

# ТРАНСФЕР / TRANSFERT

Luchezar Boyadjiev / Pravdoliub Ivanov  
Stefan Nikolaev / Kamen Stoyanov

**opening** Wednesday September 17 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
**press brunch** Friday September 19 at 10:30 a.m.  
**exhibition** from September 18 to November 15

Opening hours : from Wednesday to Saturday, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
and Sundays September 21 and 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (M° Hôtel-de-Ville)

**With the support of the French Institute in Sofia (Bulgaria)**

**Lyon Septembre de la Photographie** and **La BF15** present **TRANSFERT**,  
an overview of contemporary art in Bulgaria ;  
through an exhibitions at La BF15, an exhibition at the IUFM and a conference of  
**Iara Boubnova**, September 19, during the **meetings 9PH**, at the ENS.

*There are new and endlessly exciting possibilities that the world of today opens up for photography. With that in mind, there is still one romantic quality of photography, which is always preserved. That is its ability to be a witness of the times. The selection of art works from Bulgaria by La BF15 for Septembre de la photographie 2008 demonstrates well this ability in as much as the photographs and the videos from the selection reflect the unstable period of transformation and adjustment that are so very typical for the political and economical upheavals from the 1990ies. The selection may look condensed or accidental. Yet, it contains the spirit of the time with no great drama or final victories; it keeps the atmosphere of hope and desire, of enchantment and frustration.*

All texts of the press release are extract from the text of **Iara Boubnova**  
for the catalogue of *Lyon Septembre de la Photographie 2008*

## **Galerie IUFM Confluences**

5 rue Anselme, Lyon 4ème  
(M° Croix-Rousse)

Opening hours :  
Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. - 18 p.m.  
saturday 2:30-6 p.m.

## **TRANSFERT** Krassimir Terziev / Vesselina Nikolaeva

**opening** Saturday September 18 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
**exhibition** from Septembre 19 to october 24

## **ENS**

**Les rencontres 9 PH**  
from September 17 to September 19  
15, parvis René-Descartes, Lyon 7ème  
(M° Debourg)

## **Les rencontres 9 PH** Iara Boubnova **Aperçu de la photographie Bulgare**

**conference** Friday September 19 at 4 p.m.  
around guest artists

**Iara Boubnova** is curator and critic.  
She lives in Sofia, where she directs the Institute of Contemporary Art.

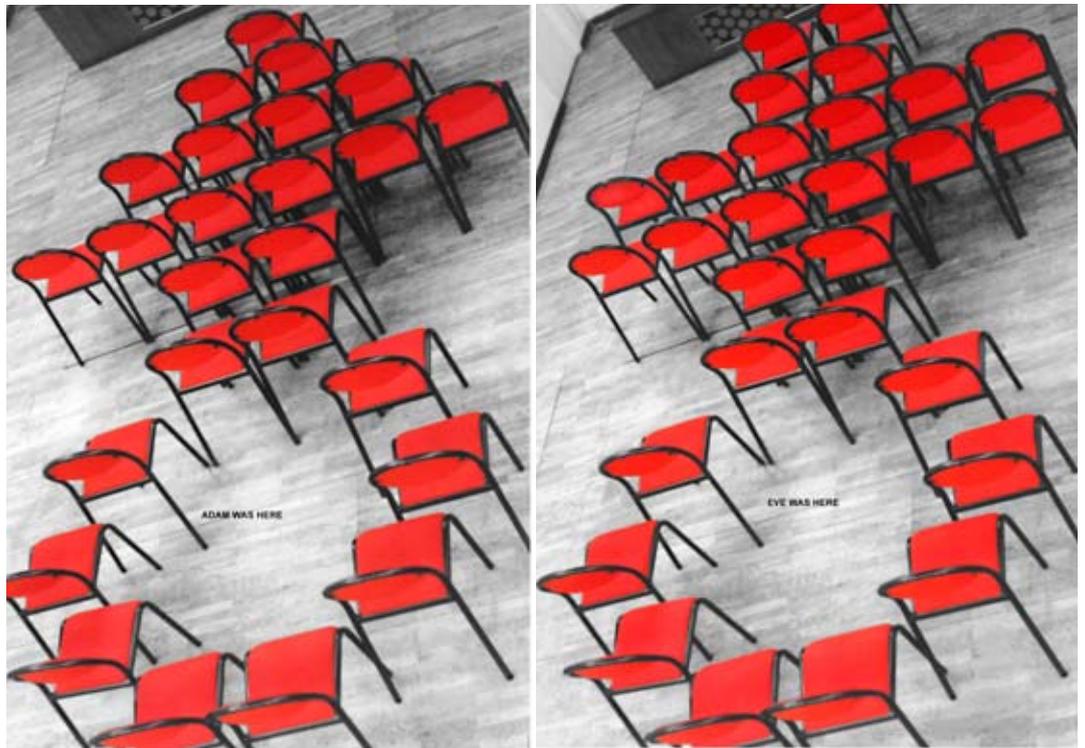
informations : <http://www.lebleuduciel.net>

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# La BF15

association soutenue par la Ville de Lyon, la Région Rhône-Alpes et le Ministère de la Culture / DRAC Rhône-Alpes

**Perrine Lacroix** Direction & Programmation  
**Florence Meyssonier** Coordination & press relations



Luchezar Boyadjiev, *Chairs and Symbols (A Project for Peaceful Co-Identification)*, 1995 - 2003  
 A cycle of 11 inkjet prints on 300 g Arches watercolor paper, each one 56.5 x 78 cm or 78 x 56.5 cm. Edition of 2 and 2 A/P

## Luchezar Boyadjiev

born in 1957, lives and works in Sofia

*When in 1995 Luchezar Boyadjiev conceived his project **Chairs and Symbols. A Project for Peaceful Co-identification**, he actually sent an appeal to the whole world, to its politicians and citizens, offering them a chance to resolve their identity conflicts and issues through an action. The arrangements of chairs (in the shape of a hammer and sickle – for communists, a cross – for Christian-democrats, a crescent – for Islam fundamentalists, etc.) positioned together in a huge international congress hall would have no doubt made the mass media very happy...and the events, as Jean Baudrillard would have us believe, are made by them, right? The urge to step into somebody else's shoes, as the popular American saying goes, or as the case is here – to sit into somebody else's symbol, is a marvelous metaphor for the aggressive and clumsy politicians from the end of the 20th century. The not so delicate visual hint by the artist did not have much success in real politics even after its numerous public presentations in international exhibitions. The chairs are still empty and the somewhat utopian "project for peaceful co-identification" exists as a cycle of brilliant photographic prints.*

### Selection of solo exhibitions

- 2006 *Crawling Carpets*, EAF (Experimental Art Foundation), Adelaide, Australia
- 2004 *Roma in Sofia*, One-artist stand in "The Balkans – a Crossroad to the Future", Arte Fiera, Bologna
- 2003 *Hot City Visual*, project for Visual Seminar, ICA at ATA Center, and interventions in the city, Sofia
- 2000 Remont Gallery, Belgrade, Serbia
- E-FACE 2000*, ArtMediaCenter TV Gallery, Moscow

### Selection of collective exhibitions

- 2008 *Lucky Number Seven*, 7th SITE Santa Fe Biennial, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA
- Eurasia. Geographic cross-overs in art*, MART museum, Rovereto (Trento), Italy
- The Jerusalem Show*, Al-Ma'mal Foundation for Contemporary Art, Old City, Jerusalem
- Wonder, 2nd Biennial, Singapore
- Land of Human Rights: At the Limits of the Thinkable", < rotor > association for contemporary art, Graz
- Brave New World...*, IFA Gallery, Berlin / Stuttgart, Germany
- 2007 *Plus ZWEI (two)*, MKM Museum Kueppersmuehle fuer Moderne Kunst, Duisburg, Germany
- 3rd Prague Biennial*, Prague, Czech Republic
- Attitude 2007*, Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto, Japan
- Footnotes : On Geopolitics, Markets and Amnesia*, 2nd Moscow Biennial, Moscow
- 2006 *Neither a White Cube nor a Black Box. History in Present Tense* (ICA-Sofia's 10th Anniversary Show Sofia City Gallery, Sofia
- Belief*, 1st Singapore Biennale, Singapore
- Important Announcement*, Sofia City Gallery, Sofia



© Pravdoliub Ivanov, **Hand Print**, 2001, two color photos, 50 x 70 cm

## Pravdoliub Ivanov

born in 1964, lives and works in Sofia

*They claim that visual art started with imprints left by human hands on the most accessible solid surfaces such as the rock walls of the caves, as an element of the pre-historical interior design... They also say that the hand imprint stands for the urge of the proto-artist to leave a trace of his being which otherwise would have vanished like a traceless rain. When Pravdoliub Ivanov at first left an imprint of his hand in the ice of the freezer and then photographed the process as well as the imprint **Hand Print** he was aware of how ephemeral and ultimately meaningless is the hope to leave a lasting personal trace. The time when he is making his attempt is a time/space of rejection and forgetfulness – of ideologies and parties, of individuals and their accomplishments. In an earlier work of his the artist came up with something like a slogan - "To whom it may concern – don't be so naive"... With all that in mind, the chances of this artist are much bigger and that is because of photography – the imprint on the prints is part of an edition and a chain of public circulation, that are saving it as a document.*

### Selection of solo exhibitions

- 2007 *Double Trouble*, dual show with Valio Chenkov, Gallery Steinle, Munich, Germany
- 2003 *Existing Objects*, ATA Center/ Institute of Contemporary Art-Sofia, Sofia
- 2002 *Pessimism, No More*, Musee des Beaux Arts, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland
- 1999 *Negligible Incidents*, TED Gallery, Varna, Bulgaria

### Selection of collective exhibitions

- 2008 *No Place - Like Home: Perspectives on Migration in Europe* Argos Center, Brussels, Belgium
- 2007 *L'Europe En Devenir (Partie 2)*, CCS Paris, France
- A Place You Have Never Been Before*, 52 Venice Biennial, Bulgarian Pavilion
- Plus Zwei*, Museum Kueppersmuehle fuer Moderne Kunst, Duisburg, Germany
- Being Here*, Kunstraum Walcheturm, Zurich, Suisse
- 2006 *Art, Life and Confusion*, October Salon, Beograd, Yugolsavia
- Of Mice and Men*", 4th Berlin Biennial
- 2005 *Sous les ponts, le long de la rivière-2*, Luxembourg
- 2004 *Flipside*", Artists Space Gallery, New York, USA
- On Reason and Emotion*", 14th Biennale de Sydney
- Interrupted Game*", Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig, Germany



© Stefan Nikolaev, **Monument to Monument**, installation view., Chur, Switzerland, 2003 Courtesy the artist and Gallery Michel Rein, Paris ; Photo : Mancia/Bodmer, FBM Studio, Zurich

## Stefan Nikolaev

born in 1970, lives and works in Paris and Sofia

*Stefan Nikolaev obviously knows what a monument is – a huge commemorative sculpture made out of eternal material, located in public space and meant to impress its contemporaries as much as the generations to come. Monuments are made for eternity by default. They provide a focus and organize the space of urban or natural landscapes. They are fast to turn into elements of various social rituals – as markers of meetings and objects for veneration, etc. However, in these strange moments of social history when the names of the streets and cities alike are changed while the history textbooks are constantly (and quickly) being rewritten in order to erase some and write in other heroes, many a monument appear to be accidental and transient. A lot of works by Nikolaev reflect the state of confusion in the real world surrounding us – people are effortlessly walking on the ceiling **Screensaver** while monuments are visiting others of their specie **Monument to Monument**. However, since our minds have been corrupted by various virtual manipulations and in order to convince the viewer that the trip did take place indeed, the artist is representing the visit in a cycle of photographs hoping that our faith in the photographic document is more stable than the faith in the stability of monuments.*

### Selection of solo exhibitions

- 2006 *Powerful Tips*, Centre de Création Contemporaine, Tours, France
- Sickkiss*, galerie Michel Rein, Paris
- More*, galerie Traversée, Munich, Germany
- Come to where the Flavour is*, CCA, Glasgow, Scotland
- Balkanton*, galerie ATA, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2002 *Perfect Day*, Temple Bar Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 2000 *VTO Gallery*, London, England

### Selection of collective exhibitions

- 2007 *Inside yourself*, Parker's box, New York, USA
- Same Same but Different*, Tina b., Festival of Contemporary Art, Prague, Czech Republic
- A Place You Have Never Been Before*, 52 Venice Biennial, Bulgarian Pavilion
- 2005 *Joy*, Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg
- 2004 *Prosismic*, Espace Paul Ricard, Paris
- Playlist*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris
- Smoking / no smoking*, Kunsthal, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 4th Cetinje Biennial*, Cetinje, Montenegro
- Gwangju Biennale 2002*, Gwangju, South Korea



© Kamen Stoyanov *Paris, I was there*, 2004. *The small Eiffel tower meets the big one*, 2007, documentary photos

## Kamen Stoyanov

born in 1977, lives and works in Vienna

*In his turn Kamen Stoyanov is more interested in the “freedom of movement” as one of the basic human rights. For the people of his generation the possibility to travel freely abroad was transformed from a privilege for just a few into a real right, which in fact separated the totalitarian reality from the current global neo-capitalism. In **Paris, I was there** the artist is being ironical about his new privilege, which exists for most people more as an abstract potential rather than a real possibility – “Paris” is a cheap pub somewhere in Bulgaria where the name and the place are made real by the existence of a small and primitive copy of the Eiffel Tower on the pub’s roof. This though is enough for the artist in order to “experience” Paris, the city of dreams. However, later in 2007 in **The small Eiffel Tower meets the big one**, Stoyanov is not only able to personally visit Paris, France but is also able to bring along his previous Parisian “experience” in the form of a photograph. Rights are there to be used, right?*

### Selection of solo exhibitions

- 2008 *At Arm’s Length*, Museum Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig, Wien
- 2007 *Places where the world breaks away*, Let’s go to Giurgiu, Sofia Art Gallery
- 2006 *Less Politics*, Plattform, Raum fuer Kunst, Vienna
- 2005 *Bingo topology*, Kunstraum Lakeside, Klagenfurt
- 2004 *Modality*, ATA Center for Contemporary Art, Sofia
- 2003 *WORK/S* (with Vasilena Gankovska), Irida gallery, Sofia

### Selection of collective exhibitions

- 2008 *Manifesta 7*, the european biennial of contemporary art, Trentino- South Tirol, Italy
- For a happier tomorrow*, Gallery Tom Christoffersen, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Manual CC – Instructions for Beginners and Advanced Players*, Uqbar, Berlin
- Transparenz*, Inda Galerie, Budapest
- 2007 *night comers Videoscreening*, International Istanbul Biennale
- Lange nicht gesehen. Begegnungen mit dem Museum auf Abruf*, MUSA, Vienna
- Multiplicities*, ARC projects, Sofia
- Between Welcome and Goodbye*, Vaska Emanouilova Gallery, Sofia
- In Search Of Lost Time*, Sofia Art Gallery, Sofia
- 2006 *Last minute*, Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst Leipzig
- Every Day*, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg
- Visual immortality*, 2nd International Biennial for Contemporary Art, Shumen
- 2005 *Play Sofia*, Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna
- colectionwise*, Galerie 5020, Salzburg
- Update*, Künstlerhaus, Vienna