

**Alice Anderson / News Revisited / Catalogue edited by Fundacion COFF and CICC, San Sebastian / Text by Pauline Laboulaye / 2005**

## “Alices”

Alice Anderson was discovered thanks to the Gilles Dusein prize, awarded by the bank ok Neuflyze, and since 1999 she was developing multimedia works which blend installations, photographs, videos and handmade books that look like children's' books.

The one she calls "Alice's adventures", in reference to *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, is presented in the form of producer or simply suggested stories in which fantasy invades reality and becomes something strange and disturbing. Over the years, the artist has used elements from the theatre of the absurd, which form many other personal, fabled adventures in which childhood humour and clarity respond to the anxiety and lies of the adult world.

In “Alices” Alice Anderson “discovers” several different faces in her reflection. During an excursion around the Scottish loch, she leans over the water. The camera begins with a close-up of her face and then it drifts away. Back in the studio, the freezing of the image reveals a multitude of faces brought on by the ripples in the water. This is enough for Alice to recall the multiple personalities of a horror story or the spectres of a gothic novel. So, starting from a simple visual experience, without tampering or editing, and with the suggestive power of the music of Tchaikovsky, the artist unleashes a world of imagery.

The kaleidoscope of faces, arranged as a series of masks, pulls the viewer towards an existential reflection on identity and pretence. It poses the question of the multiple aspects of reality trapped by the image and distorting perspective of media reflection. Set as an introduction to the exhibition, “Alices” works as a metaphor for the importance of the artist's point of view and subjectivity with regards an event.

