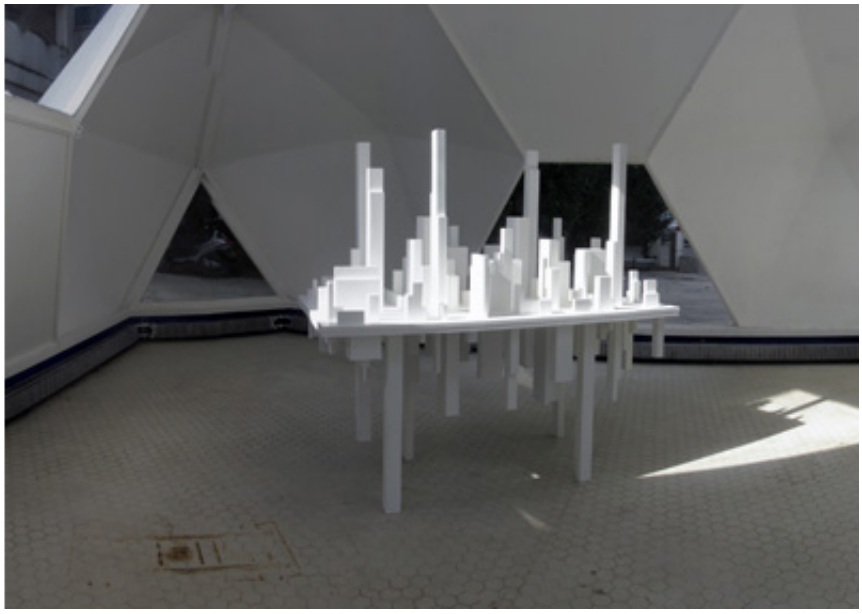
3. | Underneath





2007, wood table, 160 x 90 x 75 cm.
Exhibition view from Déreway to Basel, Public space project, 2011, Ivry-sur-Seine.
Courtesy of the artist.

Déreway to Basel, Ivry-sur-Seine, 2011

Underneath est un projet conçu spécialement pour la Sharjah Biennale 8, né de Oval Project, une ancienne œuvre architecturale de mounir fatmi, et une vidéo intitulée Horizontal Fall présentant la déconstruction d'un bâtiment.

Avec Underneath, le but principal est de montrer le monde à l'envers. Depuis 9/11 l'équilibre a complètement changé et une nouvelle force est apparue sur le paysage géopolitique tel qu'on le connaît. Pour la première fois depuis des siècles, la menace et le pouvoir viennent de l'Est et les pays de l'Ouest doivent s'adapter à cette nouvelle situation. Chacun sait que
le monde est scindé en deux par une ligne invisible un peu comme l'équateur, qui sépare le Nord (qui est riche) du Sud (qui est pauvre). À cette époque instable où l'argent ne garantit pas la sécurité, les gens cherchent de nouvelles valeurs à léguer à la prochaine génération.

Pour l'installation trois tables sont disposées dans la salle, en-dessous desquelles sont visibles les maquettes en bois des gratte-ciels d'une mégapole moderne. Ces villes génèrent beaucoup de pollution. Vues d'en-dessus, les tables représentent un lieu de discussion sur des thèmes écologiques, ce qui est un sujet très tendance. Mais il est inconfortable de s'y asseoir, car les sculptures du-dessous gênent. Projetées sur le mur, trois vidéos montrent des paysages différents (urbain et naturel). Il s'agit d'un bouleversement géographique: on ne sait pas où les photos ont été prises, ni quel "paradis" on essaie d'atteindre.

Underneath is a special project for the Sharjah Biennial 8 based on a former architectural work by Mounir Fatmi called Oval Project, and a video entitled Horizontal Fall, showing the deconstruction of a building.

With Underneath, the main idea is to show the world literally upside down. Since 9/11 the balance has totally changed and a new force has emerged in the geopolitical landscape as we know it. The threat and the power come from the Eastern part of the globe and for the first time in centuries, the western countries have to adapt to this new situation. Everybody knows now that the Earth is cut in two by an invisible line similar to that of the equator, which divides North (rich) and south (poor. In this unstable period where money does not guarantee security, people are looking for new values to bequeath the next generation.

For the installation, three tables are placed in a room and under each table people can see wooden sculptures of the skyscrapers of a big modern city. Those cities generate a lot of pollution. When you look on the top, those are regular tables symbolizing the discussion area for ecological topcs. It's a very trendy subject. But its uncomfortable to sit down at these tables, the sculptures beneath get in the way. On the wall, there are three video projections showing different landscapes (urban or natural). It's a geographical disturbance: you don't know where the pictures were taken and you don't know what "paradise" we are trying to reach.

Sommes-nous prêts à changer?

Texte cité du catalogue de la Sharjah Biennial 8

Traduction: Caroline Rossiter.

Are we ready to change?

Text quoted from Sharjah Biennial 8 catalogue

"With Underneath, the main idea is to show the world literally upside down. The threat and the power come from the Eastern part of the globe and for the first time in centuries, the western countries have to adapt to this new situation."

Text quoted from Sharjah Biennial 8 catalogue



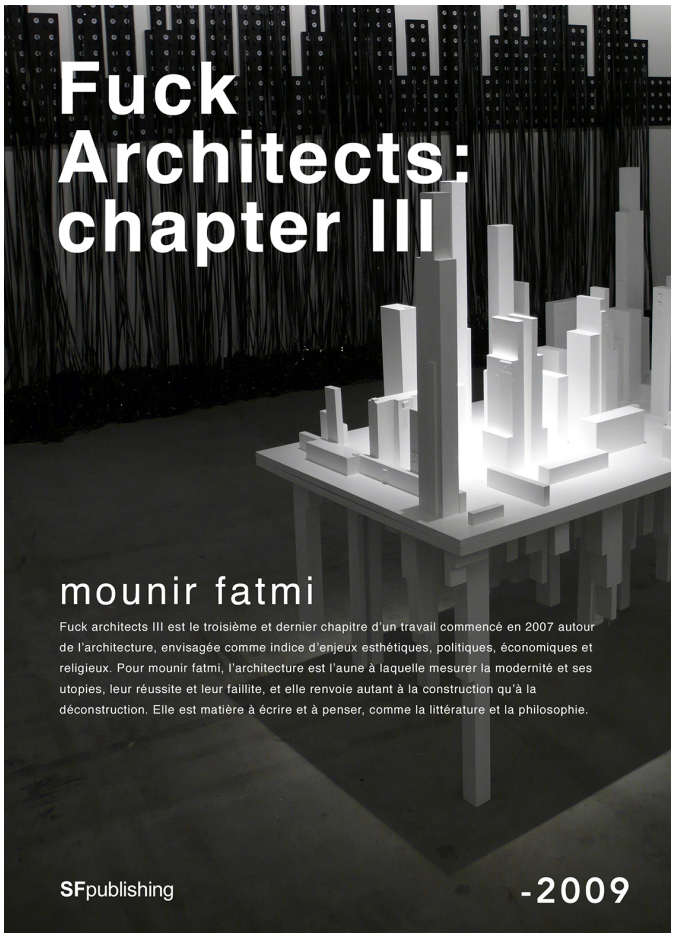
Underneath

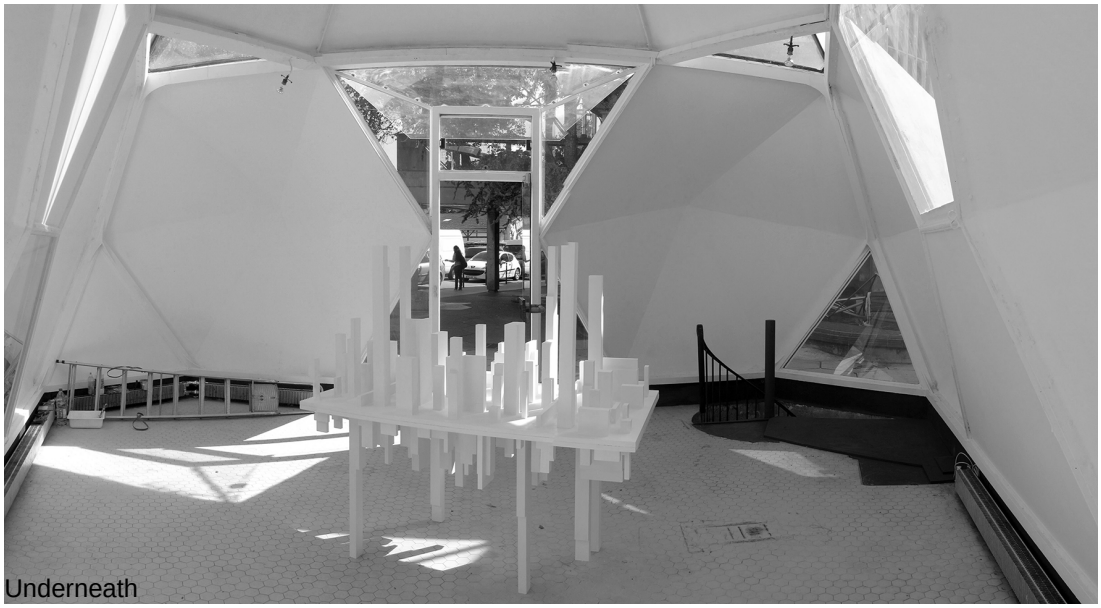
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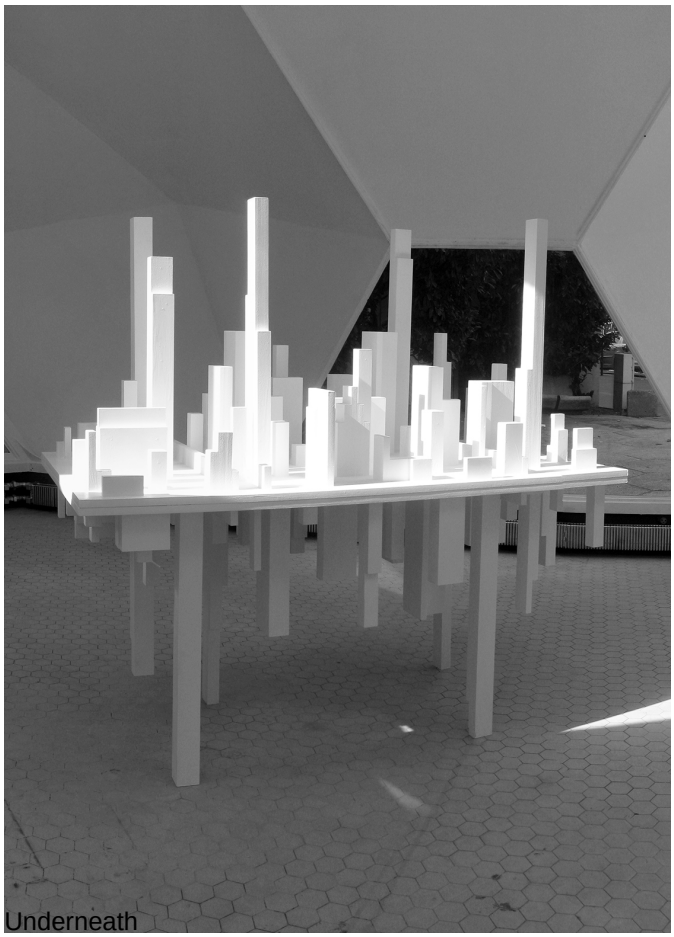
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projections showing different landscapes (urban or natural). It’s a geographical disturbance: you don’t know where the pictures were taken and you don’t know what “paradise” we are trying to reach. Are we ready to change?



Underneath

For the installation, three tables are placed in a room and under each table people can see wooden sculptures of the skyscrapers of a big modern city. Those cities generate a lot of pollution. When you look on the top, those are regular tables symbolizing the discussion area for ecological topcs. It’s a very trendy subject.