

IMMERSIONS



Baptist has shown us the distinction between public and private places. **View # 4,5,6,7** is a series of photographs taken in four sites in India - Mumbai, Ellora, Agra and Leh. The photographs are presented in vitrines and accompanied by sound tracks of the noises the artist heard and recorded while photographing each particular site. We not only then see the city at a particular moment; we also get to hear it. This is an ongoing series of work.

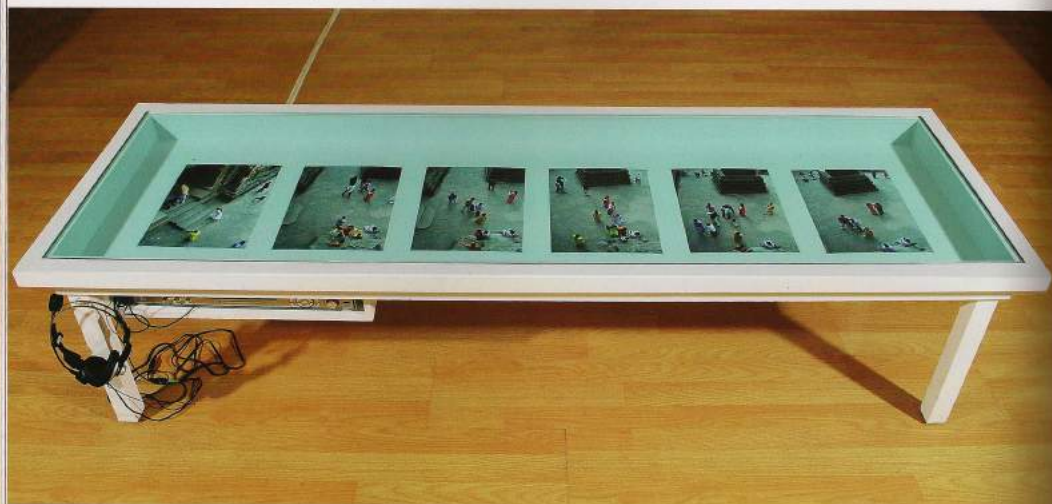
Paper is what Baptist uses to make his toy-planes in the work **Finally Found My Room Full Of Toys**. Spread on the floor and accompanied by the sound of wind and a music box, the installation lends itself to nostalgic fancy. Or the ability of empower one's childhood; to relive in adulthood what was available and given in childhood. It is manifest of a personal experience and memory and unlike the photographs, where everyone is allowed access and knowledge, this work is bittersweet and enigmatic.

Baptist wrote to me in an email,

*Given the circumstances of my childhood, paper airplanes were the only toys I had, simply because they were hand-made objects that didn't cost...Today I can say that indeed my room was full of toys, they might have not been 'real toys' but these objects fuelled my imagination with their bare simplicity*

*Email extract, 5th December 2008*

His latter work leads one to ponder on the relationship between capital and space, the value of space, monetary but also the emotional and psychosocial investment. Baptist invests in the gallery space his childhood spaces, the physical space of the bedroom and the magical space of his imagination. The installation encourages the viewer to attempt to understand how space, objects and experiences may be accessed.



Baptist Coelho 2007  
**View #6 [Aurangabad - Ellora Caves]**  
 Installation with 6 digital prints on  
 archival paper, wood, enamel paint, glass  
 and audio. Edition 1/3  
 71" x 22.75" x 18" (Single print - 11 x 8)  
 (Audio - 6 minutes loop)



6 Digital prints on archival paper  
 View #5 [Agra - Taj Mahal]  
 View #6 [Aurangabad - Ellora Caves]  
 View #7 [Ladakh - Leh]  
 View #4 [Mumbai - Malad West] Opposite page



Detail of Vitrines





Baptist Coelho 2009  
*Finally Found My Room Full of Toys*  
Site-specific installation with paper  
airplanes and audio  
Edition 1/3  
Variable size (Audio - 4 minutes loop)

