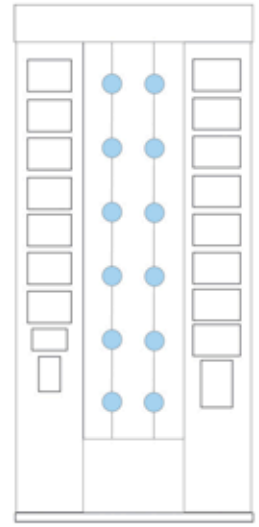
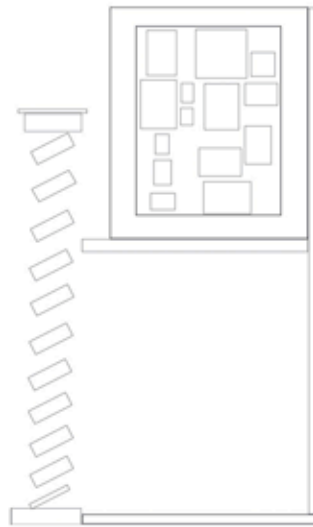
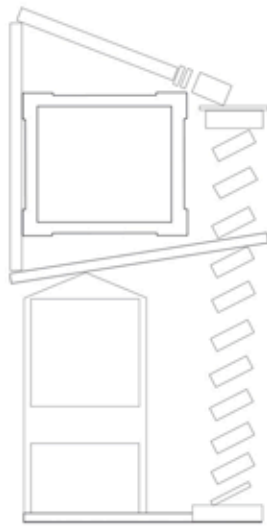
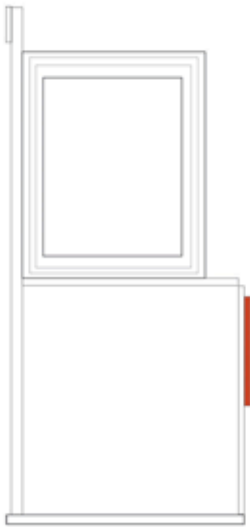
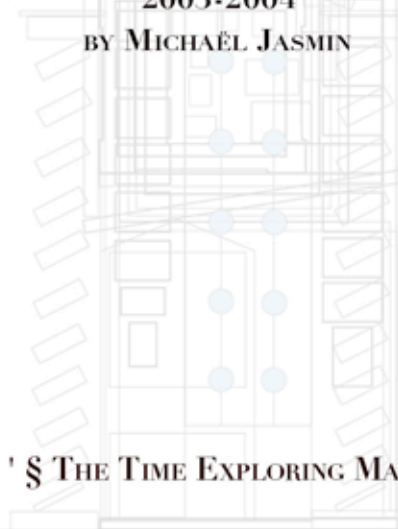


— MEMORIES SCULPTURES —

INSTALLATIONS-PHOTOS-VIDEOS
2003-2004
BY MICHAËL JASMIN



— ' § THE TIME EXPLORING MACHINE § ' —



The Time Flow or the Century Old House

'The Time Exploring Machine' also known as « The Century Old House » is an installation about memories of a house and its inhabitants whom occupied it over the course of one century, the XXth century.

This installation is a multi-faceted exploration on time and it's various material and mental forms. It explores the passing of time, the place, it's inhabitants, decade by decade, punctuated by the great axis of life; birth, marriage, death.

This is a multi-media installation using objects and furniture from the place, old and new photographs and video.

An intimate topography of memory: as the internal becomes external...

'The Time Exploring Machine' is composed of four sides echoing four

perceptions/expressions of time... Side 1: Time of the objects: the slow time, manifested through certain permanent unchangeable aspects, where rooms and furniture have not changed throughout a century.

Side 2: Time of the inhabitants' tempered by decades.

Side 3: Time and it's matrix rendered visible, a half a century condensed in picture.

Side 4: Paths in space and time: a fourth dimension melding the inhabitants, their pasts and present. Through a short recording of time, the spectator/visitor of the place, unknowingly assists in the passage of his present...already becoming past.

Memories... of the inhabitants, the walls and objects.

Through research work, Michael Jasmin has elaborated, exhumed and then constructed installations exploring memory and the passing of time. This creative work relies on the research of the material memory of objects. Hence, the installations are marked by the material memory of a person's life, the memories of a house owned over one century. Each one speaks of the place they are coming from, all materials and objects that constitute them come from these places.

This creative work is made in-situ from the century old archives of the house. The installations and their presentation are developed from the memory of the place and the material traces it left behind (photographs, objects, documents, furniture). By remodeling and reshaping these archives, new stories and histories come to life; periods meld together, objects take on new identities, ghosts appear...time appears almost showing it's matrix.

Contemporary art-chaecology in practice

The construction methods of these installations are related to some contemporary art-chaecology. From the basement of the place - a large mansion from the beginning of the XXth century - are drawn the raw materials and objects for the installations. As in archaeology, where ancient fragments are exhumed from the earth, the place "under the ground" in this house is the basement. The basement functions as an allegory of the passage of these objects "underground" and of this strange time period, real and symbolic, passed out of man's sight.

These materials stocked in the basement, out of use, castoff, are testimonies of the often negligible daily-life history of the house; boards, racks, window pieces, torn fabric, as many significant/ non significant fragments that have touched the inhabitants of the house for a few minutes or decades.

