

MERET, PABLO ET MAN AU CAFÉ.

(Meret, Pablo and Man having coffee)

A fur cup, a Rayograph and an installation by Åbäke with iittala.

30 May—15 June 2008, iittala 126 Regent Street, London, W1B 5SD

1 – The fur cup

(Printed ceramic mug. Edition 500)



Meret is ordering a café and a croissant. Pablo too. It is early spring and a bit chilly but the terrasse is already full. When she stretches her arm to reach the sugarbox, Pablo notices the incongruity of her fur bracelets and can't escape the thought of a fur lined world. She pauses. 'Even this cup, saucer and spoon!' she replies. They are still laughing when Man joins the table a few minutes later. He orders a café and a croissant as well.

2 – The Rayograph

(Offset re-production of photographic print. A0. In collaboration with **Klaus Riederer**. Helsinki, 25.3.2008. Edition 500)



A photogram is a photographic image made (without a camera) by placing objects directly onto the surface of a photo-sensitive material such as photographic paper and then exposing it to light. The result is a silhouetted image varying in darkness based on the transparency of the objects used, with areas of the paper that have not received any light appearing light and those that have appearing dark, according to the laws of photosensitivity. The image obtained is hence a negative and the effect is often quite similar to an X-Ray. This method of imaging is perhaps most prominently attributed to Man Ray and his exploration of rayographs.

- From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

3 – iittalic

(Hand blown glass alphabet made on a Trip to Nuutajärvi with **NOW**, design & architecture office.
The Glass alphabet made in collaboration with **Susanne “Suski” Koskimäki**, 23.3.2008)



We're here, you're not! was reading from a postcard on Iittala's glass factory wall in Nuutajärvi. For many years birds have been hand blown here. And before all, glasses of all kinds, sizes and colours. The glass bird collection (of now 400 species by Toikka) is said to have started as a glassblower hobby. Something done beside the production line and for a solely decorative purpose. Competition was high amongst the blowers. Whilst a robin was recommended for the young blowers, the peacock was only the produce of the most skillfull master. The birds, now been recognised for their qualities, have been transferred to the production line, so what is left for the glassblowers hobby?

4 – The Bistro Table

(Table and 3 stools. In collaboration with **Markus Bergström**)



Made from birch wood with 'typical' Finnish bending techniques, the bistro table is suitable for 3 peoples' cups, spoons and saucers. The table doesn't have much space for anything else but a lot of room for conversation.

5 –



— AH! mä nauran kun kuvani näin kauniina peilissäin nään
— AH! que je ris de me voir si belle en ce miroir
— AH! my beauty past compare, these jewels bright I wear!...Was I ever Margarita?
Is it I? Come reply! Mirror mirror tell me truly!

(Soundtrack 120 min. In collaboration with **Johns Lunds**, Copenhagen)

The cups manufactured in Arabia (Helsinki) aren't produced to the sound of big factory machineries but to the relentless drumbeat of the rehearsal rooms of the upstairs neighbour (The Jazz & pop conservatory). For the duration of the installation, an especially commissioned soundtrack by Saxophone player Johns Lunds will be playing from the basement of the iittala shop on Regent street. The Castafioresque soundtrack will be as much relating to the glassblowing film playing onto the 2 screens in the basement as to the glass shop itself.

During the private view, on **Tuomas Toivonen** (NOW) and **Yuri Suzuki** will perform a 'glass' concert. Kippis!

The fur cup & Meret, Pablo et Man au Café installation, done in cooperation with:

- the rayograph: Klaus AJ Riederer
- glass alphabet: Susanne 'Suski' Koskimäki and NOW
- the bistro table: Markus Bergström
- soundtrack: Johns Lunds

LINKS:

www.kitsune.fr

www.nowoffice.org

www.kar.fi

www.markusbergstrom.com

www.yoyooyoy.dk

www.iittala.com

www.myspace.com/abakespace