

# Albert Potrony

## Biography

Albert Potrony is an artist working in a variety of media: from sculpture and installation to video and sound. His work exploits the gaps between perception and interpretation, language and understanding to question how we view ourselves and how others view us. Allowing a story to unfold is a key principle of his practice, where scripts and incidental narratives work together in shaping the piece.

In 2010 Potrony was awarded a Gasworks International Fellowship at CCA, Lagos in Nigeria, to research the relationship between faith and individual identity. He is now developing **Faith** a multi-channel video installation based on the meetings and conversations he had during the residency.

His recent projects include **He Who Hopes** (2010), a peripatetic sound installation constructed from the material gathered in dialogue with a group of male asylum seekers detained at the Dover Immigration Removal Centre and the volunteers from the local community that visit them regularly and **I Want You to Know**, a sound installation commissioned by Whitechapel Gallery exploring the relationships between individuals and institutions. These works feature participation from both “real” people and actors, to investigate the subtleties of representation by first and second hand voices and our relationship with the notion of truth and artifice.

How do we view ourselves? How do others view us? How do we view what is outside us? Albert’s investigation of these fundamental questions has involved pavement and portrait artists drawing with no tangible subjects before them (**Alien** 2004 - mixed media installation), undercover tourist operations (**Terra Incognita** 2004 - video installation) and a succession of people filmed looking out of the same window (**The View** 2006-2007 - sound and video installation).

Rhythm, repetition and the experience of time are key elements in his work. Projects frequently develop and grow in relation to each space where the work is exhibited. His project **Alien** 2001-2004 evolved through a series of exhibitions in four distinct spaces: The Nunnery Gallery, London (2002), Kuenstlerhaus Dortmund, Dortmund (2003), Tonhaus Corso, Berlin (2003) and Art i Recerca 491, Barcelona (2004).

Other projects in development are:

**Caravan** - a collaborative video installation that focuses on themes of nostalgia, refuge and escape and **Dreams** - a video installation that looks into the family institution through the dreams and nightmares of three generations of one family.

Alongside his practice, Albert has devised and delivered art projects as artist educator for Whitechapel, Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Gasworks, The Drawing Room, Orleans House Gallery, English Heritage, Bow Arts Trust, Goldsmiths and Next Generation at the National Theatre.