



Partnership in Sand

The Concept of „Partnership in Sand“

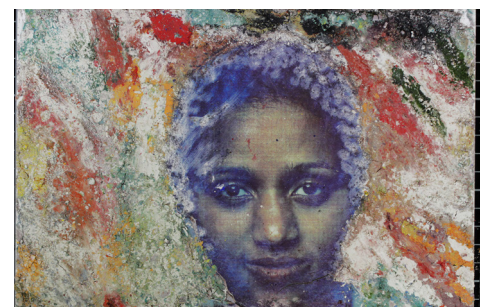
The project “Partnership in Sand” (PiS) awarded with the “Manufactum“-Prize by the federal state NRW (North Rhine-Westphalia) offers all citizens the opportunity within an art event to print their own portraits in sand and create them individually.

The portrait can be brought in advance or a photo of the participant can be taken on location site. Within the frame of the event, the digital pictures of the participant will then be printed on sand with help of the “Sand-Media“-printing technique – in other words: the pixels become sand grains. During the artistic process the participants are also invited to create the environment for their portrait, make their world visible and to share it with other people. Diverse tools and a choice of pigments are available.

Joined together the arising sand portraits show a carpet of sand that is presented on a plank of wooden pallets. Everybody inserts his/her own creation and becomes part of a bigger picture. This carpet of sand – put together by hundreds of single pictures - represents the closeness and cohesiveness of all people. After completion all citizens are invited to view the finished carpet of sand as a whole installation.

The aim of the PiS project is to create a place of quietness where every participant can express himself/herself individually as well as to strengthen our social togetherness in common doing.

The sand pictures have a fragile and vulnerable character. In Ira Marom’s opinion all people share this character. The understanding of once own vulnerability and evanescence encourages each others appreciation and makes clear how valuable life is.



PiS Festival of Ephemerality

At the end of each project, the public will be invited to a ceremony of dissolution to prove the evanescence.

At this ceremony portrait pictures are dissolved and the sand is collected and will be kept for further PiS projects. The re-utilization of this sand creates a symbolically meeting of energy of all former participants.

PiS in Social Field of Democracy

At the beginning of this year, Daniel Schily, co-founder of Democracy International proposed to me to extend PiS and its pro-social concept out of the originally used indoor format and conceptualize it also as an outdoor project there by bringing it



out to the public. Under the auspice of Democracy International the interactive PiS platform shall offer an environment on central places in big and small cities where the connection between human, society and democracy can be experienced. The project at which visitors shall take part in an artistic journey, which starts with once own sensible vulnerability and ends with the image becoming ephemeral after putting the self-created portrait in the collective carpet of sand. The fragility of the sand portraits reflects on one side our existence as ephemeral beings and at the same time the landscape gives us an insight to our abilities to create a complete work as "human family". Everybody can live his/her individual creativity within the community and therefore feel secure, valuable and sheltered. Our quality of being vulnerable transforms our weakness to into strength. PiS is a project that makes an offer through the means of art learning from the discourse between society and democracy. The unique aesthetic language of art visualized an essential idea of democracy that all people are esteemed equally and unconditionally.

The installation of art offers a protected place where every arising sand picture is taken as a more cautious and reversible contribution which can be dissolved if disliked. This process can be repeated till the participant is satisfied and wants to become a part of the whole. It is the allegory of a society in which the participant cannot be "wrong", but they are always endeavored to participate actively as they think it is right. The sand pictures convey this kind of experience. PiS makes pluralism experience able which is an essential part of the democracy. PiS also unconditionally practices the interest of all participants and their languages of the images. Everyone contributes his/her little individual step to create an image of the complete work. It reflects the "open society". A society which is not defined by separation and distinction. Quite the contrary, the installation encourages all to be part of the society (complete work) and to be yourself. Uniqueness is an essential character which is inextricably linked with human being and can be experienced in the installation.

But the open society runs the risk of being vulnerable. War atrocities and Holocaust have taught us a painful lesson. Ideologies are born to conceal our own overacted fragility and uncertainty. But PiS shows that cultural or political systems in this art,





PiSP Tent Project Outdoor-Installation

The following Application hereby submitted to OSF Berlin, includes a first sketch for an outdoor PiS tour project implemented in cooperation with Democracy International.

The PiS project provided in the frame of an outdoor event shall first be realized on five central places in different cities. After this test run an evaluation shall be undertaken and specific plans shall be developed for a bigger international tour.

We would like to realize our tour project with a time frame of about one week for each location in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

It is planned that at each location several hundred or thousand people take part in the formation of the carpet of sand. On the one hand people coincidentally passing through shall be asked and on the other hand we would like to offer our workshops to booked groups (like in PiS Indoor Project)

Planning and logistics of the PiS outdoor event have to be performed by an event agency.

As location for the realization of our PiS outdoor event we require a tent of approximately 150 square meters. The Sand-Media technique, PiS plank and work tables etc. should be placed in this tent. The Sand-Media printer has the capacity of producing about 20 new sand images per hour. In addition, the tent must be big enough, to house participants as well as project visitors.



Artist Collective behind PiSP

PiS project is realized by Ira Marom and an the following artist collective:

„pedda Borowski“ (Berlin) supports PiSP as artistic designer. He produces PiS publications, takes portrait photos of the project participants as well as location shots. In addition he realizes the “Bedingungsloses Interesse” (“Unconditional Interest”) evening program performance.

Other PiS members are Ali Mozavi and Jerome Antoine Padilla, initiators of the Bonner Kunstgruppe (art group): Amorph, They are responsible for the interaction between the public and the PiS platform.

On behalf of Democracy International, Daniel Schily is responsible for realizing this tour.

