

ELODIE LACHAUD

NY Taxis 08, \$4.10

Elodie Lachaud, a student from the Beaux-Arts School, Paris, (Drawing Department) got her diploma in 1988 with a project of paintings and photographs. She was then offered a scholarship by The Chelsea Art School, London, where she studied photography. She really took advantage of The City and, with her Nikon, she took "the sonorous instants of her life", filmed concerts and made video-clips. Through painting, photography and video, she soon began to work for musicians, choreographers and music producers.

The birth of her daughter, Carla-Rose, put an end to the uneven pace of her life as an artist and got her to work outside of her house-workshop. That was when photography and video took the upper hand over her painting. Photography became her favourite medium, video being a sort of continuity, no matter if in her art one comes before or after the other.

Elodie Lachaud is constantly moving within an "in-between" dimension. "I have always been in between... in-between two families, in-between two houses, in-between two cultures, in-between two men... I am interested in those places in between, those transitive places (with cars, taxis and elevators), those moving places. I am always in passing."

When the artist figured out that, in her opinion, her photographs made sense when she looked at their ektas through a light table, she decided to create works of art to resemble them. They are, in some way, giant backlit ektas of illuminated photographic films.

The series entitled "Chromobiles" is a taximobile fiction about New York. Elodie Lachaud takes pictures and makes films. She describes, through taxis and dollars, her vision of time going by. She is at the same time seated and mobile in Manhattan's taxis. Alone but also with "the other one" (the driver). Neither quite inside, nor quite outside.

It is a serial fiction: "Taxis 2001", "Chromobiles 02" and now... the exhibition at the Galerie W is the third episode: "NY Taxis 08, \$4.10". "I am staring at the taxi meter... \$4.10... I keep on changing places; the car window is blurring my sight. I take a picture... \$4.10... New York is floating... I see the sky... from time to time... clear... hazy... I am scanning the city and its hustle and bustle... \$4.10... There is still no emergency exit."

About fifteen large illuminated photographs. One multimedia installation consisting of three films: "\$13.80" (to and fro / conversation from the hotel to the hotel in the taxi with "the other one", unknown, present but not alive and yet...). "Sheeps" (Elodie Lachaud counting the taxis from her hotel room window to try and fall asleep and eventually going down to the street again and counting, counting them in the night before her departure, before her journey back). "Wicked" (inspired from the hotel and its view). We step in and out; we are just in passing... The exhibition is this trip "in between". Here we are. We step in: welcome in between.

Elodie Lachaud, photographer, lives and works in Paris.