

Grindcore!







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performance

car, driver, horn speaker, amplifier, CD player, audio CD

about 5 hours

2005

Isola Art Center, Isola district, Milan, November 2005

An old car runs along the roads of the Milan *Isola* district. A megaphone diffuses a recorded male voice that, with an emphatic and professional tone, declaims: "Women! The knife sharpener has arrived! I'll sharp knives, shears, scissors..." It is the sing-song croaking voice that for several years characterized the sound landscape of Italian cities. All afternoon long the sound, first loud and tangible, fades out through the buildings.

The fake moving craftsman becomes a transitory and unexpected presence. His voice, going through the urban space surrounding the *Isola Art Center**, re-connects the exhibition space to the block. The action redesigns the changing balances governing the area's ecosystem.

* The *Isola Art Center* is a contemporary art venue that has been operating for a few years in the *Stecca degli Artigiani* building. The *Center* was created by a group of artists and intellectuals whose aim was to preserve and develop the cultural and the economic resources of the *Stecca*. That building used to be a dismantled industry's headquarter where, at the beginning of the '80, the craftsman's studios moved (carpenters, plumbers, fitters...).

Now the building is a sort of multifunctional space for social and cultural experiences and a "reserve" for endangered crafts. Nevertheless the city government has planned to knock down the building to construct a new district dedicated to development and promotion of the fashion industry.