

*Tracey Snelling*  
Berlin Studio



**Kotti, 2018**

***\*will be in Museum der Dinge, Berlin exhibition May 2024-January 2025***

Wood, paint, inkjet prints, plastic, electroluminescent wire, lights, media players, lcd screens, speakers, transformer  
72 x 122 x 90 cm

Completed in 1974, Zentrum Kreuzberg was built as social housing, but experienced issues due to poor construction and politics. In 2012 Kotti & Co was formed by neighbors to fight against the ever-rising costs. Due to the work of Kotti & Co, the municipal housing company Gewobag acquired the Zentrum Kreuzberg in 2017, saving the tenants from threat of eviction and rising costs.

**~~First We Take Manhattan~~, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany, 2018**

**Smaller Worlds, Ludwig Museum, Budapest, Hungary, October 2022 - January 2023.**

video at 00:17: <https://vimeo.com/442763743>

video at 00:17: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pGIIENzI28>



Caochangdi, 2009



**Caochangdi, 2009**

wood, paint, inkjet prints, electroluminescent wire, lights, fake landscaping, media players, lcd screens, speakers, transformer.

117 x 117 x 127 cm

Caochangdi is a sculpture of the artist village in Beijing, where I did a residency at Galerie Urs Meile in 2008/9. Caochangdi was often under threat of demolition. In 2011, Caochangdi narrowly escaped demolition by the Chinese Authorities. In 2018, many artists and galleries were evicted and Ai Weiwei's studio was demolished. Many of the other buildings still remain, at least for now.

**Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, solo exhibition, 2009.**

**Anonyme Skulpture, Galerie im Taxispalais, Innsbruck, Austria, 2011.**

**Anonyme Skulpture, Kunstmuseen Krefeld, Krefeld, Germany, 2011.**



Yangshuo, 2009



**Yangshuo**, 2009

149 x 121 x 90 cm

wood, paint, inkjet prints, electroluminescent wire, lights, fake landscaping, water, media player, lcd screen, speakers, transformer.

Yangshuo is a beautiful tourist destination in the south of China. The saying on the wall reads "If the poor place wants to be rich, planting more trees but birth less baby." The sign on the mountain says the word stars.

Created during a residency at Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, 2008/9

**Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing**, solo exhibition, 2009.

**Villa Heike**, Berlin, 2021.



Yangshuo Market, 2009



**Yangshuo Market**



**Yangshuo Market**

chromogenic print face mounted to plexi with aluminum back

59 x 59 cm

Edition of 3

These images show dogs for consumption in a market in Yangshuo, China. On another level, the images can be taken with a more social/political reading. A Chinese artist/friend interpreted these to be representative of how the Chinese government treats their people. It can also illustrate how we Westerners are shocked by dog consumption, yet easily ignore the feelings of the animals that are predominant in our diet.

Created during a residency at Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, 2008/9

**Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing**, solo exhibition, 2009.





**Night, Billboard, Lights, City, 2009**  
Chromogenic prints facemounted with plexi,  
aluminum on back  
39 x 39 cm  
Edition 1/3



Chongqing, 2009



**Chongqing, 2009**

wood, paint, inkjet prints, electroluminescent wire, lights, fake landscaping, water, media players, LCD screens, speakers, transformer.

160 x 120 x 110 cm

The sculpture Chongqing is a representation of one of the fastest changing cities in China. I revisited Chongqing in 2018 and found out that Shibati, the neighborhood in the foreground, had been demolished in 2012 to make room for new expensive buildings.

Created during a residency at Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, 2008/9

**Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing**, solo exhibition, 2009.

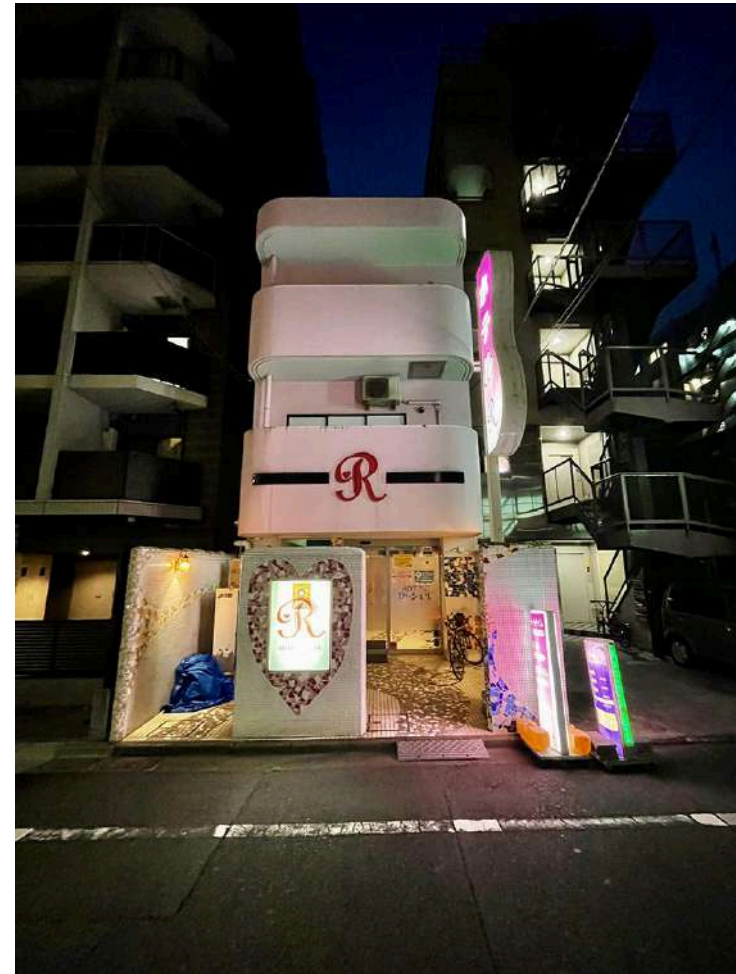
**Villa Heike**, Berlin, 2021.

Works from Tokyo exhibition: Tell me you love me, Tokyo Arts and Space, July 1 to August 6, 2023



**Installation view**

video of installation at 3:29: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ks1l8Z43KQg&t=5s>



**Hotel Rochelle SM, 2022**

wood, paint, plaster, plastic, fake landscaping, lights, media player, lcd screen, speakers, transformer  
In the top room, a video plays which shows two different interviews/shoots I did with people in the rooms in masks.  
photo of real hotel on right.

**Tell me you love me, Tokyo Arts and Space, Tokyo, Japan, 2023.**



**Club Opust, 2022**

Wood, paint, inkjet prints, plastic, lights, media players, lcd screens, speakers, transformer  
55 x 42 x 30 cm

Club Opust is a recreation of one of Smappa Group's male host clubs in Shinjuku, Tokyo. While in Tokyo last year for a residency with Tokyo Arts and Space, I researched male host clubs in Shinjuku. A male host club is a place where men entertain women with drinks, flirtation and conversation. Video of myself and the hosts plays inside the club, and their promotional video plays on the front of the entrance.

**Tell me you love me, Tokyo Arts and Space, Tokyo, Japan, 2023.**



### **Club Awake, 2023**

Wood, paint, inkjet prints, plastic, lights, media players, lcd screens, speakers, transformer

Club Awake is a recreation of one of Smappa Group's male host clubs in Shinjuku, Tokyo. While in Tokyo last year for a residency with Tokyo Arts and Space, I researched male host clubs in Shinjuku. A male host club is a place where men entertain women with drinks, flirtation and conversation.

Video interviews between myself and the hosts plays inside the club.

**Tell me you love me, Tokyo Arts and Space, Tokyo, Japan, 2023.**



**Tell me you love me, 2023**

Performance with Tracey Snelling and Hajime Kinoko

**Tokyo Arts and Space, Hongo, Tokyo 16 July 2023**

Music: Splendid Things by Low on High — Jon Moritsugu and Amy Davis

**Tell me you love me** is a performance in my love hotel room installation where acclaimed Tokyo shibari artist Hajime Kinoko turns the "sculptor into a sculpture," using props from interviews I conducted in Japanese love hotels in the summer of 2022.

Video, 8x10" photo, one of the masks from the project, edition of 10, 2 a.p.





Sozialwohnungen Admiralstrasse, 2020



Sozialwohnungen Admiralstrasse, 2020



**Sozialwohnungen Admiralstrasse, 2020**

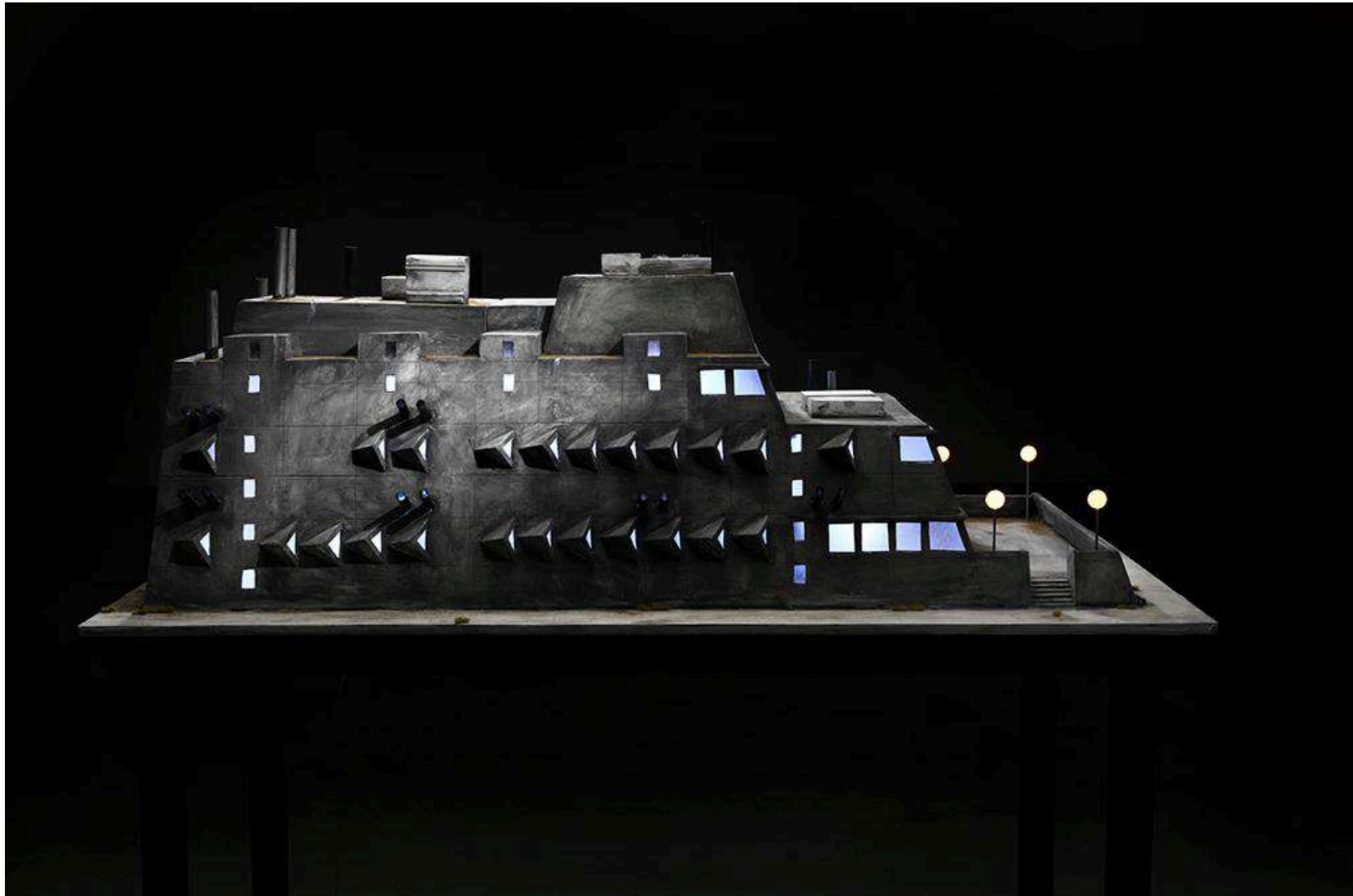
mixed media sculpture with video

78 x 137 x 40 cm

This is a sculpture of the Brutalist social housing complex down the street from me, in Berlin. The back is open, and is decorated and painted. In May 2012, tenants of this Berlin social housing complex were told to either pay a rent increase or move out. The neighbors organized into a group called Kotti & Co, and eventually the municipal housing company Gewobag acquired the building, saving the tenants from eviction and steep rent raises.

video at 01:04: <https://vimeo.com/442763743>

video at 00:17: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pGIIENzI28>



*Mäusebunker, 2021*



***Mäusebunker*, 2021**

mixed media sculpture with video, 48 x 70 x 130 cm

Mäusebunker is the nickname for the Charité Research Facility for Experimental Medicine, Berlin. A scientific research building where many animal experiments took place, the building was set to be demolished after the facility relocated. But a petition, along with exhibitions and major news coverage, has helped to save it. My Mäusebunker sculpture is a loose recreation of the building, capturing its essence. Videos play in the front windows and back, with clips from mouse experiments and dissection, mouse cartoons, Luis Buñuel's *Exterminating Angel*, among other clips.

**Mäusebunker & Hygieneinstitut. Architetture die G+M Hänska/Fehling+Gogel, IUVA Venezia**, Pavillon-Days of the Venice Biennale of Architecture, Venice, Italy, 2022.

**Suddenly Wonderful! Berlinische Galerie**, Berlin, Germany 2023.



**Wang's House. 2009**

wood, paint, newspaper, posters, electroluminescent wire, lights, garbage, furniture, tv, telephone pole, wires, food, projector.

house: 197 x 203 x 203 cm, telephone pole: 344 x 80 x 50 cm

Wang's House is a lifesize fictional building based on different houses in the Caochangdi village in Beijing.

Created during a residency at Galerie Urs Meile, Beijing, with concurrent solo exhibition, 2009. Also exhibited at Aeroplastics Contemporary, Brussels, 2013, and Villa Heike, Berlin, 2021.

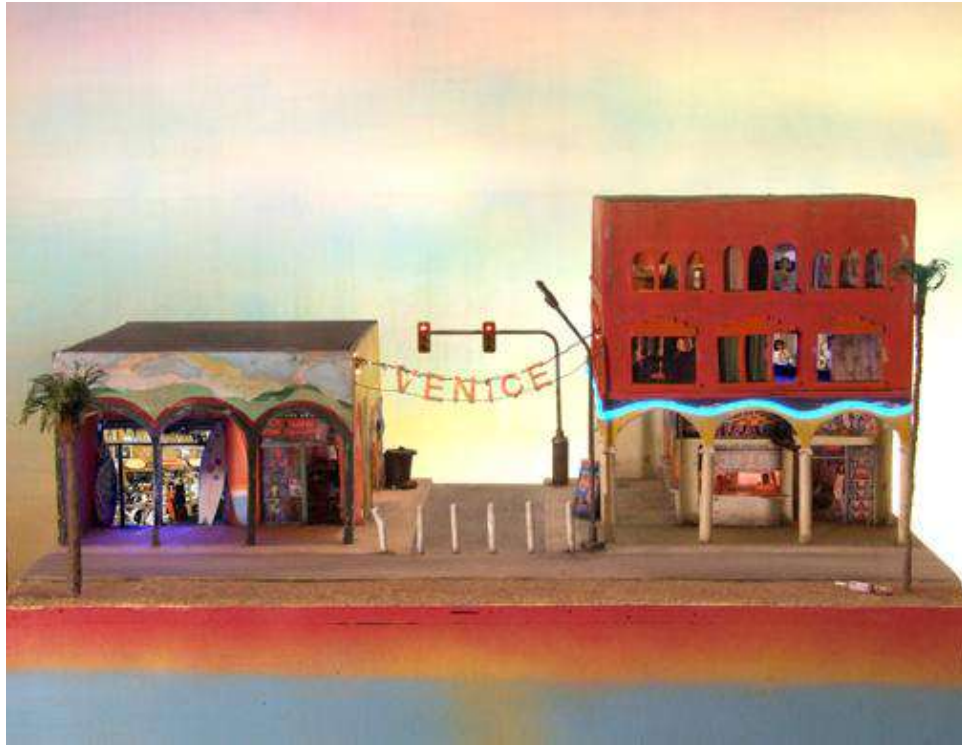


**Mexicalichina, 2011**

wood, metal, paint, fake landscaping, lights, electroluminescent wire, lcd screens, media players, speakers, transformer  
137 x 77 x 99 cm (with legs)

Mexicalichina combines the cultures of China, Mexico, and California. Drawing upon recent trips and residencies in China and Mexico, I combine buildings, restaurants, billboards, and cultural icons into a blend of sights and sounds that are very familiar to those living in California. Exhibited in 2050: A Brief History of the Future, Royal Museum of Fine Arts Brussels, Belgium; Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy.

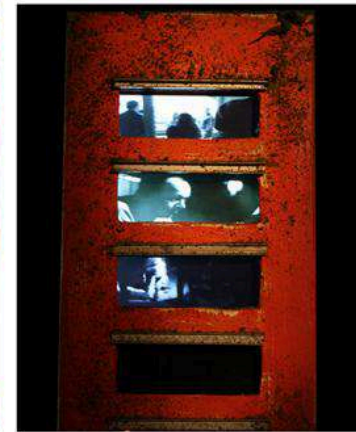
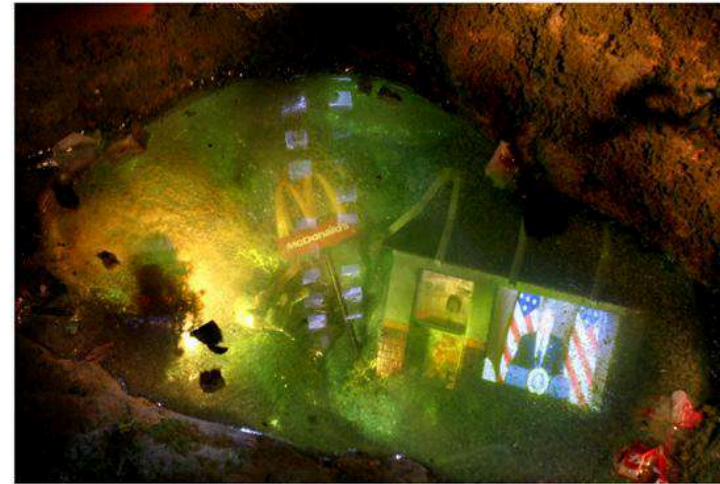
<https://vimeo.com/709485986>



**Venice Beach, 2009**

wood, paint, lights, lcd screen, media players, fake landscaping, transformer  
115.5 x 68.5 x 52 cm





**The Fall, 2014**

wood, paint, lights, fake landscaping and water, plastic, LCD screens, media players, speakers, transformer

81 x 71 x 46 cm

The Fall is an apocalyptic work, addressing what the world might be like if pollution and neglect to the environment continues. In the building, videos from La Jetée, Chernobyl Diaries, and The Road play. In the underwater McDonald's, the video plays scenes of the BP oil disaster, pigs dumped in a Shanghai river, fracking issues with tap water on fire, the "Toxic Avenger", the Japan tsunami, and more. The graffiti on the bottom part are images found in Chernobyl.

<https://vimeo.com/92567757>



**Four Seasons Total Landscaping and Fantasy Island Adult Books, 2020**

wood, plaster, paint, metal, lights, lcd screen, media player, speakers, transformer

38 x 70 x 43cm

Trump's lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, had a press conference to contest the election at the Four Seasons Total Landscaping instead of the Four Seasons Hotel (a huge mistake) The video that plays in the window combines footage of the press conference with clips of Giuliani trying to flirt and have sex with the young reporter in Borat 2. I overlaid audio of uncontrolled laughter, fart sounds, yelling, and sound effects.

Exhibited at Kreuzberg Pavillon, Berlin, 2021. Also in the short film A Poem is a City,

documentation video: <https://vimeo.com/485686175>



**Wild at Heart**, 2020  
mixed media with video  
20 cm x 47 cm x 28 cm

Sculpture based on the David Lynch film Wild at Heart.

Can be seen at the beginning: <https://vimeo.com/442763743>

Sculpture has its own wooden legs, or can be shown on shelf or pedestal



**Prom Night, 2016**

mixed media with video

39 cm x 39 cm x 39,5 cm

Prom Night is influenced by the teen romance movies I grew up with, and contain video clips from *Reckless*, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, *Valley Girl*, *Prom Night*, *Little Darlings*, and *Pretty in Pink*.



**Taykan Sports Arena, 2018**  
mixed media sculpture with video  
70 x 53 x 47 cm

This is a recreation of the Muay Thai kickboxing gym I trained at in the Wedding kietz in Berlin.  
Exhibited in First We Take Manhattan, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, 2018

<https://vimeo.com/709741221>



**Don't Look Now, 2020**  
mixed media sculpture with video  
47 x 35,5 x 44,5 cm  
Sculpture about the film *Don't Look Now*



**Paris, Texas, 2020**

mixed media sculpture with soundtrack and electroluminescent wire

21 cm x 61 cm x 33 cm

Based on *Paris, Texas* by Wim Wenders

(background is not part of the work)



**The Handsomest Drowned Man, 2012**

Mixed media sculpture with video

28 x 61 x 58 cm

Based on *The Handsomest Drowned Man in the World* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.





**Karaoke**, 2016, unique  
Wallpiece, mixed media, with soundtrack of bad karaoke  
18 x 29 x 23 cm



**BIG FUCK**, 2020

edition of 3

Wood, paint, plaster, led tube

207 x 153 x 70 cm

(can be mounted on stand or hang on wall)

The back is open, so the pink light fills the room. Very moody and atmospheric...

Exhibited in Open Windows, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, 2020



**FUCK, 2020**

edition of 7 (last in the edition)

Wood, paint, plaster, fake landscaping, electroluminescent wire

32 x 24 x 12cm

A commentary on the strange, tragic year(s) with covid. Also could be read as Fuck ICE, referring to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Also a statement. Or an invitation for sex.

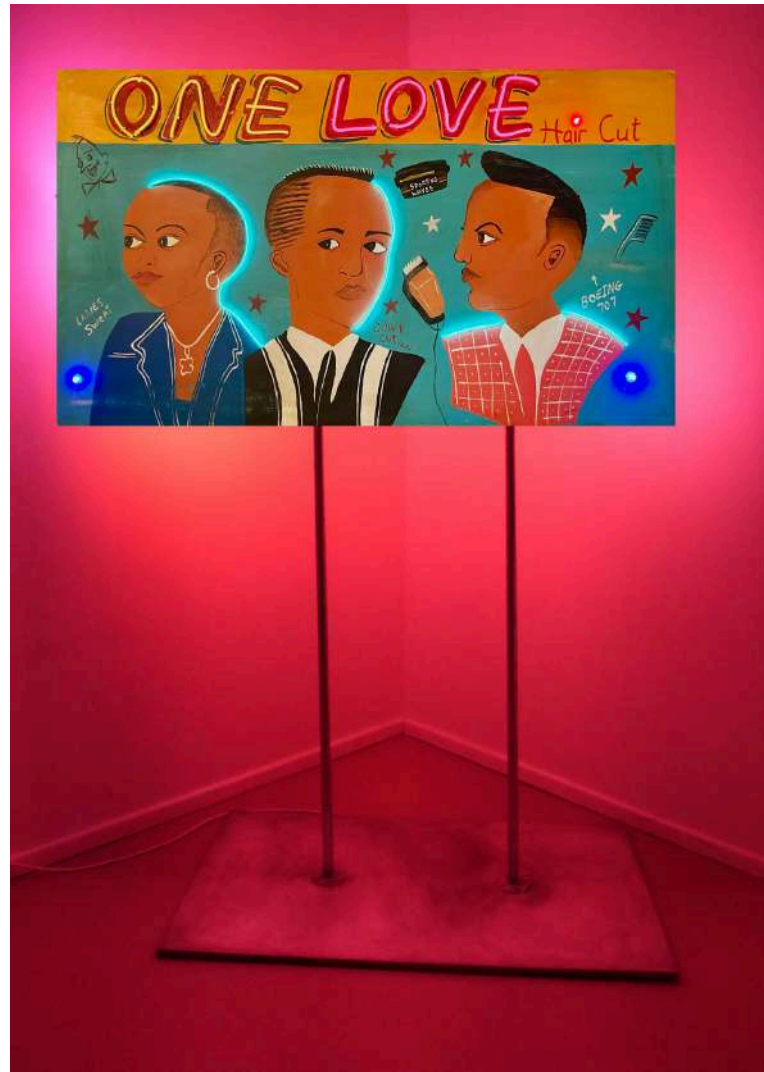


**Wait for the Clouds to Part to See the Moonlight, 2021**

mixed media light sculpture

50 x 143 x 8 cm

*Wait for the Clouds to Part to See the Moonlight* is actually *Keep the cloud open to see the moonlight*, a Chinese saying. It means to persevere, even when things look dark. This is also a tattoo on my back that I received two years prior to creating the artwork.



**One Love, 2013**

wood, paint, electroluminescent wire, transformer, metal poles, wood  
and concrete base

187 x 107.8 x 51 cm



**Safari Inn, 2021**

mixed media sculpture with video, unique

49 x 83 x 25 cm

During the 2020 lockdown, I rediscovered my obsession for motels, as an idea of escape, travel and freedom. I made drawings of several motels from images found online, including Safari Inn. A year later, I created this work.



**Cheetahs**, 2016

wood, paint, lights, electroluminescent wire, cold cathode lights, LCD screen, media player, speakers, transformer

46 x 52 x 10 cm

Edition of 5, 2 a.p.

Cheetah's Stripclub plays video in the club. The image is a photo collage using original and found images. The Cheetah's sign is backlit.



**Tunnel Top, 2012**

41 x 59 x 9 cm

Wall piece: wood, inkjet prints, paint, lights, lcd screens, media players, speakers, transformer.

Edition of 5, 2 ap (**last available**)

This piece is about San Francisco, bars, cities, and also the singles scene, referencing both the scene as seen from a grown woman's view, and also that from the times in the 1970's.

Vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/109755860>





**Harvey, San Pablo Avenue, Oakland, 2008**

edition of 5 (2 available)

13.5" high x 31" wide x 4" deep

wood, paint, lights, digital images, lcd screen, media player, speaker, transformer

The composite image is from San Pablo Avenue, Oakland around midnight. While shooting there, Harvey, a local man who grew up there, talks to us about politics, violence, and many other social topics.



**Hugs**, 2021

Edition of 5 (3 remaining)

**Hugs** offers what most people need after the long lockdown. The sign is attached to a well-worn building with a warm light inside.



### **A Poem is a City, 2021**

Short film by Tracey Snelling and Arthur Debert

A Poem is a City by Charles Bukowski (1969)

produced by Künstlerhaus Bethanien

2:09

Set to a narration of Charles Bukowski's A Poem is a City, Snelling becomes a character in her mini cityscapes, wandering the streets, night and day. From Berlin to Shanghai to Philadelphia, she takes on different personas as the settings change. This is a continuation of Snelling's exploration of the culture and architecture of cities, and the evocative moods that constantly shift within a landscape.

<https://vimeo.com/510727106>

video and photo, edition of 10, 2 a.p.



**Shoot It!!**, 2016  
video, 5:03

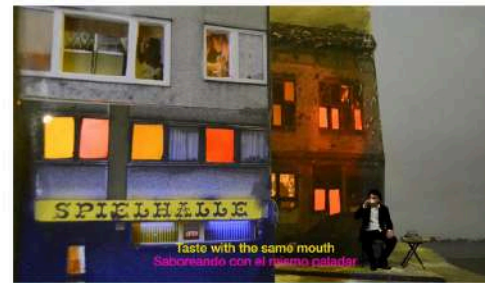
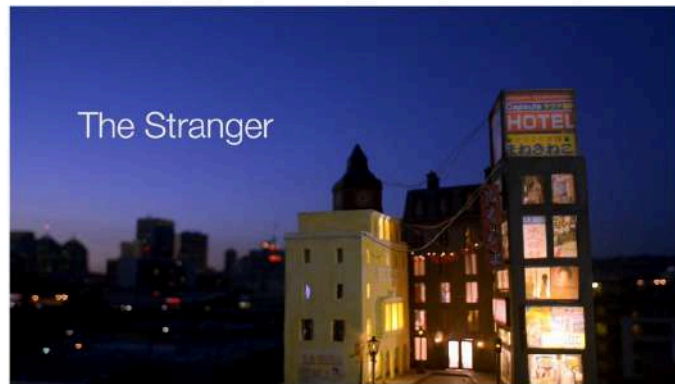
Originally inspired by a sculpture I made with the same title. **Shoot It!!**, the video, is a criticism on gun rights and the mass shootings that are such a huge issue in the U.S, still today.

**She-Devil 9**, **Studio Stefania Miscetti**, Rome, 2017.

**BIENALSUR**, **She Devil**, **MUNTREF Museo de Artes Visuales**, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2023.

<https://vimeo.com/176229962>

video and photo, edition of 10, 2 a.p.



### The Stranger, 2015

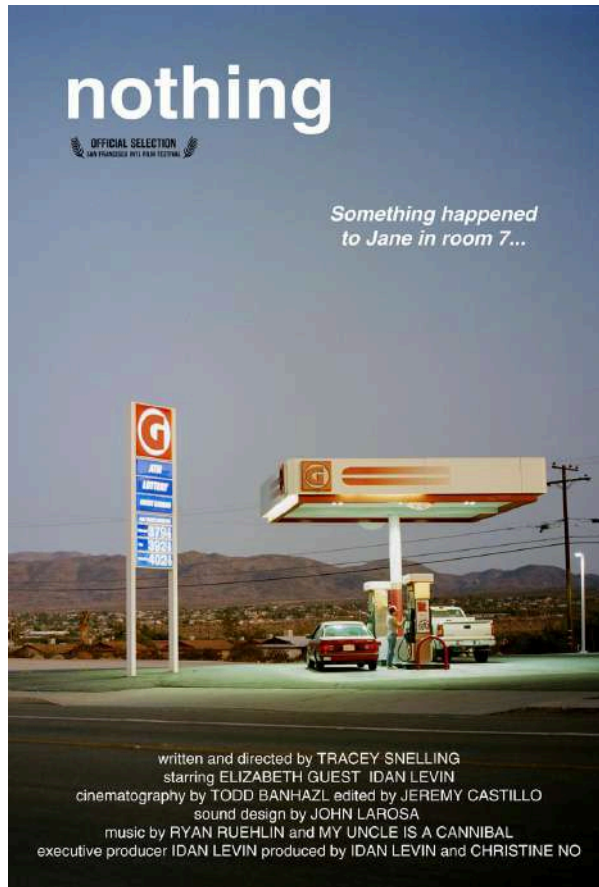
Film 5:00

Collaboration with Idan Levin

The Stranger tells the story of a man who wanders the world. He has no home, yet everywhere is his home. As he wanders from place to place through different distinct cultures, the idea of belonging and identity is explored. Small-scale sculptures are combined with the outdoor environment to act as the sets, with The Stranger superimposed into the small locales. There are two narrated poems, one in English and Spanish, the other in Hebrew and Arabic, with concurrent subtitles below. The poems are similar, yet one speaks of being alone, and the other speaks of us all being one. Part pioneer, part wanderer, The Stranger travels from Tokyo to Istanbul, from Beijing to Texas, and in the end, finds that we are all one.

<https://vimeo.com/106785669>

video and photo, edition of 10, 2 a.p.



**Nothing, 2012**

Film, 15:00

Nothing tells the story of a young woman living with a man that she doesn't love and a dead-end job as a maid in a rundown motel. Her only escape is through trying on the lives of the guests that are staying in the rooms. As Jane role plays, she comes face to face with her own life, in a frightening and honest way. Set in the heat-soaked town of Twentynine Palms, the desert landscape becomes a character, and the film rides the line between art and narrative.

Nothing debuted at the San Francisco Film Festival. 2012, and was part of the Thessaloniki Film Festival.

<https://vimeo.com/40554380>

video and photo, edition of 10, 2 a.p.