

VALLOIS

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PROJECT ROOM

TARO IZUMI « HELSINKI »

7 FEBRUARY - 7 MARCH 2009

OPENING NIGHT FRIDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2009

Taro Izumi, a representative of the new Japanese generation, creates in a world reminiscent of the plays of Samuel Beckett, a place where absurdity meets slapstick, and that is often tinted with dark humour.

His installations transform their host spaces into great "bric-a-bracs" of images, sounds and objects, places where the artist sets up multiple dialogues with television screens. Using a camera, felt pens, or jars, Taro carries out all kinds of absurd or wacky experiments, staging the great and the very small dramas of human existence.

Sometimes, we need to lean down and look through a cardboard structure to see the artist being crushed by a giant hand like a fly (*Lime at the Bottom of the Lake*, 2006), or be attentive enough to see him swimming through a jar placed judiciously in front of the screen (*Finland*, 2008).

The frontier between the projected image and reality grows hazy; the artist plays with spectator's senses.

"Since the video image cannot be transformed, I can always knock it about a bit. I try to create works that can be touched. When I press the "play" button, the images appear like 'zombies'. In Paris I'm going to catch 'zombies' in the streets, in spaces, in the gallery's nooks and crannies."

Taro Izumi was born in 1976 and lives and works in Tokyo. This is his first exhibition in France.



Panazoid, 2005



Small world, 2008



UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS :

MARCH / APRIL : JULIEN BISMUTH / JACQUES VILLEGLÉ

APRIL / MAY : BORIS ACHOUR

24 APRIL - 1ST JUNE : LA FORCE DE L'ART #02 (WITH BORIS ACHOUR, GILLES BARBIER, ALAIN BUBLEX, VIRGINIE YASSEF)

23 APRIL - 27 APRIL : ARTBRUSSELS 2009

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