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m<sup>2</sup> Gallery

11.07.05

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m2 Gallery presents;  
The first in a series of two shows by graduating students:

## *Inventory*

*Ania Wawrzkowicz @ m2 Gallery ; a 24 hour gallery.*

*Opening View 6-8pm Monday July 11th -8<sup>th</sup> August 2005.*

As a photographer I have always been intrigued by many aspects of urban life. I'm particularly interested in relationships that people have with certain spaces, buildings and objects. My work is inspired by the individual and their relationship to their environment.

I find it amazing how some objects have dear and positive meanings for us while others may be uncomfortable and even evoke feelings of aversion. No place or object we are surrounded by remains neutral, instead it is filled with references to our experiences. Every object or place we once were involved with possesses traces of our life. I find it very inspiring everything that is unique, private and subjective. I believe that people's relation to their environment may be studied through personal experiences. Also interesting is how we all attach meanings to our environment in our everyday lives. Strange places, objects become "mine" through living. They are always subjective and they receive meaning according to the kind of feelings, memories and emotions associated with them.

Pictures for this project explore those subjects in relation to myself. I tried to build a world of my past that has to be reconstructed from traces and fragments of vanished memory. I was interested in my relation to the environment where I grew up and places that were for some reason significant in my past as well as in my relation to objects that belonged to me.

I was trying to reconstruct my past, taking pictures of belongings that survived from my childhood. I have decided to present them in a very inventory like way, more like collected data, all photographed in the same way, on the same plain background with no added emotions or interpretations. Just a cold and factual inventory of what is left.

In the end I created 4 inventories of birthday cards, toys, drawings from my childhood and family pictures. Those objects relate to memories that are of significance to me. They are put together according to a personal logic. They suggest a set of visual reminders.

Pictures of personal objects and spaces from my past become a sort of witness of my existence, whilst preserved memories give me a sense of continuity on which my "self" depends. I've reconstructed fragments of my own past using photography as a medium, which allows me to preserve my memories.

*Ania Wawrzkowicz has just graduated from the photography course at Camberwell School of Art. She was born in Poland and currently works London.*

m<sup>2</sup> Gallery is a non profit making arts organization promoting the display of art through the m<sup>2</sup> exhibiting space that can be viewed by all visitors to Kings Grove, Peckham, London Se15 2NB. It is administered and curated by the m<sup>2</sup> Gallery committee. Proposals are welcome from all sections of the community who would like to exhibit in the space.

