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The Stanley Cup is Missing / Renegades: (A Portable Museum)

John Fekner & Don Leicht

The project began in August 2010 when John Fekner shipped an archival case nicknamed The Stanley Cup to the Blk River Festival in Vienna, Austria. Although arriving on time to be part of the outdoor installation at a street market gallery, items from the archive have mysteriously disappeared while in transit from New York to Vienna.

The Stanley Cup is Missing/ Der Stanley Cup Fehlt functions on multiple levels as an urban memoir exploring issues of personal identity and ancestry within a historical timeline. Blurring the line between fiction and non-fiction, the project mixes autobiographical information and street theatre elements while referencing classic film noir movies such as *The Third Man* and *The Maltese Falcon*.

The open-ended story unfolds when the personal contents of Fekner and Leicht's Stanley Cup archive are either lost or stolen while in transit to a street art festival in Austria. Fekner nicknamed their archive 'The Stanley Cup' after the coveted National Hockey League trophy. Measuring 15"x 17"x 6", the portable museum archive box contains Renagades, collaborative documentation, personal ancestral photographs and documents, a slide binder, DVDs original drawings, poems and vintage 1970s hand-cut stencils.

In addition to Vienna, the ongoing project has recently (2010 – 2011) been seen in Miami and New York City.



Stanley Cup, Vienna. John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Space Invader, Vienna (I). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Space Invader, Vienna (II). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Space Invader, Vienna (III). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Space Invader, Vienna (IV). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Space Invader, Vienna (V). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Space Invader, Vienna (VI). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)



Stanley Cup, Vienna (II). John Fekner & Don Leicht (2010)

About the authors:

For over four decades, John Fekner's work has been involved with the general public, being among the first to expand the arts outside the walls of museums and galleries. In 1979, Fekner's shipping crate to an exhibition in Sweden became a temporary playhouse in the street for the local kids, with the crate eventually finding a home in the Museum of Sketches Archives of Public Art in Lund. A few of Don Leicht's earliest street work were his "Bird Feeders" installed in abandoned lots in the South Bronx and his free "Lunch Money" trays which included a participatory donation to a children's charity of one's own choice.

<http://blkriver.at/artists/fekner/>

www.johnfekner.com

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Photos courtesy John Fekner, Christian Mayrhofer, Sydney Ogidan, Jeewon Shin, BLK River Festival.