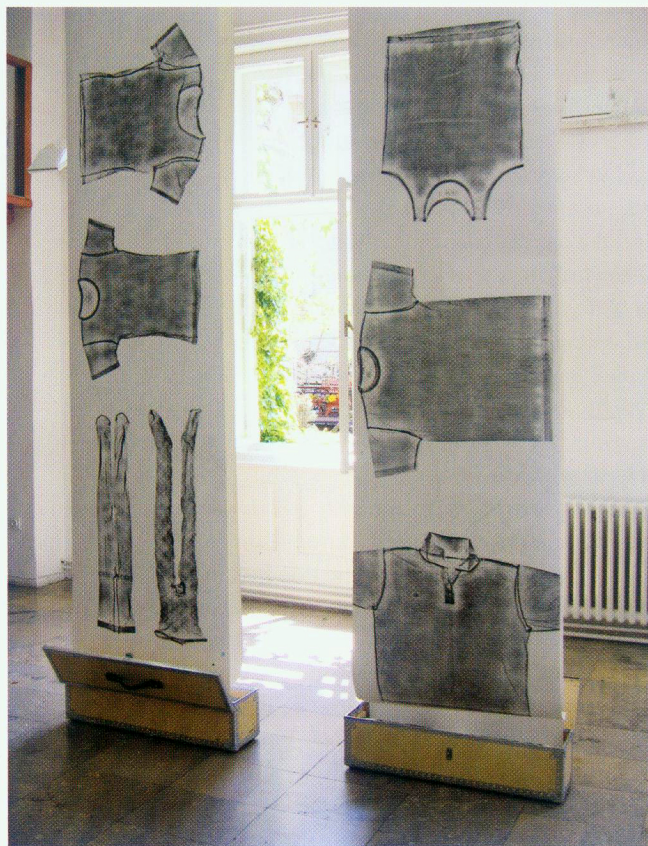


KLAVS WEISS

Klavs Weiss was born in Denmark, where he lives and works in a small village in western Jutland. He trained in ceramics, and is a self-taught printmaker who has exhibited widely and made performances in many countries. Together with Karen Havskov Jensen he runs the ET4U Gallery in the village where they live, which since 1999 has shown work by a wide range of international artists and performers. This project is aimed at encouraging an interest in and practice of the contemporary arts in a rural area affected by depopulation, and has led to many interesting outcomes.

It has long been accepted that printmaking is a visual-arts medium that depends to a large part on the artist's willingness and ability to collaborate with others in order to produce prints. In addition, the affordability of prints in comparison with the relatively high prices of paintings and sculpture make it accessible to a potentially wider range of people. The relationships established through this medium between artists and the public have a good social value from many points of view. Klavs Weiss takes the process of engagement with other people to a different level, at which performance and public interaction play a major role. The immediacy and accessibility of his printing performances contrasts with the inevitable distance between the work of a painter in a studio and the exhibition of the paintings in a gallery. To witness such a performance is to become involved with it, and the interested and engaged reactions of participants prove that contemporary art can relate to people in new ways, as celebration, thought provocation or social comment. Weiss's work has achieved all these during the time he has been making performances.



Klavs Weiss, *Miss Jovanović and Mr Petrović*, 2004.

Print on fabric, wooden and metal boxes, 1000cm. 394in. (length of each roll of fabric). Installation at Galerija Akademia, Belgrade, Serbia.