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Alicia Frankovich, *A plane for behavers*

Exhibition Dates: 16 May—27 June

Opening reception: Friday 15 May

Curated by Emma Bugden

Ex-pat New Zealand artist Alicia Frankovich flies into Auckland this month fresh from exhibitions in Australia and Europe, where she is establishing a growing reputation. Formerly a national level gymnast, she uses her own body as the starting point for her performances. Gymnastic training involves; balance, strength, agility, awareness of the body's position in space and co-ordination. In producing her performances she has suspended herself, hung from buildings and propelled her body from great heights.

"Alicia is interested in both the potential and limits of the body, its capacity for failure. The precariousness of how we interact with space is highlighted in her performances. Her work also asks to question how we behave, what rules govern our movements in a room or the street." Says ARTSPACE Director Emma Bugden.

Her performance and video works for 'A plane for behavers' at ARTSPACE involve people interacting in pairs or groups; from pilots and dance students to volunteers and ARTSPACE gallery staff. Frankovich will be focusing on notions around flying and in particular the relationship of trust between a pilot and co-pilot. Previous works commented on the power dynamics of the art world, in the performance *Lungeing Chambon* Alicia and a curator are tensioned by belts one above the other. In this delicately poised system, when one of the participants moves both are affected.

Alicia Frankovich is a New Zealand artist currently based in Berlin. She was a Studio Artist at Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne from 2005-2006. Recent projects have been developed for: Galleria Civica di Arte Contemporanea di Trento, Le Case d'Arte, Milan, Italy and ARTSPACE Sydney. She completed a BVA in Auckland at Auckland University of Technology. She is represented in Auckland by Starkwhite.



Alicia Frankovich, *Lungeing Chambon*
Performed with Hannah Mathews Curator,
Melbourne, January 2009

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