

Transmission, 2007

43 min., video, single channel, color, sound, Ed. 2/3

Director, scriptwriter: Harun Farocki

Idea: Antje Ehmann

Research: Antje Ehmann, Christiane Hitzemann, Regina Krottil, Matthias Rajmann, Isabell Verret

Camera: Carlos Echeverria, Harun Farocki, Ingo Kratisch, Matthias Rajmann

Editing: Meggie Schneider, Sound: Jochen Jezussek

Location manager: Avi Perez, Haim Perez

Technical director: Jan Ralske

Production: Harun Farocki Filmproduktion, Berlin commissioned by "Kunst Öffentlichkeit Zürich" with support of Schwyzer-Winker Stiftung.

First screening: 2.11.2007, Limmatplatz (Tramhaltestelle), Zürich / Switzerland

Note: video art work for public spaces.

Places of memory set in stone are the subject addressed by Harun Farocki. Transmission examines the pull and adoration of monuments scattered all over the world that have become goals for pilgrims and tourists and now serve to meet a whole range of different needs, from personal memory to spiritual enlightenment and religious sentiment. Farocki's journey starts from the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, a wall of black granite engraved with the names of all the 58,249 Americans killed in the Vietnam War. Thousands of people visit it every day, touch the letters and trace the names of family and friends in an attempt to establish a link between their own lives and the past. Other objects of pilgrimage – including the foot of the statue of the Apostle in St Peter's and the Bocca della Verità in Rome as well as the devil's footprint in the Frauenkirche in Munich and the monument in the Buchenwald concentration camp – meet the same need for understanding and purification. Stone is the material in which the collective memory of a life or an event in the past is immortalized and becomes an object of worship. At the same time, the memory of thousands of visitors is preserved in the traces of wear it displays.



Video still



Video still





Video still

View of the exhibition during the LOOP Festival , Àngels Barcelona Gallery, 2008

