

# GALERIE MARIAN GOODMAN

## TROUBLE AT THE FRONT (TROUBLES AUX FRONTIÈRES)

In collaboration with Caroline Bourgeois

**14 March – 18 April 2009**

**Yael Bartana, Amar Kanwar, William Pope.L**

This exhibition will explore borders; real or imaginary, which we carry within us, shaping us despite ourselves.

Globalization might allow us to think that everything is of the same nature, where the borders have a tendency to disappear, however they are paradoxically reinforced and more present than ever.

The three artists each have an individual approach; ranging from documentary filmmaking and the witnessing of the truth, to the poetic construction of work rooted in the Israeli-Palestinian border dispute, and the imaginary dimension which questions politics.

Each one shows in their own way evidence of engagement; be it in the subject of the work or through their actions.

During this current time of global transformation, which sometimes gives rise to protectionist reactions, the work of these artists encourages us to question our limits; our borders in every sense of the word.

**Yael Bartana** is of Israeli origin and has approached the issue of the Israeli-Palestinian border in its real and symbolic dimension. It modulates, evokes and transforms situations as in the work *Low Relief* exhibited at the Centre Georges Pompidou in the exhibition *Les Inquiets*. In the work *A Declaration*, she speaks of the utopia of this land and the desires it arouses.

**Amar Kanwar's** poetic documentary films and video works explore the political, social, economic and ecological conditions of the Indian subcontinent, often through stories and experiences. Much of his work traces the legacy of decolonization and partition, with the splitting of families, sectarian violence and border conflicts forming recurrent motifs. Interwoven throughout are investigations of family relations, gender and sexuality, philosophical and religious questions, and the processes of globalization.

**William Pope.L's** work is related to political syntax, the effects of colonization and the difficulty of being an African American. He has explored social issues through a wide range of media including performance, sculpture and drawing. He speaks of his work as political pantomime.