

Etablissement d'en face presents:

BABAK GHAZI

08.12.12 - 13.01.13

Over the last four years Babak Ghazi discarded his art production to focus on the development of *Lifework*, a personal synthesis of art and life. Rejecting the completeness of an artwork, *Lifework* is communicated as an open-ended library or resource, in which found and fabricated material is presented collage-like in box files and crates. For this exhibition, Babak Ghazi is presenting only the crates.

As Ghazi writes: "Each of us turns our instincts into ways of living, philosophies, art. We attempt coherence. But in the process we get rid of the non-sense, the stuff that doesn't fit into our newly stable identity. *Lifework* is my idea and identity, but there is a remainder – the stuff that did not make it into my ordered archive, collected here in the crates. It is the stuff that I can neither make sense of nor let go of. It is my excess."

We are presented with an archive, a diary and a confession but also a fiction, contrived as object and performance. Magazines, personal possessions, test prints and tracings: much of the material evidences the construction of an artistic persona and the way in which artifice, stylization and self-invention can constitute moments of revelation. The artist asks you to engage with it as much or as little as you like. *Please Touch*.

Babak Ghazi (born 1976, lives in London) graduated from Edinburgh College of Art in 2001. He organizes the *Not Yet Night* events series and self-publishes *Not-Yet* magazine. In 2012 he presented *Lifework* at Raven Row gallery, London.

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