



The exhibition will be on view from February 8<sup>th</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2012

## CA2M presents the exhibition *Aernout Mik*, the first Madrid survey of the artist's work

- The exhibition comprises four video-installations reflecting the societal tensions and today's emotions
- Aernout Mik's exhibition will be opened as part of *Focus The Netherlands* in ARCOmadrid 2012

**13.dic.11.-** CA2M Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo of the Regional Government of Madrid presents in February 7<sup>th</sup> the work of the Dutch artist Aernout Mik (Groningen, Holland, 1962) as part of Focus The Netherlands from ARCOmadrid 2012. Curated by the CA2M director, Ferran Barenblit, the exhibition comprises 4 pieces: *Glutinosity* (2001), *Schoolyard* (2009), *Training Ground* (2006), and *Raw Footage* (2006). These 4 video-installations, as in many of Aernout Mik's works, have contact points with film, performance, writing and architecture. The scenic dimension of the exhibition will be hence reinforced by an action where visitors will carry out a subtle interplay with the artwork and the exhibition space itself.

Through a non-specific narrative, the works of Aernout Mik (Groningen, Holland, 1962) suggest situations which reflect the societal tension and the today's emotions. In his work, we view images referring to wars, global crises and social and racial conflicts which apparently become familiar to us. This exhibition falls within the solo exhibitions housed by CA2M since its opening, approaching to Madrid people the artwork of outstanding foreign artists like Guy Ben-Ner, Wilfredo Prieto or Gregor Schneider, today on display.





## Collective Practice

Among the topics dealt by Aernout Mik, he reproduces the inherent violence of the human behavior once in group, many times referring to politics and social events and its reflection in the media: wars, crisis, economic depression, racism and social tensions. From improbable situations and verging the absurd, the artist draws a social commentary with no clear conclusion, where the characters try to affirm their own individuality within the group context they belong to. The exhibition comprises 4 pieces: *Glutinosity* (2001), *Schoolyard* (2009), *Training Ground* (2006), and *Raw Footage* (2006).

## The artist

Aernout Mik was born in 1962 in Groningen, Netherlands, (1962) and now lives and works in Amsterdam. He was awarded the Sandberg prize in 1997 and the Dr A. H. Heineken prize in 2002. He represented the Dutch Pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 2007.

His first solo exhibition *Primal Gestures, Minor Roles* opened in Van Abbemuseum of Eindhoven in 2000. Since then, Mik presents his work in the fields of video, the performance, the architecture and the sculpture in different museums as the Camden Arts Center in London 2007, the Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst in Aachen, Germany, 2008 or at Nueva York's MoMA in 2009, among others. During 2011-2012, the Galerie National du Jeu de Paume in Paris, the Folkwang Museum of Essen and the Stedelijk in Amsterdam, will held most of his works.

