

**Oumar Mbengue Atakosso**

interdisciplinary artist

concept of work metonymy

DasArts Laureat 2005

Amsterdam.2009

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*Oumar Mbengue Atakosso interdisciplinary artist <http://www.oumarmbengue.com>*

## Sample projects

| **Post Modern Immigrant**  
Lost & Found

# Post Modern Immigrant

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## Project description

The project LOST and FOUND is about the 'post modern immigrant', and what an individual, travelling through space and time has to lose or gain in their encounter with the destination, in this case, an encounter with the 'West'

The visual research that comprises the installation is based on three aspects (Installation, performance, 5<sup>th</sup> dimensional film) that are embodied by the concept of *homothecy*.

*Homothecy* here is a metaphor to describe one point in space from different points of view. One can think of Matrushka's (Russian dolls), one inside the other, geometrically occupying the same point, yet having a different relation to the outside world because of their relationship to each other.

It is the algebraic and arithmetical relation between what is lost and found, based on qualitative gain: whether or not the immigrant's newly found values can replace his lost values. In the end the immigrant will find a new identity based on the changing conditions of life. Dignity and (self) respect play a key-role in this process.

## Post Modern Immigrant



*Found media image of illegal immigrant rescued at the Spanish coast.*

**I Slept, and found that life was Beauty**

**I Woke, and found that life was Duty**

## Post Modern Immigrant



*Souvenir of Venture, 2007, artist's first pair of shoes upon arriving in Europe.*

## Post Modern Immigrant



*Dreams are bleeding above the cut-off heads, 2005, documentation of installation.*



## Post Modern Immigrant



Installation TRIPTYCH

*Chess board 2005 strategy of survival*

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## Post Modern Immigrant



*Without border documentation of live performance Installation*

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## Post Modern Immigrant



*Experimental medium 2006 documentation of installation(laboratory)*

The Lost & Found installation is built up as a five-dimensional 'frame'.

An installation "In situ", performance, and film.

The documentary is the documentation of the entire project.

## Lost & Found



*Load & Unloading documentation of exhibition 2009 (lots & found items)*



## Lost & Found

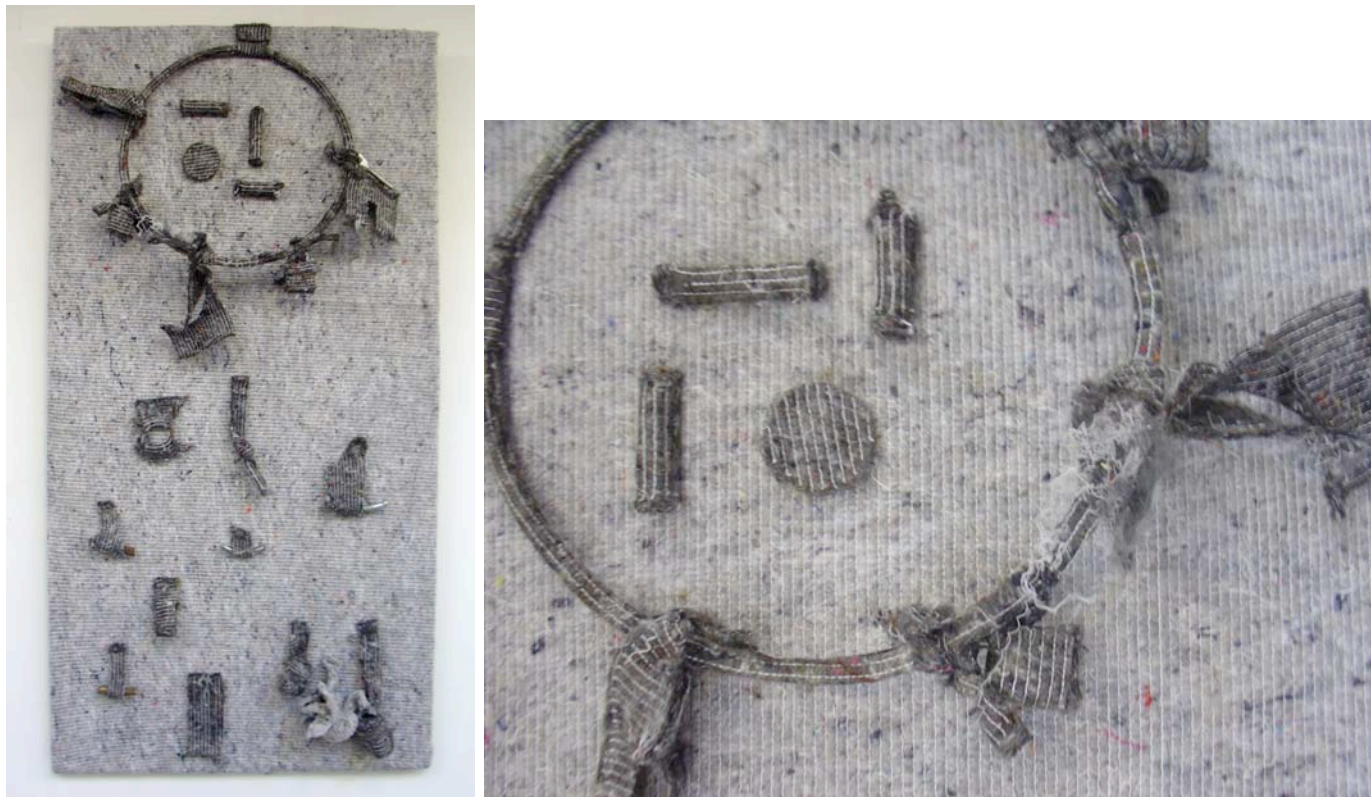


*Details installation*

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## Lost & Found



*Smiling faces 2007 Two dimensional figure 110cm/70c*

## Lost & Found



***GRIS-GRIS is an African heritage en guise of protection against bad luck or bad spirit,  
It brings also good luck and happiness.  
And the GRIS-GRIS is mostly wore under the clothes; hidde***



## Lost & Found (gris gris)

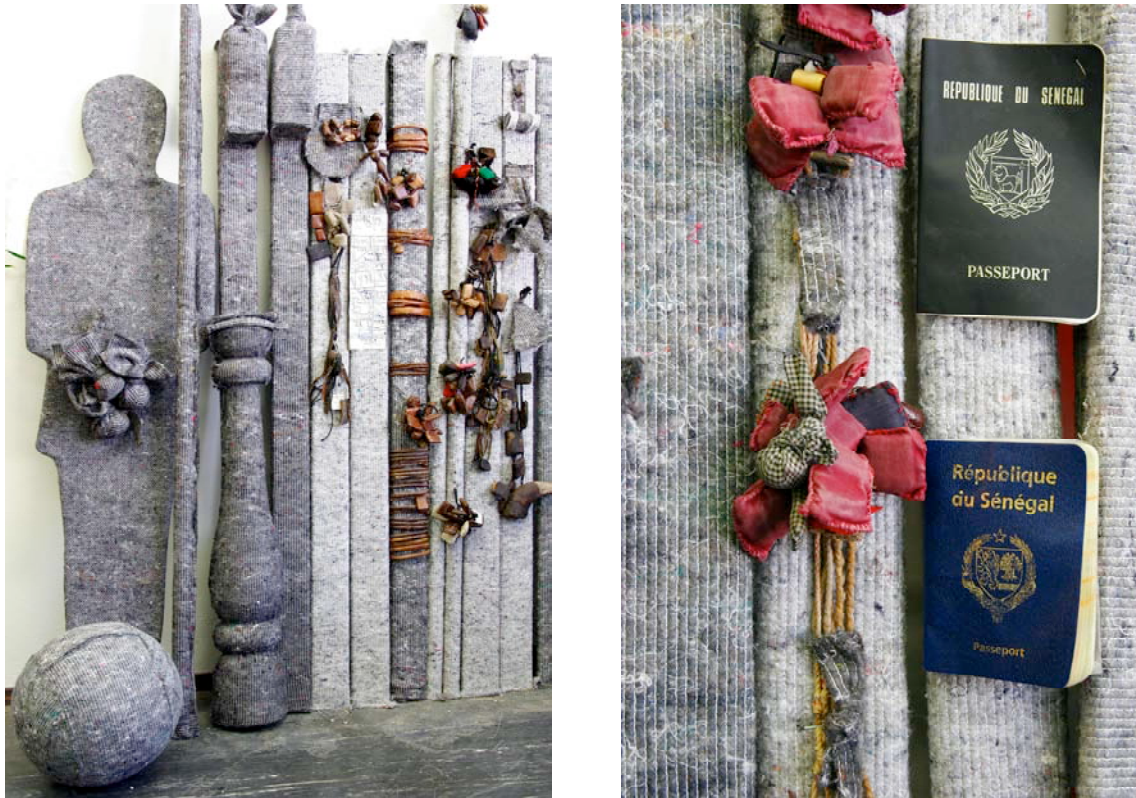
Gris -Gris is an African charm or fetish that protects the wearer from evil or brings good luck. This of the word Gris-Gris usually describes a small cloth bag worn on the person inside is placed a mixture of the following; herbs, oils, stones, bones, hair, nails, written text containing Arabic character or other personal items gathered under the direction of a believe for the protection of the owner

## Lost & Found



***GRIS-GRIS DE TETE. Are mostly wore by women on their head under the head scarf***

## Lost & Found



*Installation gris-gris overview & details 2009*

## Lost & Found



*Collier de GRIS-GRIS*

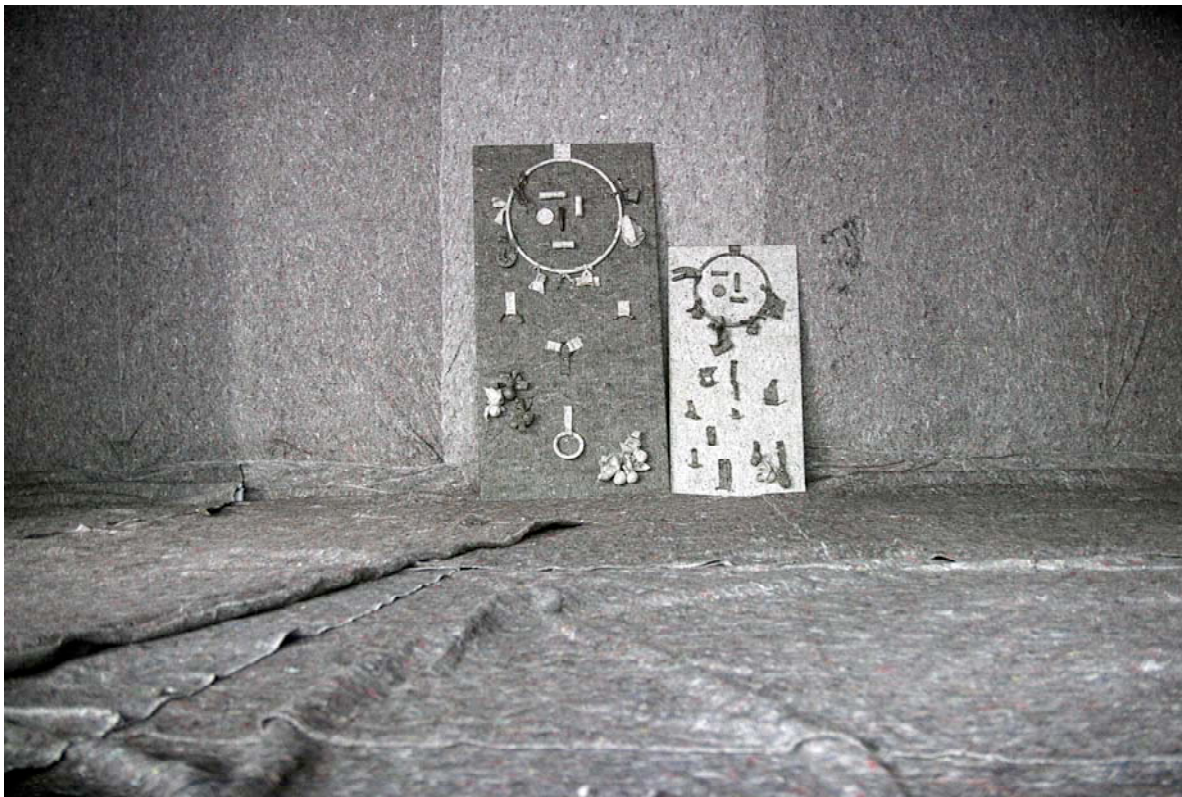


## Lost & Found



*Details of the installation 2009 documentation of exhibition 2009*

## Lost & Found



*Details of the installation 2009 documentation of exhibition 2009*



## Lost & Found



*overview & atmosphere of the installation 2009*

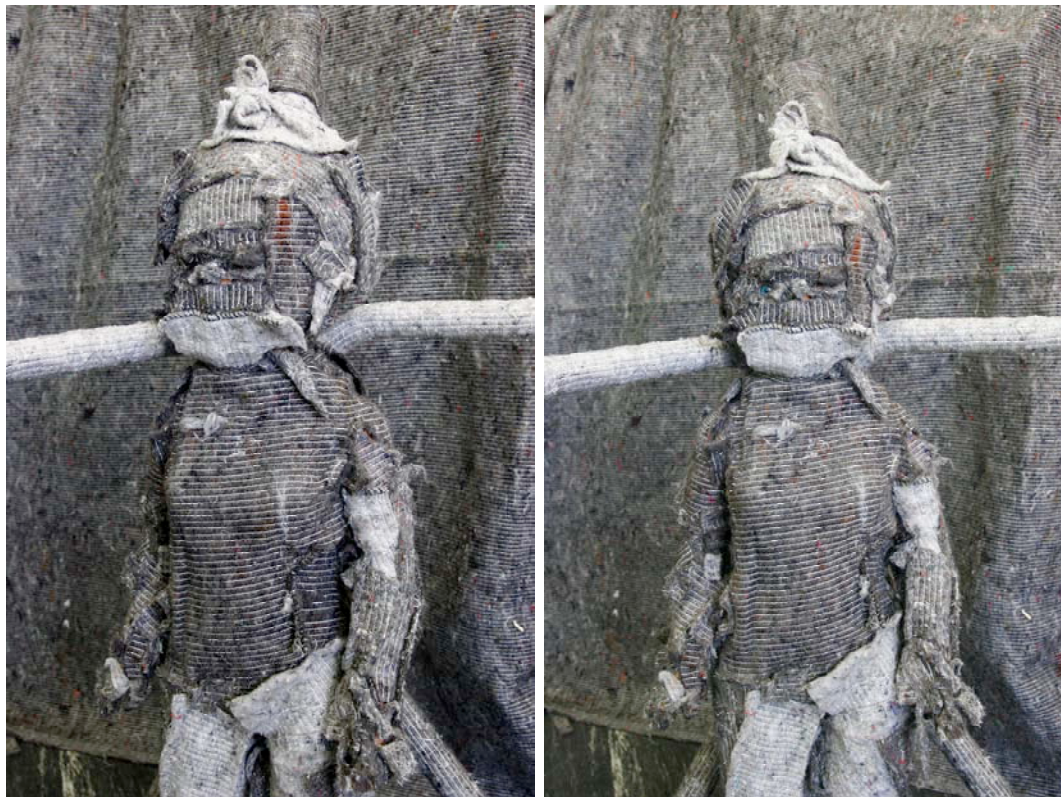
## Lost & Found



*Load & Unloading Zone 2009 documentation of exhibition*



## Lost & Found



*Poupee de fecondite 2009 documentation of exhibition*

## Lost & Found



*overview & atmosphere of the installation 2009*

**Installation in situ:**

Lost & Found (Loading and Unloading zone) all items are covered with grey blankets; a storage of items gathered around a visual statement.

The location where the project is presented is also completely covered with grey blankets (horse blankets), the walls, ceiling and floor like a tapestry.

**Performance:** Lost & Found *Could you be loved* (see synopsis).

The performance emphasizes the celebration of Lost & Found: A screen is placed right in front of forty to sixty individuals sitting around a monumental setting of Lost & Found items. (Food, drinks, clothing, covered objects with the grey blanket, and so on...) watching a film video,

**Video:**

The film emphasizes: The Urban Section, In a video that completes 'Lost and Found', I show a parade of traffic signs. In my eyes typically Western, even artistic signs, devised to ensure regulation and safety. They also, however, symbolize rules and laws, the obstacles with which a post-modern immigrant is confronted when attempting to claim his new home.

The State of Lost & Found is characterized within three processes:

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO CONSTRUCT A HUMAN?

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DE-CONSTRUCT A HUMAN?

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO RE-CONSTRUCT A HUMAN?



## Lost & Found



*Load & Unloading (lost & found items) 2009 overview of installationn*

## Lost & Found



*The artist's Daughter nursery 2008 documentation of exhibition*



## Lost & Found



*Details from the installation (daughter's Nursery)*

## Lost & Found



***Matrouschkas dresses 2009***



## Lost & Found



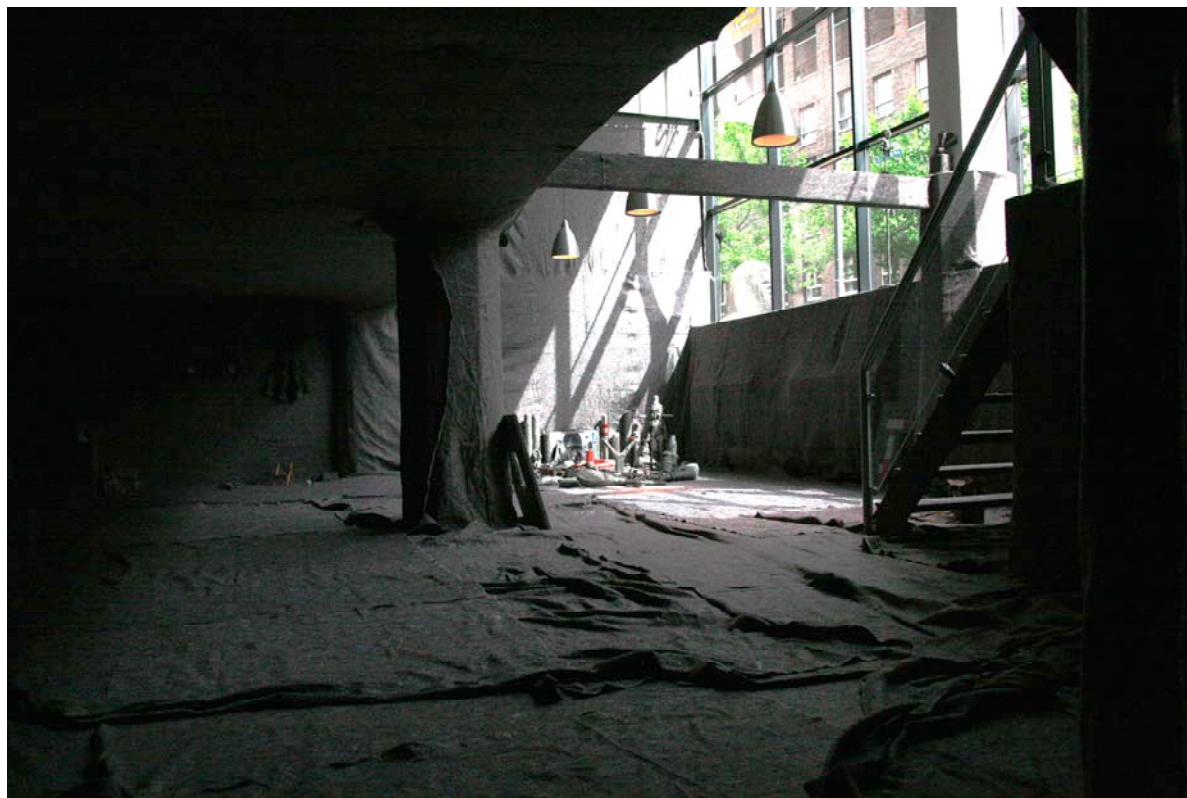
*Details of the Matrouschkas dresses*

## Lost & Found



*Overview of the installation 2009*

## Lost & Found



*Overview of the installation*

## Lost & Found



*The Artist posing with the Matrouschkas*

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## **contact**

For further information about Oumar Mbengue Atakosso

***<http://www.oumarmbengue.com>***

For images, CV and project descriptions please go to

***<http://www.oumarmbengue.com>***

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