

## Press release

### *PROVINCE*

3 June– 26 Juni 2006 at UKS

### Ulf Aminde and Bruno Nagel

Curator Anders Smebye

*Province or the provincial* has been the starting point of a vast number of exhibitions and projects nationally as well as internationally. The concepts are usually connected to geography and culture, and are often discussed from a socio-political angle. *Province* is originally an expression introduced by the Romans. The word relates to the territories ruled by the Romans, later described as colonies. Today province is defined as secondary level of government.

The Berlin based artists Ulf Aminde and Bruno Nagel has chosen another and personal interpretation of the concept of province, through formulating a new language around the provincial, based on feelings and atmosphere. What does it mean to be in the province? The role of the artist is often described as an outsider role – to be found outside the conventional and normal. The exhibition further points to the provincial as a mental state or situation: To be on one's way from one place to another, or some kind of inbetween phase of both stand still and motion.

The provincial narrowmindedness is here changed to the introvert. The audience is presented to staged tableaux, which simultaneously describe different stages and mental states of the human psyche. With its rough scenography and stage-construction, alongside the simple and direct acting style, this work can be seen in connection to theater traditions like the Norwegian *fjellebodsteatret* and commedia dell'Arte, where based on improvisation around given characters. In *Province* the audience is confronted familiar and stereotypical situations, objects and characters. The actors are improvising around given actions, where the stagelike installation makes up some kind of professional playground, where small actions and displacements constitute the narration.

**Ulf Aminde** (b. 1969 in Stuttgart) is educated at Universität der Künste Berlin. Aminde works with video and performance, where he stages situations by seeking out and activating actual places and groups of people. The projects often reflect socio-emotional mechanisms, which exist outside of the conventions.

**Bruno Nagel** (b. 1960 in Geislingen/Steige South Germany) is autodidact. Nagel works mainly with text and performance, where our understanding of language and concepts are tested. Through creating new and multilateral meanings of words and contexts, he challenges the content and function of language.

Helga-Marie Nordby  
Daglig leder

#### Actors:

Daysy Nunes, Anne Mette Hårdnes, Rasmus Jørgensen, Ine Therese Berg, Sigurd Ziegler, Ragnhild H. W. Sørensen og Tone Minerva Grenness