists 2006, Narodni Dom, Banja Luka, cat.
- Absent Without Leave, Bienal of Young Artists, Bucharest, cat.

2005

- Insert, Retrospective of Croatian Video Art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb, cat.
- First person Singular, Art Gallery, Dubrovnik, cat.
- Normailzation: That from a long way off look like flies, Platform Garanti CAC, Istanbul
- Outside Sources, Kunstlervereinigung MAERZ, Linz

2004

- New Video, New Europe, Renaissance Society, Chicago, cat.

2003

- Balkan Konsulat, <rotor>association for contemporary art, Graz, cat.
- Last East European Art Show, Museum of Modern Art, Belgrade, cat.

#### **awards/selection**

- 2002- first prize in experimental film selection, 7th International Short Film Festival of the Iranian Young Cinema Society, Tehran
- 2003 Best young artist, Video Medeja film festival, Novi Sad
- 2006 Young Visual Artist Awards, "Zvono" winner, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 2007 first prize, Museum of Contemporary Art, Zagreb and T-HT award, Museum acquisition

#### **presentations and artist talks/selection**

- 2009, Connecting Cultures, Milan
- 2009, Good Children Gallery, New Orleans
- 2009, Academy of Fine Art, Vienna, Conceptual Art Class of Marina Gržinić
- 2008, University of Sarajevo, Academy of Drama Arts, Sarajevo
- 2007, Triennale Bovisa, Milan, as part of "Art and Survival" study day
- 2007, Forum Stadtpark, Graz
- 2006, Art In General, New York
- 2005, Theory in Practice, Art Radionica Lazareti, Dubrovnik
- 2004, Stills Gallery, Edinburgh

#### **residencies and grants/selection**

- 2003 grant from Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of Republic of Croatia
- 2004 grant from Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of Republic of Croatia
- 2005 -residency program at Platform Garanti CAC, Istanbul, supported by the American Center Foundation
- 2005 Cite des Arts internationaux, Paris, supported by Croatian Artists Association
- 2006 ISCP, New York, NY, supported by Foundation for a Civil Society and Trust for Mutual Understanding
- 2007 Forum Stadtpark, AIR Exchange program, Graz, supported by CCN, Graz and Gallery Miroslav Kraljević, Zagreb
- 2007 Edinburgh Residency hosted by ARC Projects Edinburgh/Sofia
- 2008 Kultur Kontakt Artist in Residence Program, Vienna
- 2010 - Production grant, Ministry of Culture Republic of Croatia