

# **THEATRE OF OPERATIONS**

*Video Project Proposal*

*scenario URBANO*

8/12/97

*John Curtain Gallery, Perth, July 1999*

*Hyde Park War Memorial, & Special Broadcasting Service, Australia, March, 2000*

*Viafarini, Milan & RAI, Italy, September, 1999*

*Theatre of Operations* is a video project to be presented at the John Curtain Gallery, Perth, Australia during July, 1999 and in a public space in the centre of Milan, during September 1999, hosted by Viafarini, Milan. The project investigates the relationship between male sexuality, contemporary nationalism and violence. The raw components of the project will be based on video footage undertaken in the armaments sections of historical museums (such as Castello Sforzesco, Milan), newsfootage from the war in Former Yugoslavia along with audio and video studio recordings.

## **Project Components**

### **i) Video Installation:**

a single channel video projection installation, of 7 minutes duration, for museum presentation in Perth and public space presentation in Milan;

### **ii) Experimental Video for Television:**

a single channel video of seven minutes duration for television broadcast on Australian and Italian Television;

### **iii) Catalogue**

a thirty page color illustrated publication with an essay on the new nationalism and masculinity by Nikos Papastergiadis, guest editor of Art & Design.

## **Project Description**

The project investigates the relationship between male sexuality and contemporary nationalism. The principal focus will be the correlation between the male anxiety around the notion of a leaking/impure body and the workings of the new nationalism, particularly in the Former Yugoslavia and in the former Eastern Bloc. It will underscore this with an inquiry into the classical armature of the male body, whether literally, in the form of body war armour such as worn by knights or metaphorically, in the steely poses of the modern warrior/athlete.

## **Project Funding**

<b>Australian Council New Media Fund</b> (May 22)	<b>\$28,000</b>	
airfares/accomodation	\$7,000	
catalogue		\$8,000
installation construction & equipment	\$13,000	
<b>Australian Film Commission</b> (May 22)	<b>\$12,000</b>	
Video production	\$6,000	
audio production	\$6,000	

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