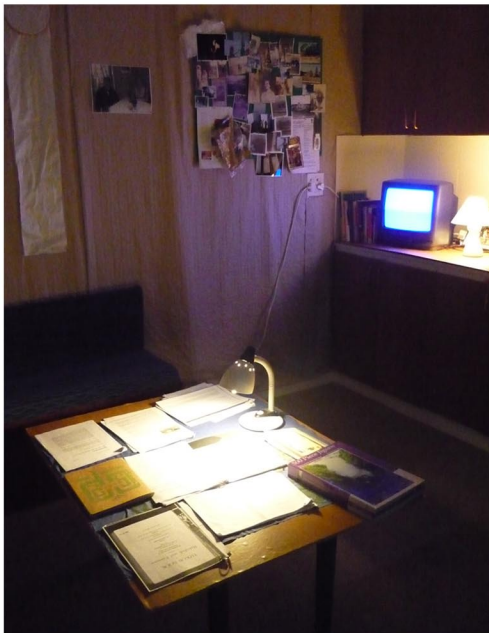




Offere
Digital video, 2010

Offere means to bring across, in the sense of an offering, or gift. In this case, the bringing across is an attempt to communicate with ancestors, to find their ghosts in a place they worked. To somehow bridge time, find a window. To leave an offering and hope that somehow it is accepted.

In many cultures, ancestor rituals consist of an offering, often food and wine. The film transposes objects, rituals and cultural references to recreate an impossible scenario, an invented idea of history which combines fact and fantasy.



Cabin Fever
Installation, 2010
Texts, found objects, photographs, fabric, wood,
Dvd player and monitor

Cabin Fever is a reconstruction of the cabin of the Green Cape, where the artists spent 26 days on their journey from Antwerp to Cape Town.

Juxtaposing personal family photographs with documentation of actions and performances carried out by the artists, and research materials and texts, the works in this installation constitute a search for lost identity, and a gradual realisation that identity is performed and invented, constructing an idea of a fictitious past.



Starter Culture
Mobile Installation, 2010
Suitcase, bread making equipment, culture

The starter culture is both a metaphor for the transference and transformation of culture as migration occurs, and a physical substance used by the artists to create a ritual of crossing thresholds. Using grapes from home, the culture is a natural yeast which can be used and re-used, continually changing but also staying intact, retaining some element of its original self. The culture is transported in the bread-making suitcase which also contains tools and equipment to make bread in any place, like the idea of a migrant trying to take everything necessary to recreate home as they travel.

At border crossings, and thresholds, the artists use the bread and salt to re-create the ritual of Khlebosolny, an Eastern European Jewish ritual observed at the crossing of a threshold to a new home, which consists of dipping bread in salt and eating it. The bread represents and blessing and the salt represents the preservation of the blessing.