

## BIOGRAPHY

### Elisabeth Smolarz

In the course of political change in the former Communist Poland of 1989 Elisabeth Smolarz's family emigrated to Germany. Age thirteen at that time, she grew up between two different cultures and was affected by a post-communist and a democratic system. As a consequence she got more and more involved in the idea of how consciousness and perception is formed by one's surrounding and its specific cultural, political, social and economical conditions. Since then her work has been shown nationally and internationally - in venues such as Kunsthalle Galapagos, NY, Baden Württembergischer Kunstverein, Photography Triennial Esslingen, Carnegie Mellon, Independent Museum of Contemporary Art (IMCA) Cyprus, Brooklyn Arts Council, Reykjavik Photography Museum, Espai d'art contemporani de Castelló, the Sculpture Center and the 3rd Moscow Biennale among others. Awards and residencies include the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen Travel Grant, Karin Abt-Straubinger Stiftung Grant, Capacete Artist Residency, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Red Gate Gallery Artist Residency, Beijing, China and more.

Elisabeth Smolarz received her BA and her MFA from the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste Stuttgart. From 2006 to 2009 she taught as a visiting Professor at the University of Applied Sciences Konstanz.