

# Migrating Identity – *Transmission/Reconstruction*

May 22 – June 20, 2004, Arti et Amicitiae, Rokin 112 Amsterdam and surrounding public places



**Fight or Flight.** A public debate where the refugee in relationship to the artist, marginality and community will be addressed.

Organised in cooperation with the Gate Foundation  
**Moderator:** Sebastian Lopez (AR/NL), director Gate Foundation

**Conference:**  
Friday, June 4 10:00 - 15:00 (doors open at 9:30)  
The Society, Arti et Amicitiae, Rokin 112, Amsterdam

**Admission:** 10 Euro  
Including a Turkish lunch, coffee, tea and beverages

**Reservations recommended:** please sign up at  
<http://migratingidentity.net> or  
call the Gate Foundation (020) 620 80 57

## Fight or Flight

### C o n f e r e n c i n g   T r a n s m i s s i o n / R e c o n s t r u c t i o n

At the beginning of the 21st century, 130 million people are living outside of their homeland and every year the number increases by 120,000. As waves of migration, naturalisation, and social (re)forming on micro and macro levels carve deep tracks into societies worldwide, Europe attempts to be unified and at the same time builds a wall around itself, inhibiting a mutual exchange between the native and the immigrant.

A western European framework supposes the possibility of artists living in other spaces and places while offering an experience of the unknown from the security of a relatively insular position. While the focus of much art practice in the last decade has emphasized the figure of the nomad, the condition of the refugee is the ever-present other to this self-referred 'nomad'.

**Conferencing *Transmission/Reconstruction*** will initiate a dialogue between the nomadic artist and the experience of the refugee artist, concerning in particular the slippages of self, nationality, identity that are so characteristic of the current global condition. Sebastian Lopez (AR/NL) will moderate a series of talks from artists, actors and organisations that have personal witness to such topics. By addressing particular issues in the Netherlands as well as Europe and abroad, the inside personal experience will be turned outwards through a day of dialogue and exchange.

*Special guests will include:*

**Heidi Lobato (AN/NL)**, director of the film festival *Africa in the picture*, former director of the Amnesty Film festival

**Fernando Alvim (ANG/BEL)**, visual artist from Angola, lives in Luanda and Brussels

**Krishna Manjit Kaur (IND/NL)**, performance artist, dramatist and filmmaker, author of the book: *Moons, Myths and Marriages*

**Soheila Najand (IRN/NL)**, visual artist from Iran, based in Arnhem, director of InterArt Foundation

**Bright O'Richards (L/NL)**, Liberian actor, lives in Utrecht

**Sharmila Samant (IND)**, visual artist lives and works in Mumbai, co-founder of Open Circle  
<http://www.opencirclearts.org>

**Sebastian Lopez (AR/NL)**, director of the Gate Foundation, curator of the Shanghai Biennale 2004 and has published numerous articles on contemporary art.

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Please see <http://migratingidentity.net> for further details about the exhibition and opening hours.

**Curators:** Renée Ridgway, Simon Ferdinando, Sonja Beijering

**Organisation:** SEB Foundation, Wilhelminastraat 121-hs, 1054 VB Amsterdam

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