

Ilja Karilampi

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"I wake up in the fancy apartment on 5th Avenue, which seems to have been totally cleaned up from the night before. Not one trace of the party is left. A purple bulky Blackberry phone is in one of the sofa chairs and I check my e-mail on it. Dizzy from the night before I get a huge Aloe Vera plant as a gift, which I try to stuff down into a plastic bag. Together with Alex from Colombia who passed out in the flat last night, I walk out in the bright sun of 14th Street and try to find a Radio Shack to get a mobile phone. At a good rate, I get a cheap Nokia registered under the name Ilja Karilampi "

In his first New York solo exhibition, Swedish artist Ilja Karilampi presents three recent video works within an installation format, punctuated by brass signs made in Chinatown that spell out their titles.

New York Minute is a 60 second long looped HD video shown on an iPad that uses French Montana and Harry Frauds updated version of the song, originally performed by the Eagles. The work can be seen as a kind of music video cum traveler's ode to the city, using material gathered during the artists extended stay in New York last year, during a residency at LMCC. It is a condensed work that is adjusted for a contemporary moment - a modern artwork for people with little time.

Alternately, *h00dumentary*, is a hip hop style documentary with a slower, more comprehensive pace. It takes a quasi-biographical tour through Amsterdam's former projects *The Bijlmer*, and the artists own *Studiegången* in Gothenburg, Sweden. An extended, meandering hybrid of fantasy and reality, the film becomes an homage as well as a case study of life in the hood, arriving at a meta-narrative that explores the social architectures of these spaces and the artist's own cultural identity.

WELL \$PENT: Mykki Blanco in Malmö, is an HD travel featurette that follows rap performer Mykki Blanco through an early Sunday morning as he makes his way to the airport, after having performed the previous night. A cross between reality television, talk show and interview, the video is an intimate exchange between the artist and subject, replete with three-dimensional gold titles. Karilampi stands in as a tour guide who encourages Blanco's own reflections on creativity and artistic identity.

Ilja Karilampi (*1983, Gothenburg, Sweden) studied at Städelschule, Frankfurt am Main, and Royal Institute of Art, Stockholm. Recent solo projects include: MoMA PS1, New York, New Jersey, Basel, Hinterhaus des Meerens, Vienna, and Sandy Brown, Berlin. Group exhibitions include Shell-Reflexive, Bas Fisher Invitational, Miami, Realness Respect Kunstverein Medienturm, Graz, Domino Effect, Galerie Catherine Bastide, Brussels, and based in Berlin, Kunst-Werke, Berlin.