

M U R R A Y G U Y

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SHIRLEY TSE

*Waiting at the place where America
parts from Eurasia*

February 3 – March 10, 2007

Opening Saturday February 3, 6-8pm



Murray Guy is pleased to present *Waiting at the place where America parts from Eurasia*, a project by Shirley Tse.

Comprising a series of photographs, a small sculpture and a video projection, *Waiting at the place where America parts from Eurasia* came out of a trip Shirley Tse made to Iceland in November 2004, shortly after the last presidential election.

Sitting squarely on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, Iceland is located precisely at the divergent boundary of the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates. Taking this drifting apart as an analogy for the United States' political shift away from many of its traditional allies, Tse represents this isolation by placing a solitary bench in the landscape. The bench, made of Tse's customary material, polystyrene, plays on the lack of a sense of scale in a landscape in flux thereby extending the metaphor. This tiny, almost comic, inorganic object emphasizes human smallness in the face of nature's enormous power, making obvious our precarious and fragile existence within such a force. The bench is also a place to wait or contemplate one's surroundings, a clear reference to the ecological issues currently in debate.

Shirley Tse was born in Hong Kong in 1968 and has lived in the United States since 1993. Her work has been exhibited in museums in the USA and overseas including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Capp Street Project, CCA, San Francisco; Vancouver Contemporary Art Gallery; Galleria d'Arte Moderna di Bologna; ICA Boston; the New Museum, New York; the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto; the 2002 Biennales of Sydney and Fortaleza. She lives and works in Los Angeles.