SICKLE AND HAMMER / 2012

video installation
year of creation: 2012
materials: textile tent, flat TV screen
video: AVCHD TV (1920X1080pixels) MOV PAL
colour, aspect ratio: 16:9, sound
duration: 41 seconds LOOP
dimensions: 200 / 155 / 260 cm

CAUTION!!! Caution! Please, do not do this at your home! Even do not try!! All the footage in these videos is shot as a result of long years of practicing Kung Fu, transcendental meditation and happy coincidence.

The main characters in this video are the famous icons of communism: SICKLE AND HAMMER. The action in my video is a visualization of Bulgarian sentence: TO BEAT SOMETHING IN YOUR HEAD!! – Which means somebody made enormous efforts to have or to achieve something that he/she don’t need after all.

This video is a part of my last series of videos “POST-COLL-GODS”, where I deal with the religious and sacred function of gods and replace them with icons of the post-socialistic time as Lenin, Stalin, Mao and so on, by putting myself on the place of them. For me making such a parallel is important for the understanding what drive made so many people follow them in the failure implementation of this utopia... Because, 23 years after fall down of the Berlin wall, I still have a lot of “communism” in my head, that’s why, the video also can be considered as my private quest to knock the stupid “communism” out of my head.

October - November 2013 – EAST+EUROPE: Eastern European Contemporary Art Exhibition, curator: Mee Ping Leung, (catalog), Hong Kong City Art Hall / HONG KONG, CHINA
April 2013 – This video loop has been shown at KoshmART: contemporary art exhibition (catalog), GRAFIT gallery, Varna, BULGARIA

http://vimeo.com/77492650
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2012-hammer.htm
NEGATIVE MESSAGE (MIDDLE FINGER)

year of creation: 2012

colour, aspect ratio: 16:9, sound
duration: 1 minute & 15 seconds LOOP
dimensions: variable

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This video aims to present Neno’s visual interpretation of the world and the social environment, where he lives in, by showing seemingly well-known non polite gestures. Those gestures are matched by contradictory but very strong visual element (the RAINBOW / SPECTER), which if considered at one level, seem to be in conflict with one another both ideologically and visually. In fact, in favor of the dispute, the artist denies them. In other words: by negation, through denial, he affirms a favorable and positive opinion. As a result of it, the artist achieves a message with an irrational impact, which does not have to be considered by using logical thinking. In the video we observe seemingly barbarian or even savage attitude, which puts under question the achievements of the civilization, but the RAINBOW appearance changes the video meaning deep in its roots and makes it multileveled.

This video loop has been shown at:
April 2014 – IN-SONORA VIII: Sound and Interactive Art Festival, Madrid, Spain
Nov 2013 - DUPINI LIKE: international video art exhibition, the Old Post Office, Veliko Turnovo, BG
October 2013 – 3rd MULTIMEDIA SHOWCASE: International exhibition, AXA, Porto, Portugal
July 2013 – PRIZM 14: International exhibition, Millennium Gallery, Sheffield, UK
June 2013 – THE RAINBOW DOESN’T BELONG TO ANYBODY: solo video art exhibition, CONTEMPORARY SPACE gallery, Varna, BG

http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2012-midle.htm
POSITIVE MESSAGE (LORD OF THE RAINBOW)

video installation (exhibition view)
year of creation: 2012
video: AVCHD TV (1920X1080pixels) MOV PAL
colour, aspect ratio: 16:9, sound
duration: 57 seconds LOOP
dimensions: variable

CAUTION!!! Caution! Please, do not do this at your home! Even do not try!! All the footage in these videos is shot as a result of long years of practicing Kung Fu, transcendental meditation and happy coincidence.

In the middle of the 17th Century, the RAINBOW was scientifically explained by Sir Isaac Newton. Nowadays, we all know how a sunbeam driven through a prism breaks up into spectral colors. In fact, white light (rather conditionally because the sunlight is more or less yellow light) breaks down into its constituent beams. And since yet again, (almost) all of us know that man breaks (interprets) the world via his own view as if through a prism, so, this exhibition attempts to see the world “passed through” a man (an artist) how it breaks into its "basic core components" and after that again collect itself. (if I explain it correctly).

It is an exhibition, which has to be regarded as a research on the RAINBOW as a phenomenon – physical (optical), but also political, social, financial, psychological, mystical and last but not least a phenomenon visual – the RAINBOW as natural manifestation of spectral colors.

September 2013 – CHANNELS: The Australian Video Art Biennial, Melbourne, Australia
July 2013 – Winner of the Acid Rain July 2013 Episode #59; Acid Rain: an online video art platform; NY, USA
June 2013 – This video loop has been shown at THE RAINBOW DOESN'T BELONG TO ANYBODY: solo video art exhibition, CONTEMPORARY SPACE gallery, Varna, BG

http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2012-positive.htm
video installation and performance  
year of creation: 2007  
tpa: Torino Performance Festival, 2013  
gallery Green Box, Turin, ITALY  
duration: approximately 36 minutes  
dimensions: variable

In the storage box there is an alive man in embryonic position, who is the author of the project – Neno. Inside the box he is filming with video camera, which broadcasts TV signal to a beamer. The image of the sweating and suffering man in very uncomfortable position of the body in this very tight space is projected on the wall of the gallery.

http://vimeo.com/69224004  
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-perf-2013-immigration.htm

This performance has been shown at:

14 June 2013 – TPA: Torino Performance Festival  
gallery Green Box, Turin, ITALY  
curators: Manuela Maco and Guido Salvini  
http://vimeo.com/69224004

8 June 2013 – OTETZ PAISIY:  
the street festival, curator: Stefka Tzaneva  
Plovdiv, BULGARIA, http://opsfestival.com/

23 October 2009 – The Invisible Generation project  
OCA T - Contemporary Art Terminal of  
He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, CHINA  
http://www.vimeo.com/17814039

11 December 2008 – KAUNAS IN ART:  
"CONTEXTS" festival for contemporary art (catalog)  
Kaunas, LITHUANIA (catalog)

4 October 2008 – REDline'08: Bordering on Us  
International Meeting of Contemporary Art Community  
IDEIAS EMERGENTES, Rua Santa Catarina, 777  
Porto, PORTUGAL (catalog)
SICKLE AND HAMMER / 2012

video installation
year of creation: 2012
materials: textile tent, flat TV screen
video: AVCHD TV (1920X1080 pixels) MOV PAL
colour, aspect ratio: 16:9, sound
duration: 41 seconds LOOP
dimensions: 200 / 155 / 260 cm

CAUTION!!! Caution! Please, do not do this at your home! Even do not try!! All the footage in these videos is shot as a result of long years of practicing Kung Fu, transcendental meditation and happy coincidence.

The main characters in this video are the famous icons of communism: SICKLE AND HAMMER. The action in my video is a visualization of Bulgarian sentence: TO HIT / TO BEAT / TO KNOCK SOMETHING IN YOUR HEAD!! TO BEFFET IT IN YOUR HEAD!! – Which means somebody made enormous efforts to have or to achieve something that he/she don't need after that (if I explain it correctly).

This video is a part of my last series of videos "POST-COLL-GODS", where I deal with the religious and sacred function of gods and replace them with icons of the post-socialistic time as Lenin, Stalin, Mao and so on, by putting myself on the place of them. For me making such a parallel is important for the understanding what drive made so many people follow them in the failure implementation of this utopia... Because, 23 years after fall down of the Berlin wall, I still have a lot of "communism" in my head, that's why, the video also can be considered as my private quest to knock the stupid "communism" out of my head.

April 2013 – This video loop has been shown at KoshmART: contemporary art exhibition (catalog), GRAFIT gallery, Varna, BULGARIA

http://vimeo.com/63452458
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2012-hammer.htm
A MUMMY OF MICKEY MOUSE / 2012

cursed object
year of creation: 2012
materials: textile patches over silicate base, coloured with acrylic colours and covered with golden folio.
dimensions: 100 / 55 / 26 cm

The idea of this series of objects is to create a kind of strange and bizarre parallel between the Ancient Egyptian art and some “contemporary” icons. Born by the will of somebody to replace the real values of the ideas, which makes the world goes around, the commercial reality usually presents life much more luxurious and wasteful than as it is. Dealing with it and the religious and sacred function of mummies, this series of works is a part of my quest of finding the meaning and function of art in nowadays society.

Under the mummy, in the pedestal on which it is placed, there is a hidden mobile phone jamming device. It acts as a “curse” of the mummy.

This work has been shown at CONTEXTILE: Contemporary Textile Art Triennial, (in conjunction with the European Cultural Capitol Guimarães’2012) Guimarães, PORTUGAL

http://www.vimeo.com/49600116
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-sculpture-2012-mummy-10.htm
AN OLD RED COMPUTER, WHO TALKS TO HIMSELF 2010 / 2011

speaking object
year of creation: 2011-2012
dimensions: 129 / 125 / 131cm

An old red computer repeats in several different languages this sentence: I AM AN OLD RED COMPUTER, WHO TALKS TO HIMSELF. The sound has been created by using online Google Translate. The entire sound is 6 minutes and 40 seconds long in its duration.

This work deals with the restoration of the Communistic system in Bulgaria and all post-socialistic countries, made by Old Red Commies and also with the economical rise of China, which produces the biggest part of all computers all around the world, having economical system, which is neither capitalistic, nor socialist, but in the same time China pretends that it is still communistic country.

This replica of the work has been shown at FAR: Festival for Art as a Research, Ottersberg, Germany

http://vimeo.com/43888554
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-installation-2012-red.htm
We all know how a sunbeam spent through a prism breaks up into spectral colors, in fact white light (conditional, because the sunlight is more or less yellow light) breaks down into its constituent beams. And since then, pretty much all of us know that men break (interpret) the world in their own views as well through a prism, it would be interesting to see the world spent over a man how it breaks the “basic core components.” In this video, I do not spend the world through my perceiving model, but a beam of a flashlight in the “emptiness” of my mind.
PENDULUM

video-installation
year of creation: 2008
dimensions: variable

documentation about video-installation from solo-exhibition in NCCA (Saint-Petersburg branch), Saint-Petersburg, Russia September 2011

This work deals with the those motions like pendulum, which in their own nature are deep into the nature of the author. He feels pain in his backbone since his childhood and this is one of the ways to make this pain decrease.

In other hand he often throws by one extreme to other extreme same like a pendulum.

http://www.vimeo.com/29514697
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2008-mahalo.htm
An old red computer repeats in several different languages the sentence: I AM AN OLD RED COMPUTER, WHO TALKS TO HIMSELF. The sound has been created by using online Google Translate. The entire sound is 6 minutes and 40 seconds long in its duration.

This work deals with the restoration of the Communistic system in Bulgaria and all post-socialist countries, made by Old Red Commies and also with the economical rise of China, which produces the biggest part of all computers all around the world, having economical system, which is neither capitalistic, nor socialistic, but in the same time China pretends that it is still communistic country.

The work has been shown at Pixelpoint 2011 - New Media Art Festival, Nova Gorica, Slovenia

http://www.vimeo.com/24308899
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-installation-2011-red.htm
This audio-visual performance (VJ-ing) is based on the radio-play FACEBOOK by Elitza Mateeva. This is new adaptation for VJ-ing and for Skype. The actors played through Skype.

http://www.vimeo.com/22555102
Different documentary video interviews are broadcast simultaneously on the TV screens, ones that were filmed during a hitchhike trip through the countries from South-eastern to Central Europe and in which the drivers share their opinion of the European Union and Bulgaria’s membership in it.

http://www.vimeo.com/14775839

2The people interviewed are drivers of cars who pick up hitchhikers. This is a very specific group of people and it cannot be an official statement about the thinking of the European population, but it is interesting to know what precisely this subculture thinks about Bulgaria’s relations with the European Union. In fact, these drivers choose to be interviewed themselves, allowing the author to hitch a ride in their cars by their own choice. Of course, some of the drivers (mainly Bulgarians) refused to be interviewed.
installation
2009, Shenzhen, China

technique / medium: bamboo, metal net, alive bird, coloured glasses, cartoon and green tape.

dimensions: the body: 430 / 150 / 70 cm
the slogan: 120 / 200 cm

The installation “What Do You Want For Your Body?” has been exhibited at the outside wall of OCAT - Contemporary Art Terminal of He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China during the time of the open studio, 13-18 November 2009. The meaning of Chinese text is: “What Do You Want For Your Body – To Be A Birdcage Or To Be A Nest For Your Soul?” The work is possession of He Xiangning Art Museum.

http://www.nenobel.net/neno-sculpture-2009-tvoeto-tyalo.htm
In the box at rickshaw there is an alive man in embryonic position, who is the author of the project – Neno. Inside the box is based video-camera, which broadcasts TV signal with the support of a transmitter. The image of the sweating and suffering man in very uncomfortable position of the body in very tight space is received by the TV screen. The performance “Immigration In Rickshaw” has been presented at the loft of OCAT -Contemporary Art Terminal of He Xiangning Art Museum, Shenzhen, China during the time of the The Invisible Generation project, 23 October 2009.

http://www.vimeo.com/17814039
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-perf-2009
IMMIGRACIA.htm
Other performance, which I've made as a part of the The Invisible Generation project, is about crossing a street in a Bulgarian's way. This performance is based on the video, which we made together with my friends in the beginning of 2006 and we won prize of jury for best video at "ON DIFFERENCE #2" competition in Sofia, Bulgaria. There in Shenzhen I have adapted for Chinese situation, in order to be more understandable for local people. These few photos are from the performance at Shenzhen, 24 October 2009 and they explain the idea pretty clear.

http://www.vimeo.com/17813866
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-perf-2009-how-to.htm
More than 30 different cases of pickaxes imbedded in luxurious cars have been recorded in Bulgaria since 2005. It is claimed this is a patent of the Bulgarian mafia along the Black Sea coast, constituting a message to the owner of the car meaning “We have unfinished business with you!”. Others think some of the dozens of assaults were not made by the mafia but by ordinary people seeking justice that they did not find in court, but this cannot be proved. Using a car with pickaxes imbedded in it simply as a form in combination with video documentation, the video-installation presented charges this metaphor with different meaning and connotation. Using the problems in today's Bulgarian society as a base, its objective is to face visitors with conundrums. In the present complex and contradictory times, when the value of humane ideas has been changed1, it is not the job of the artist to give easy answers. Every observer will find a different meaning in this video installation and that is precisely what is important today, when pluralism is of enormous importance for the development of both art and society as a whole. Different documentary video interviews are broadcast simultaneously on the TV screens2, ones that were filmed during a hitchhike trip though the countries from South-eastern to Central Europe and in which the drivers share their opinion of the European Union and Bulgaria’s membership in it.

One of the major problems facing Bulgaria is the existence of a mafia and structures similar to it in every single sphere of society, which also reflects on the international attitude towards the country and on Bulgaria’s relations with the European Union.

http://www.vimeo.com/17813622

1 The people who want to find the true value of the ideas should look and see the real essence of things through their outer skin.
2 The people interviewed are drivers of cars who pick up hitchhikers. This is a very specific group of people and it cannot be an official statement about the thinking of the European population, but it is interesting to know what precisely this subculture milieu thinks about Bulgaria’s relations with the European Union. In fact, these drivers choose to be interviewed themselves, allowing the author to hitch a ride in their cars by their own choice. Of course, some of the drivers (mainly Bulgarians) refused to be interviewed.
ВЪЗДУШЕН ДЕСАНТ НА ПЪХОВЕ
/ AIRBORNE TROOPS LANDING OF THE RATS

action
2009, Genova, Italy
15 rat-toys with belts for animals and parachutes on their backs

This action was a part of NoPassWord No.0 festival for contemporary art in Genova. The rats, which have parachutes on their backs, were thrown through the windows of Palaco Dukalje building into the crowd of people, who are in this time at the Ferrari square in the old part of Genoa city. But there, for security reason of the people, those were artificial rats and the rats were not white but grey. This is a photo of the last rat, which was thrown through the windows of Palaco Dukalje at 9 of May 2009 Genoa, Italy.

"Airborne Troops Landing of the Rats" is an action, which is based on my dreams. It has no purpose, intent, and probably no idea and message. There is also a possibility, this is just apparently, because according to me it has something to ware indistinctly, hardly and hardly, no one can define precisely. And exactly, this ambiguity fascinates and attracts me. I seek to find a way to the unusual, strange, and if you want, and useless and senseless. That no sense which everyone would understand in his own way. I’m not someone, who necessarily holds to be understood when making art. For me it is not important to have cause and reason for it.

Probably, if there is a reason for me to do such an action, it is to shake the minds of the people and to wake up them from the apathy and to remind them that this world is not only place where they have to earn money, but the art is here and it gives them opportunities for journey to some other worlds.

http://www.vimeo.com/17813360
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-perf-RATs-2009.htm
In the traveler's chest there is an alive man in embryonic position, who is the author of the project – Neno. Inside the box is based video-camera, which broadcasts TV signal with the support of a transmitter. The image of the sweating and suffering man in very uncomfortable position of the body in very tight space is received by the TV screen. The performance “Immigration In Suitcase” has been presented at the street in front of Espaço IMERGE as a part of REDline'08_Bordering on Us, programme in Espaço IMERGE of IDEIAS EMERGENTES (IMERGE), Porto, Portugal 3-4 October 2008.

http://redline08.wordpress.com/03-exposicao/
http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2008-immigration.htm
ЦИЛИНДЪР / CYLINDER

video installation
2007, Hidamari gallery, Moerenuma koen, Sapporo, Japan
year of creation: 2005-2007
dimensions variable
NTSC colour screening, sound,
toy-train set, white cartoon cylinder
duration variable

The toy-train is moving continuously in a circle, in which there is a fixed cylinder. The cylinder has such dimensions that its height equals the circle diameter. A small video-camera is mounted into the toy-train. It is presenting continuously the image of the cylinder in wireless way. The image is projected on the wall of the gallery where the installation has been exhibited. As a result of the specific cylinder dimensions, toy-train motion and specific camera position, the image is changing in such way that at certain time intervals, the cylinder is seen either as a circle or as a square only.

The continuously changing world is woven from infinite manifestation of the two cosmic forces of creative energy, Ying and Yan, which flow smoothly one into the other. Using the symbolism of Eastern mysticism, the author humbly offers a simple example of the flowing of Ying and Yan by presenting the shifting of the square (Ying, Earth, Human, Micro-Cosmos) into a circle (Yan, Sky, Universe, Macro-Cosmos). The viewer is made to look at this process through the window of the toy-train recalling in this way his own journey through the circle of life; that we all are travelers in the same train looking through its windows outside and thinking that everything is continuously changing but actually the world remains the same.

http://www.vimeo.com/15960495
An eager fan of the “Sermon with Flower” delivered by Buddha, i.e. the artist, Neno Belchev, is interested in every form of silence – in terms of a road, or a way how to follow that road, and finally in terms of an artist - he is interested in silence as a form of influence.

For this work, he follows partly the Hesychasts (quietists) - followers of the maxim: ‘In order that you can hear, you must be silent!’ The Hesychasts took a vow to keep silent, which they kept up during all their lifetime, or over a definite period of time. Similarly, Neno takes a vow to keep silent; sinking deeply in an environment, where one cannot but keep silent.

Neno Belchev has a profound respect for all mystics dedicated to spiritual self-excellence, and he sincerely wishes to be like them but for unknown reasons he fails to be alike and admits this with a smile on his face. This work is the outcome of that smile.
KAМЪК СЪС СЪРЦЕ / STONE WITH HEART

video installation
year of creation: 2006
dimensions of the stone: 70 / 45 / 25 cm
PAL colour screening, sound
stone, TV screen, black curtain

Over the stone with bizarre shape is implanted monitor, on which is visible beating heart.

Neno aims to rehabilitate the stone in the eyes of society and to erase from the social consciousness the expression ‘a man of stony heart’. He, alike the ancient people, perceives the world as being spiritualized and believes that stone has a heart and soul. In order to show to the world that this is just how matters stand, a stone sacrifices ‘himself’ and allows Neno to impair ‘his’ integrity and to ‘implant’ it a screen, where the stone heart can be seen.

http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2006-stone.htm
МАХАЛО / PENDULUM

video installation
Biennial August in Art 2008, Varna City
Gallery, Varna, Bulgaria
year of creation: 2008
dimensions variable
PAL colour screening, no sound

The image of a man hanged head below, making motion, which is very similar to the motion of a pendulum, is projected to the wall of the gallery. The top line of the image coincides with the top line of the wall, between the wall and the ceiling. The size of the screening has to be related with the natural size of the projected man.

There is no conception, but those motions like pendulum in their own nature are deep into the nature of the author. He has been feeling pain in his backbone since his childhood and this is one of the ways to mitigate this pain. On other hand, he often throws himself from one extreme to other extreme - same like a pendulum, looking for his self-identity.

http://www.nenobel.net/neno-video-2008-mahalo.htm

ВИЖ КАК ЕЪГАРИНЪТ ПРАВИ ИЗКУСТВО!
/ SEE HOW THE BULGARIAN DOES ART!

video installation, ready made
2007, Georgy Velchev gallery, Varna, Bulgaria
year of creation: 2007
dimensions variable
PAL colour screening, no sound
old TV, old clothes, plastic window-doll, plastic chair, old sun glasses, old hat

In the Buddhism there is specific term about “doing without doing”. Neno was impressed by this from a long time. In Japan he has found the way to do art and in same way to do nothing. And he could say that this is the Bulgarian way to do art. He has made a video, in which the spectators could see how he moves the fingers of his feet. In Bulgarian language has speech “he moves the fingers of his feet” and it means “he does nothing”. That is all.

РЪКАВИЦА С ОТПЕЧАТЪК ОТ РЪКАТА НА ХУДОЖНИКА / THE ARTIST'S GLOVE WITH HIS OWN HANDPRINTS

silicone, textile glove, wooden box, plexiglass
dimension of the object: 32 / 14 cm.
dimension of wooden box: 45 / 45 / 9 cm.
year of creation: March 2008
dition: just one original

ДАМСКИ МОНОКИНИ С ОТЛИВКА НА ПЕНИСА НА ХУДОЖНИКА / FEMALE MONOKINI WITH CASTING OF THE ARTIST'S PENIS

silicone, textile bikini, wooden box, plexiglass
dimensions of the object: 35/24 cm.
dimension of wooden box: 45 / 45 / 9 cm.
year of creation: April 2010
dition: just one original

ТЕЗИ ЧОРЪПКИ ОСТАВЯТ СЛЕДИ В ИСТОРИЯТА НА КАКЪВТО ОСТАВЯ ПАВЛИНА МАДЕНОВА / THESE LITTLE SOCKS LEAVE THE SAME FOOTPRINTS IN THE HISTORY AS PAULINA MALDONOVA

silicone, socks, wooden box, plexiglass
dimension of the object: 25 / 24 cm.
dimension of wooden box: 39 / 39 / 7 cm.
year of creation: 12 – 15 March 2008
dition: just one original
РИЗАТА НА ХУДОЖНИКА С ИЗБИЛИ НЕЗНАЙНО КАК ЖЕНСКИ ГЪРДИ / THE ARTIST’S SHIRT WITH PROTRUDING, NOBODY KNOWS HOW, WOMEN’S TEATS

silicone, shirt
dimension: 50/80/10 cm.
2008

ЧЕР ТРИКОТАЖЕН ПОТНИК С ИЗБИЛИ НЕЗНАЙНО КАК ЖЕНСКИ ГЪРДИ / BLACK FEMALE’S SLIP SHIRT WITH PROTRUDING, NOBODY KNOWS HOW, WOMEN’S TEATS

silicone, shirt, wooden box, plexiglass
dimension: 54/66/8 cm.
2008