

# karmacontroll

## performance

22 December 1998 — Kaskadenkondensator, Basel, CH — Handlungen, performance series — curated by Pascal Grau and Andrea Saemann — Duration: 20 min.

Setting — A large gallery space with exposed steel beams.

Materials and Preparation — A screen, 400 cm x 600 cm. Two ropes tied to the beams. On a table, a sawhorse with a video projector suspended from it sideways. A board, lying diagonally in the space, 200 cm x 20 cm x 2 cm. In the middle of the board, a white candle burning. On one end of the board, a video camera tilted at 90°. Wiring between the camera and video projector. On the screen, a live projection. Two blue mountain-climbing ropes are hanging from the ceiling, reaching to 1 m above the floor. Two knotted loops, 2.2 m above the floor. Two larger loops lied in the lower end of the ropes. Y is wearing a belt and hiking boots.

Procedure — The candle burns. After 15 minutes, X and Y enter the space. Y does a handstand. X inserts Y's feet into the upper loops of both ropes. He pulls the lower loops over Y's shoulders and fastens them to Y's belt, which is woven through his belt loops. Y hangs approximately 20 cm above the floor, in front of the board. X stands to one side with the camera, lifts the board and passes it in the direction of Y. Y lifts the board to the height of his stomach. The board is horizontal. Slowly, X and Y tilt the board sideways. The candle begins to drip. In the live projection, the drops fall sideways. As the board tilts more and more, the flame begins to eat into the wax of the candle. The drops of wax catch fire. In the projection they fall towards the sky. When the candle is upside down, X and Y stop tilting the board. In the projection, the flame eats downwards into the candle and into the board. The smoke on the screen also flies away downwards. The candle burns out and the performance ends. X and Y lay the charred board on the floor. X frees Y from the ropes. Both exit the room.

Additional performances: February 2002 Message-Salon, Zurich, CH, curated by Esther Eppstein, (direct transfer to a small monitor) — 1 December 2004, Schlachthaus, Bern, CH, Bone 7, performance festival curated by Norbert Klassen and Markus Hensler

