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PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT

## 'Hurt Locker Instruments'

A project by Ei Arakawa in collaboration with Mari Mukai, Gela Patashuri and Sergei Tcherepnin

### Performances

Fri 23 April\* 17.00-18.00 at Park de Gagel in Overvecht  
Sat 24 April 12.00-13.00 at Kanaalstraat in Lombok  
Sat 24 April 18.00-19.00 at Esperanto monument in Overvecht (the Brilledreef and Zamenhofdreef crossroad)

### Concert

Sun 25 April 15.00-16.00 at Casco (Nieuwekade 213-215)

N.B: You may also join the excursions to each location by meeting at Casco 30 min. prior to each performance.

### Exhibition at Casco

Phase 1: 16 April – 26 April 2010 open daily 12.00-18.00

Phase 2: 27 April – 23 May 2010 open daily except Monday 12.00-18.00

The 'Circular Facts' launching event is held at Casco on Friday 23 April at 20.00.\*

This project is also part of Springdance (16-26 April 2010, [www.springdance.nl](http://www.springdance.nl)), an international annual dance festival in Utrecht.

"Through this inhabiting, this touching and this telling, one realises that everything is transformable, even the over defined, the over-identified."

- Ruth Buchanan in the publication 'Lying Freely'

"To spend a weekend having repeated, strong doses of New Zealand has almost put me off balance. I sit here ... dreaming of snowgrass and snowberries and tussock ... of the Southern Alps, and of rivers ... Good God, I've kept asking myself, what am I doing on this side of the world? If I don't get back to New Zealand I'll die, or, that which is equivalent to death, my writing will get worse and worse."

- A letter by author Janet Frame (a central reference in Ruth Buchanan's work) to her friend.

"Rumours circulated on Friday morning that all the feeds of international news would be blocked from airing on Georgian television for the next two weeks."

- 'Georgia on my mind - Tbilisi' an essay by Nicholas Reynolds from Tbilisi 4: Everyday is Saturday (<http://www.tbilisi4.com>)

With his new project 'Hurt Locker Instruments', New York based Japanese artist Ei Arakawa contributes to Casco's ongoing exploration of a social space. Ei Arakawa's work often consists of group dances, collective actions and improvisational performance, entailing a process of constructing a temporary, informal architecture with daily materials, which may then be transformed into an exhibition. In this working method, the notion of "makeshift" or what one may call "an organized practice of unexpectancy," plays a key role. By extrapolating from a given context or an existing cultural reference and collaboratively moving towards an estranging situation, Arakawa resists the tendency to limit human productivity by allotting it a proper form, a proper place or a proper name. Instead, he enquires about the extent of "make-shift" agency whilst animating a communal space.

In 'Hurt Locker Instruments', which is also conceived in the light of Utrecht's annual dance festival, Springdance, Arakawa merges two references - 'Lying Freely', a Casco project by Ruth Buchanan and 'Tbilisi', an annual contemporary art event in Tbilisi that Arakawa was involved in—in order to experiment with how different urban contexts, individuals of Utrecht and Tbilisi and two cities seemingly of no common ground, can be connected. Accordingly, Arakawa invites two artist friends who were part of his Tbilisi experience—Sergei Tcherepnin and Gela Patashuri—to join the performances as well as a carpenter friend Mari Mukai for a remote contribution. Also open for spectator participation and last-minute collaborators, their performances comprise of different referential archives and materials and take place at three Utrecht locations—Park de Gagel, Kanaalstraat in Lombok and Esperanto Monument—that introduce some heterogeneity into the otherwise monotonous urban landscape. The outcomes of the performances will then be reconstructed at Casco, where they will alter and extend Buchanan's 'Lying Freely' installation.