

## Citizens



*Claudia Andujar -  
Marcados para Morrer  
(Marked to Live, Marked to Die)*



*Jana Sterbak - Generic Man*

### 21 January - 2 April 2005

PM Gallery & House are proud to present the first showing of the international exhibition *Citizens*, prior to a UK tour, which brings together the work of 20 visual artists from around the world and looks at their work in relation to the crisis in citizenship today.

What rights does a national space give us? Where do we fit in society if we are excluded from this space? What are the possibilities for a new citizenship of the 21<sup>st</sup> century? The exhibition considers whether there may be new ways of thinking about and engaging with space, beyond that of territoriality, of boundaries and frontiers.

*Citizens* is the result of a collaboration between the curators Cynthia Morrison-Bell and Laymert Garcia dos Santos, and the invited artists from France, England, Italy, Israel, Ireland, Canada, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Russia, China and India amongst others, who were selected for their artistic strength as well as their engagement with the subject. The works, some at the leading edge, others employing more traditional media, includes photography, painting, installations, video and digital works.

New commissions include *Lost New Shoes* by the New Delhi based artists *Raqs Media Collective*, a multimedia installation that confronts the notion of the citizen by looking at the absence where a person may be. Using shoes as a metaphor as 'hollowed objects from which someone has withdrawn himself', the artists reflect on the many journeys tried out by the citizen before finding (if ever) the space where he belongs, the one that fits. In a new installation *Slave Work* made specifically for *Citizens*, Brazilian photographer Joao Ripper will be presenting a body of work about Brazilian coal miners still working in slave like conditions, whilst Claudia Andujar's life-size light boxes 'Marked for life, Marked for death' look at the poisoned relationship between westerners and the Yanomami Indians.

*Citizens* will present a critical perspective for the viewer to sense this crisis, and explore whether this 18<sup>th</sup> century concept can still function in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It considers whether we are holding on to an outmoded, anachronistic notion, now obsolete, as the world becomes ever more populated, globalised, multicultural and technological, forcing countries and individuals to reassess their identities and reconsider 'nationhood'.

The exhibition will tour to City Gallery Leicester, Oriel Davis Wales, Ormeau Baths Gallery Belfast, in 2005 and the Pinacothèque Sao Paulo, Brazil in 2006.

Artists include:

Jean-Luc Meyer-Abbatucci  
Roy Arden

Claudia Andujar  
Carlos Carvalho  
Mauricio Dias and Walter Riedweg  
Anna Bella Geiger  
Ori Gerscht  
Peter Kennard  
Anthony Key  
Matthieu Laurette  
Armin Linke  
Rubens Mano  
Ludovic Michaux  
Boris Mikailov  
Raqs Media Collective  
Ingrid Pollard  
Joao Ripper  
Jana Sterbak  
Mans Wrangle

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