

i am nice artist

performance series zentral-jugo
in collaboration with Nenad Bogdanovic

15 December 2004 — Galerie Bischoff, Thun, CH — Duration: 30 min.

Setting — A medium-sized gallery space in Thun with a view of the river Aare.

Materials and Preparation — A small table with three toothbrushes, toothpaste, water glasses, toilet paper, felt-tip pens. Nearby, a trash can, a video camera, three monitors, three analog video players. Small speakers wired to a mini disc player. A recording of the Biel Amateur Brass Band giving it their all.

Procedure — The space with monitors, small table, and waiting audience. The three performers enter. Y brushes his teeth. Nenad Bogdanovic films the action with a hand camera from close up. The recording is transferred to all three monitors. Y blots his teeth dry with toilet paper. Nenad Bogdanovic, camera in one hand, takes a felt-tip pen in the other hand and writes on the incisors of Y: I AM. X goes to the player on the left and presses the pause button just at the moment when the writing becomes legible on Y's teeth. The words I AM remain in place on the first screen. X goes to Nenad Bogdanovic and takes the camera from him. Nenad Bogdanovic takes Y's place and brushes his teeth. X films him and writes on Nenad Bogdanovic's teeth: ARTIST. Y goes to the player on the right and presses the pause button. The word ARTIST remains in place on the third screen. Y goes to X and takes the camera from him. X takes the place of Nenad Bogdanovic and brushes his teeth. Y films him and writes on his teeth: NICE. Nenad Bogdanovic goes to the video player in the middle and presses the pause button. The word NICE appears on the middle screen. The artists exit. The recording of the Biel Amateur Brass Band can be heard.

Additional performances: 18 December 2004, Circuit, Lausanne, CH — 19 December 2004, Galerie Hubert Bächler, Zurich, CH (shown on 3 video projectors; on a microphone plugged into an LCD monitor, X reports on the Swiss performance tour.)

