

# mist

## performance

2 July 1999 — Goldbarren, Zurich, CH — curated by Thomas Müllenbach — Duration: 120 min.

Background — The Goldbarren (gold bar) is the stone foundation of what was previously a mechanical transfer of water power in the Limmat canal. At this place, the canal flows parallel to the Sihl, which is already mixed with water from the Limmat.

Setting — Three-meter-high masonry block between the sidewalk and the river bank. Gold painted foundation. A castiron railing surrounds the platform. Metal stairs.

Materials and Preparation — Planks, clamps, shovel, wheelbarrow, rammer, other tools. 1.5 cubic meters cow manure on the sidewalk. A bricklayer's bucket with rope strung over the railing. Four bottles of beer. White shirts. Black pants and loafers.

Procedure — The audience stands on the platform. X and Y come walking along the quay of the Sihl, heading away from the city, pushing a wheelbarrow with the planks and tools. Upon arriving at the block of masonry, they climb the stairs to the platform. There, using the clamps, they put together the first formwork. X and Y alternate shovelling the manure into the bricklayer's bucket, hoisting it on the rope up to the platform, filling the formwork and finally tamping it down. After it is filled, the formwork is pulled up, filled with manure again and tamped down. This process is repeated until a form resembling a gold bar, 200 cm x 50 cm x 80 cm, has been produced. On top of this, in the middle, another formwork is positioned and filled with manure according to the same principle, and thus a backrest is fashioned. X and Y sit on the double throne. One looks downriver, the other looks upriver. Both drink beer.

