

ION



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#01 Swiss video miss



The "Videart Channel", which has introduced more than 100 works by video artists from around the world, is currently presenting that of Switzerland's Elodie Pong. She is well-known on the contemporary art scene in her home country, especially for *Secrets For Sale*, her unique 2002 collection of "people's secrets". She negotiated with her subjects to be allowed to shoot their confessions, and the resulting video touched a chord in viewers with its candid airing of the dark

side of the human mind, with which many could identify. Pong's iconoclastic approach has certainly brought a new energy to the art form and to youth culture in general. A selection of her video art will be shown at the Tokyo Wonder Site Shibuya from September 30 through to October 30. For further information, please visit www.tokyo-ws.org

World's best compete for Index

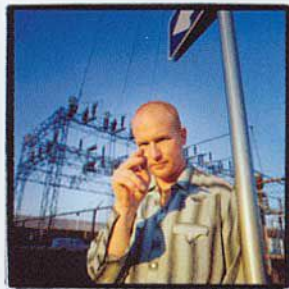
#04



Some 500 designers are competing to win the one of the world's most prestigious design and innovation awards. Starting on September 23 and lasting for seven weeks, Index will present two major international design open-air exhibitions in Copenhagen, and will also hold a summit for

creative leaders. One of the exhibitions deals with future scenarios while the other concentrates on the 100 top nominees for the Index Award. Many of the designs can already be viewed on the Index website at www.index2005.dk. There is much diversity among the many nominations, all of which help to improve the lives of great numbers of people. The various designs that have been nominated encompass both well-known designs such as the Apple iPod and the Google search engine, as well as completely unknown designs such as the Hippo Roller (a rolling bucket that helps in the transportation of water) and an electric car for the disabled. Most of the designs are of European or American origin, but other parts of the world are also well represented.

#02 Mo kicks



Nike's "Air Force 1 Nature of Communication Laser Series" shoe features the drawings of Portland,

Oregon artist "Mo". The limited-edition shoe has created a frenzy among collectors, many of whom will be lining up to buy one of only 100 pre-released pairs in the US at the Capitol 1524 shoe store in Seattle. Mo's philosophy is evident in the maze-like drawing and words laser-etched into the shoes, which tell a story, says Mo, "connecting each wearer to the universe" – beginning on one shoe and ending on the other. The shoe features an image of a brain on the toe panel of the left shoe, while a heart tops the right shoe. After this collaboration, Mo now finds himself being contacted by a growing global fan-base. Recently released in Europe and Asia, only an estimated 5,000 pairs were made available worldwide. Some of the other Nike Laser Series shoes have recently traded on E-Bay for as much as US\$950. As a dedicated visual artist, Mo embraces his growing celebrity, recognising it as a platform to reach out to a larger, broader audience. He welcomes visitors to his website at www.virtualmo.com.

Blowing a Gasket

#05



Award-winning digital artist Greg Shultz has launched Gasket to serve the commercial, music-video and feature markets with a creative collective offering design, visual effects and 2D/3D animation. Shultz began his career in the fine-arts field, developing his craft of design and illustration. At college, he simultaneously worked for a design company, where he managed projects and clients. After graduation from Saint Olaf College and the Minneapolis College of Art and Design (MCAD), he was chosen for a Saint Olaf Artist Apprenticeship, during which he spent a year expanding his skill-set in commercial design. From there, he joined Crash & Sue's and within a year was a lead Flame artist for the company. During his successful seven-year tenure at Crash & Sue's, Shultz contributed to projects with clients such as Best Buy, Kmart, Buell, BMW, Perkins, Great Clips, Gordmans and General Mills, and agencies Peterson Milla Hooks, Swanson & Russell, Carmichael Lynch, Martin Williams, BBDO, Krukopf Coontz, Olson and Company and Fallon.

Following his successful tenure there, Shultz co-founded the design firm Make and this experience laid the foundation for the development of artist-operated Gasket, which is comprised of a diverse group of artisans with talents ranging from cel animation to painting to video-game design. Gasket includes next-generation artists Jiang "Jacky" Ke and Justin Greiner. Both Ke and Greiner hail from Shultz's alma mater MCAD, with which the Gasket founder has developed a unique internship and recruiting programme. Tammy Kimbler Weber is Gasket's producer and brings a wealth of post-production and effects experience to her role at the new company. Shultz's works can be seen in this issue's DVD or you could visit the following website: <http://www.gasket.tv>.

#03 Man in metal



Melbourne artist James Dodd creates both unsolicited work in the public domain and saleable, large-scale stencil paintings. His playful, pop-referential work disrupts corporate media and institutional art-world politics with critically cool ease. The images conjured for *Something Metal Inside Of Me* are dark and strange. They are portraits of men with long hair and pouting lips, suspended in darkness and flaunting their mix of macho with sensuous glamour. The tightness of their pants is testified via staunch poses, proclamations of their ability to scream alongside racing guitar solos in deafening displays of falsetto.

Dodd uses simple yet powerful imagery to convey the social pressure of his urban environment. His art is seen in many forms; stencil art, street sculpture or installations. His large wall paintings, colourful billboard collages and politically charged portraits are testament to his representative flexibility, biting sense of humour and commitment to politicised culture. The show *Something Metal Inside Of Me* takes place at Melbourne's Helengory Galerie from September 1 to 24. For further information please visit: www.helengory.com