

**LUNGOMARE** >Galerie

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Bolzano, 03.05.2006

## **Press release: Show „abseits / fuori gioco“**

A show about the football world cup 2006

**09.06. – 09.07.2006**

Opening: 09.06 – ore 19.00

*a project by: Angelika Burtscher, Daniele Lupo, Walther Thaler*

with:

Bless (Berlin, Paris)  
Stefan Diez (München)  
Martino Gamper&Rainer Spehl (London, Berlin)  
Helmut Heiss (Wien)  
Kazuyo Komoda (Milano)  
Martin Ruiz de Auza (Barcelona)  
Paolo Ulian (Massa)

“Soccer is the most beautiful minor matter in the world!” For Germany and many other nations, 2006 is the year of Football: the Football World Cup will be played in Germany!

The World Cup along with the cult of soccer are once again extremely near. Actually, football is much more than simply the most beloved game in the world!  
Soccer is an extremely simple, spontaneous and famous game. It is a game with a strong economic influence beloved item and the team colours will dictate fashion trends.  
Even the layman will be a passionate supporter, new football stars will be discovered amongst the young Brazilian street players while the idea of national identity will become a myth: are we all Italian, German or Argentinean when we scream for our football team or are we looking for a sense of identity, or are we compensating for a lost home feeling? Is soccer a cultural game, a game that allows us to overcome "national differences" without conflicts? Nonetheless crime and violence are forbidden on the soccer ground. Maybe one could describe soccer as a political fighting spirit.  
Otherwise, how could one explain the rise of Berlusconi from Milan AC president to Italian prime minister? To this we can add more questions: will Totti spit in someone's face again? Which look and haircut will the Beckham couple show? Who is going to be the next World Cup star? Is he going to fulfil the expectations of the tabloids?

The world cup is for everybody. The world cup is much more than a sport event. It is an emotion. It is a festival for humanity, and for many it is a substitute for religion. A universal cult that unites us radiates from soccer. The most important thing is not to lose neither the fame nor the honour just one more question: For whom is all this? For oneself or for the supporters?

Nevermind - Football is for all of us.

Lungomare takes on the importance of the Football World Cup as a *global happening* in an upcoming exhibition. The gallery gives space to the 'universal culture of soccer' and dedicates the month of June. We invite designers and creative people from across Europe to react in a critical, ironic, playful and poetic way to this worldwide, diffused cult.

Lungomare Gallery will become a stadium in miniature: a stand will be built and the matches will be projected onto a big screen in the garden. Visitors will be offered a dynamic and interactive surface from which they can meet and play. The projects and products realised will be exhibited in the gallery and in the garden.

We would be pleased if you would insert our show in your medium. Before the end of next week we will be able to send you more detailed information's and pictures about the designers and their works.

If you are interested in further information please send me an email.

Kind regards  
Angelika Burtscher