

ANTHONY REYNOLDS GALLERY

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PRESS RELEASE



EMILY JACIR

4 JUNE – 9 JULY 2005 TUESDAY – SATURDAY 10.00 – 6.00

We are proud to present the first solo exhibition in London of works by Emily Jacir. Jacir has, in a remarkably short time, established herself as a powerful voice making art across different media that illuminates how the general condition and the specific are inseparable; how outrageous injustices abroad debase our practice at home; how the displacement of others should shake up the fear of displacement in ourselves; how historical guilt cannot blind us to consequent oppression; how borders are defined as much in the mind as in the landscape.

The works in the exhibition include *ENTRY DENIED (a concert in Jerusalem)*, a video projection in which the physicality of the installation reflects the brutal denial meted out to the musicians filmed in the work. The sculpture *embrace* takes the form of an airport baggage conveyor, reduced to a tight circle of a diameter equal to the artist's body height, which goes round and round and round but only when the viewer approaches. While the title reflects friendship and intimacy it also suggests constriction; while the form reflects travel it also suggests no destination. *linz diary* is a sequence of images from a webcam surveying the main square in Linz at 6.00pm each day. In each image, the artist has inserted herself, proving her presence in the city, marking her existence but then slipping away into the mass of media generality as the camera continues its surveillance. *Untitled*, a collaboration with the artist Anton Sinkewich, is a bridge of books on Palestine, about Palestinians or written by Palestinians; it is a structural member forced between the walls of the gallery, held up by its own content, nothing else; a defiance of gravity, under which we pass. If one book is removed, the work is destroyed. Finally, there is the intimate poignancy of *Cell phone*, a hand drawn list of telephone contacts in the two cities in which the artist lives; in one frame Ramallah, in the other, New York.

Jacir was born in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 1970. She lives and works in Ramallah and New York. Among many exhibitions internationally, her work has been included in The Whitney Biennial, The Istanbul Biennial and the Sharjah Biennial and will also be featured in this year's Biennale di Venezia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND IMAGES PLEASE CONTACT MARCELO SPINELLI AT THE GALLERY