

p o r t f o l i o

[www.jivko.org](http://www.jivko.org)

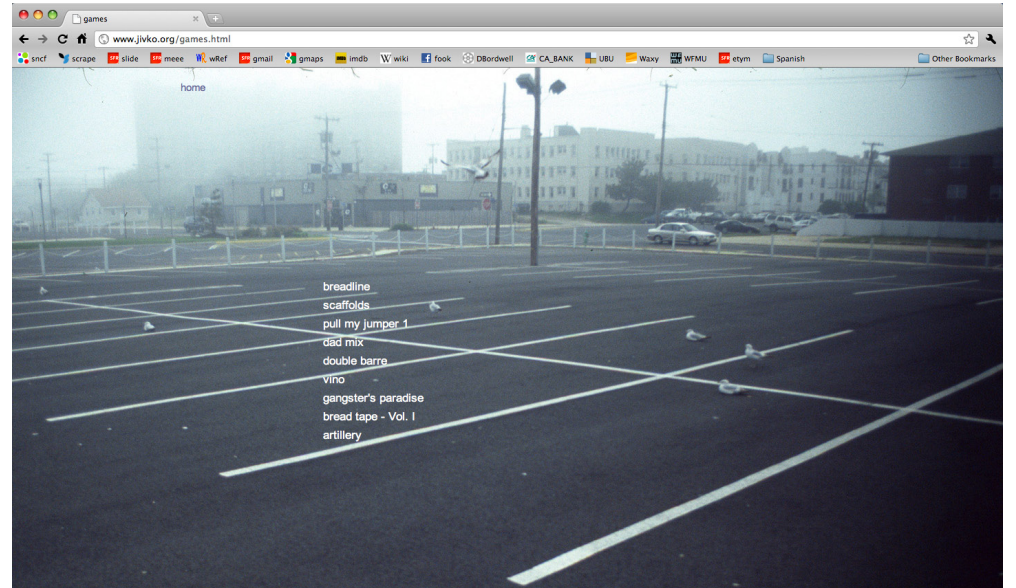
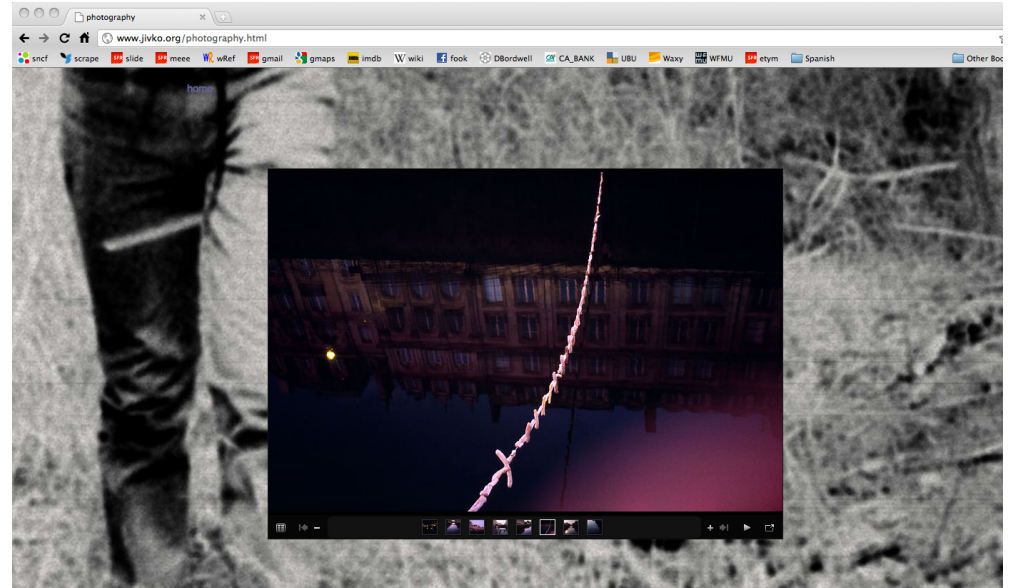
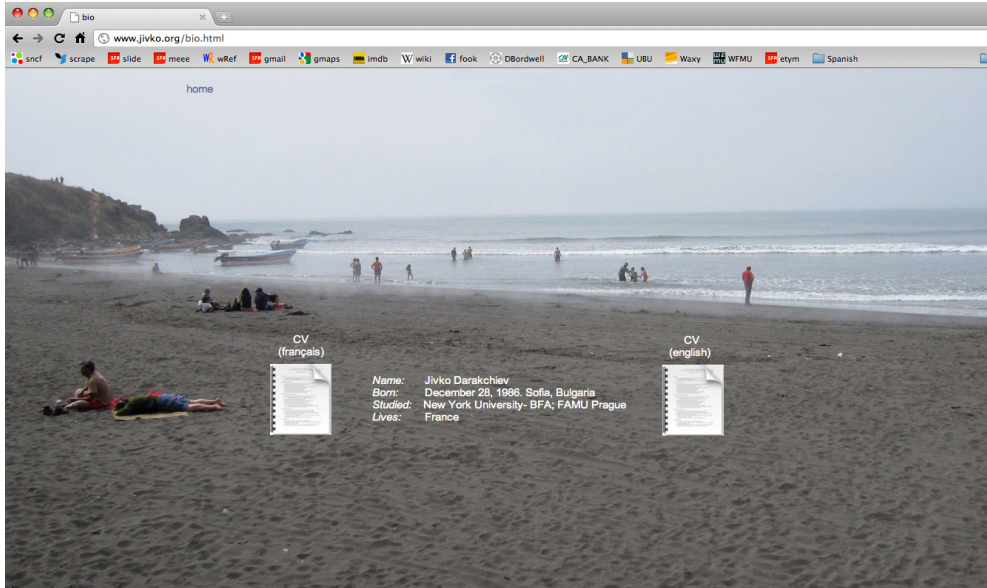
Jivko Darakchiev

2008-2011

# Jivko Darakchiev

bio  
director  
director of photography  
photo  
games  
links  
contact





I am interested in the physicality of people and things — possible objects within a space.

Initially using a traditional cinematic approach, I've recently expanded my work to the periphery of the medium where exist pockets of unexplored terrain. These can either akin film- or video- to neighboring arts (poetry, sculpture, installation) or may actually reestablish the understanding of the medium.

One single project allows for a number of modes of output, encouraging a playful interactivity between functions. Through a patient attention, we are made conscious of what is noticed unconsciously in the everyday.

*Mine* - stop-motion animation • multi-format • 1'50" • East Islip, NY • 2008

The process of animating living things is called pixilation. In *Mine*, I animate humans, treating them at once as puppets and as people, depriving them of self-control *manually*: click, move 1 cm, click, move 1 cm. The process of stop-motion animation necessitates a very methodical and disciplined work behavior. It negates the power of the camera button's *click* and in a way shuns modern advancements (including the digital camera used)— it reduces life to its own tedious rhythm.

*Mine* touches on some ideas that would resurface in future work: the corporality of people and their surroundings; the restriction of movement that forces a person to occupy his space differently; how close one body can come to another.

mine





*My sister wearing sneakers* - photography series: 4 prints • color 35mm • Cirque d'Archianne, France • 2008

In 2008, the series was part of an installation in a collective exhibit with Dawn of Man Productions in the *Mediums* show at the Print Factory, Chelsea, NY. ([www.dawnofman.com](http://www.dawnofman.com))

In 2009, the series was published in F.O.K.U.S.'s quarterly magazine *Insight* in their February edition (Volume II, Issue I).

my sister  
wearing sneakers





*my sister wearing sneakers* C-Prints; matte; 30x45cm



*my sister wearing sneakers Mediums show*

*Mousey; Birdey* - stop-motion animation series • digital stills • 30" and 1' • 2009 (on-going)

*Mousey installation* - part of collective exhibit • video projection loop • 3'30" • 2009

While shooting an unfinished animation sequence for the film *Os* with my DP, I discovered a dead mouse lying on my doorstep in Brooklyn. There was little debate, with everything already set up, we had to animate the mouse.

Dawn of Man Productions was proposed a gallery space at the opening of *Castle Braid*, an artist residence in Bushwick, NY. We set up an interactive audiovisual installation recreating the feeling of spending a night outside at an American barbeque. This amounted to a picnic scene with lawn chairs, a smoking grill, a table with beers and potato chips. Accompanied by an atmosphere soundtrack, *Mousey* was projected vertically onto a mound of earth. ([www.castlebraid.com](http://www.castlebraid.com))

For the second time a dead animal had fallen into my hands with *Birdey*. This began an on-going collection of dead animal choreography.

mousey/birdey



*mousey* film stills



birdey film stills

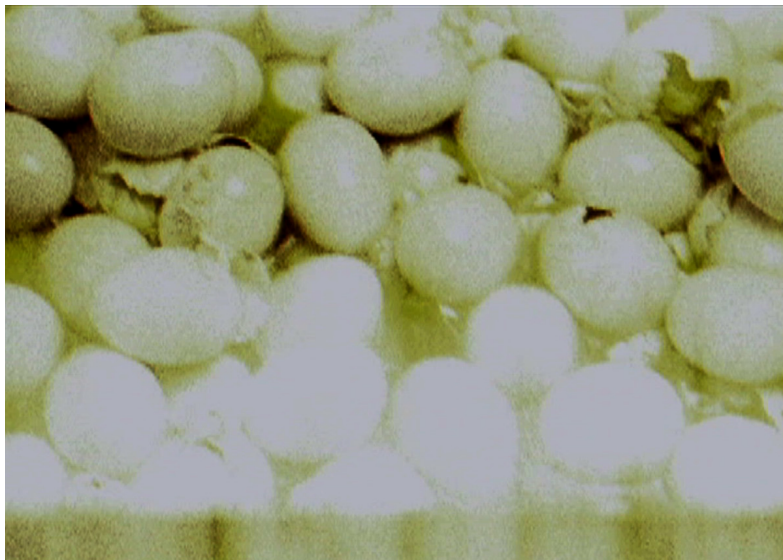


*mousey Castle Braid show*

*Cowboy* - music video for Motel Motel • multi-format • 7'22" • 2009

I was asked by the Brooklyn band Motel Motel to make their first music video. The video, like the song, moves from image to image like a dream or memory. Ideas of stories are there, but they topple over each other like the attention span of a child. With the help of artist Perrine Gamot, I fused together pieces of material from personal archives, found footage, and images made especially for the clip.

c o w b o y



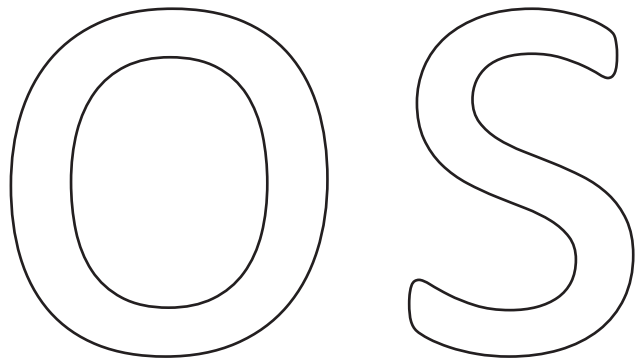
*cowboy film stills*

*Os* - S16mm • HD Cam master • 25' • New Jersey, New York • 2010

In *Os* (bone), a woman who has turned her husband into a large femur receives a visit from a boy seeking shelter. He tries to help the grieving woman by going back with her through her memories, but the woman can only think of her desire for the boy. The film sits awkwardly between Georges Bataille and some alchemists.

Filming *Os* reinforced my fascination with physical contact and its effects on our psyche. I placed two strangers in harsh physical situations, asked them to behave rationally. At some point, politeness gives way to self-preservation, even within the confines of a film set. Both models found themselves cold, wet, and up to their necks in stinking swamp mud. They stopped acting and started being.

The film was shot as my thesis film for New York University.

The image shows the letters 'O' and 'S' in a large, simple, black outline font. The 'O' is a standard capital letter with a smaller inner circle. The 'S' is a tall, vertical letter with a curved top and bottom. The two letters are positioned side-by-side with a small gap between them.





os film still

*À table* - (coproduction with Perrine Gamot) • HD video • 6'30" • Brooklyn, NY • 2010

After the intensive shooting of my film *Os*, which more or less follows traditional methods of cinema, I needed a break from scripts, actors, crew members. *À table* is a filmed performance of a meal being eaten.

In one static shot, a woman's body becomes both the table on which to eat and the one who delivers and clears the food. The meal is a choreography of plates, utensils, and hands. Meanwhile, an audio track teases us in and out of possible soundscapes.

*À table* was screened in the Videoholica Film Festival in Varna, Bulgaria in 2010.

à table



*à table* film stills

*Breadtape Vol. I* - (coproduction with Jeff Sisson) • HD video • 6'45" • Rennes, France • 2010

What happens when you take the central element out of an activity and all that's left is its *modus operandi*, its methods of operation? In this preserved snake skin, you replace the snake with a Dachshund hound (weiner dog), then you take it on a walk in a city like Rennes where myths and fairies hide behind medieval crossbeams, and show it a good time in its new ensemble.

We wanted to make a skate video using the specialized framing, music, and editing style of the genre, but with baguettes. We tried to think what tricks one could do with this bread, using the city as the *court* or *turf*. The title is *Volume I* because since this is a previously inexistent activity, the tricks we developed are only a starting point, like the ollie was for skateboarding. There is a lot of room for innovation and further development.

On one hand, *Breadtape Vol I* is a lighthearted French remix of a skate video. On the other, it is an experiment on the reappropriation of function- how to treat a familiar object in unfamiliar ways.

The English version of this video was exhibited in the *Converted* show at the EFA Project Space in New York, 2010.

breadtape Vol. I

# BREADTAPE

## Vol. I



*breadtape Vol. I film stills*

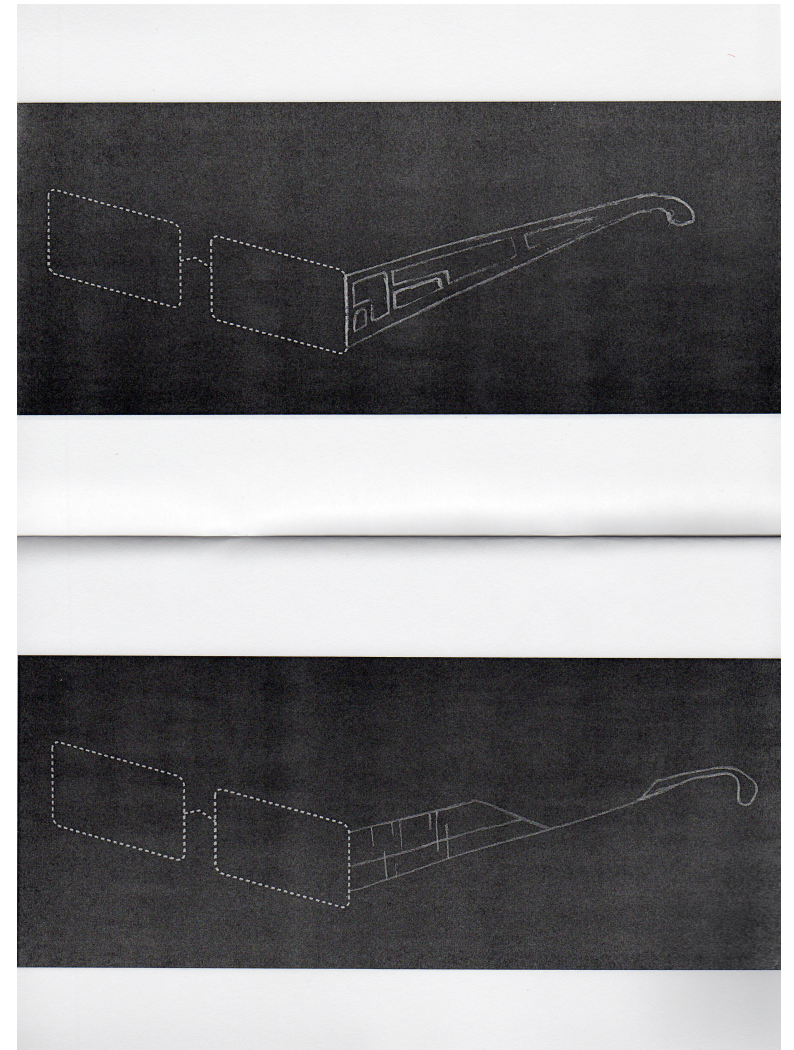
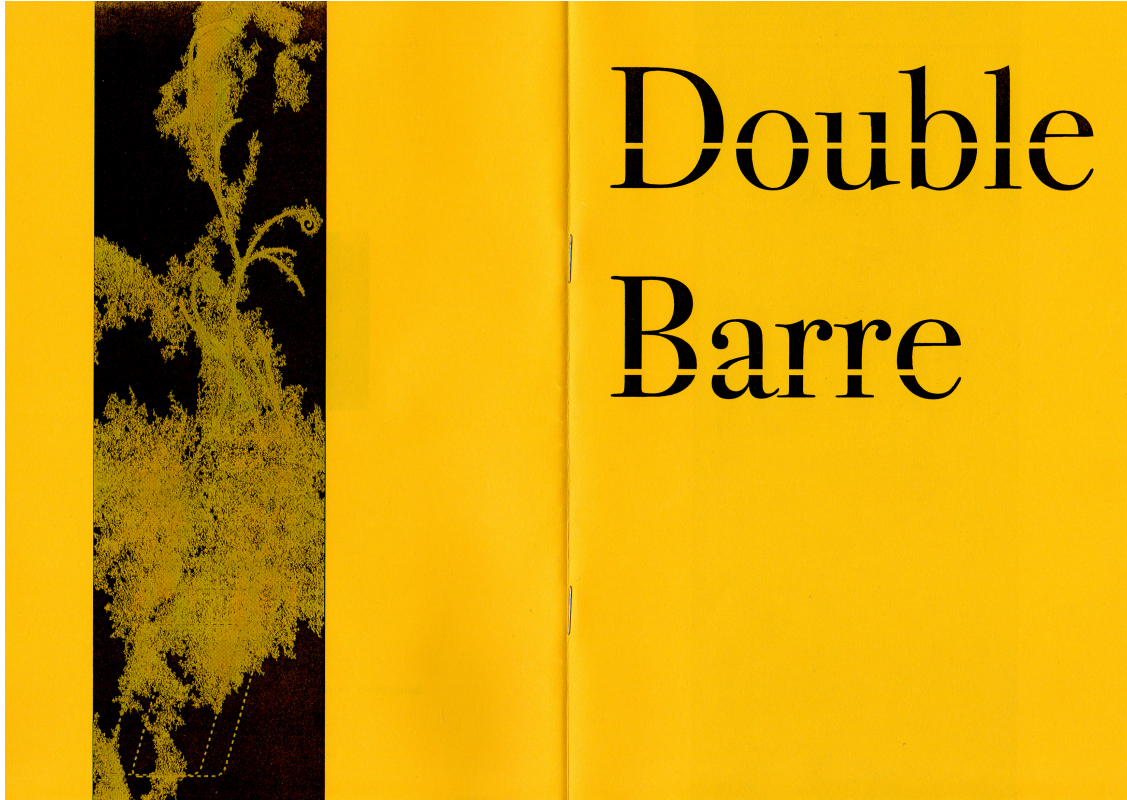
*Double barre* (coproduction with Jeff Sisson) • publication: 32 pages • 2 videos: 2'22" • Rennes, France • 2010

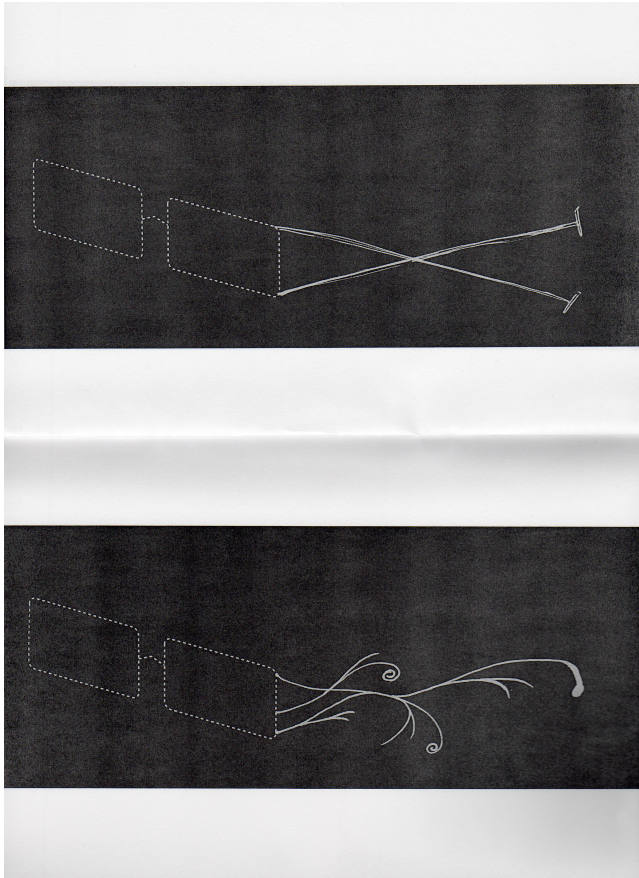
While living in Rennes, I started noticing a particular trend in a style of glasses I had only seen in France. Their peculiarity is that instead of having one bar on the side, they have two (or some elaboration thereof). When I told people about this trend, they too started seeing them everywhere. Documentation of these glasses is scarce, it took a while just to find a name with which to refer to them. I started wondering about where the design came from and the reason behind this depart from a standard that has held strong since the monacle was outcast. *Double barre* is a book of this presumably French style of glasses. It showcases already-existing models and also prototype models that have not yet been sighted; inventions of possible styles to come. There are two accompanying videos- one in English, and the same one dubbed into French.

By *naming* a simple observation and showcasing it within a legitimate framework, *Double barre* is transformed into a symptom; a “trend” which draws collective interest and following. A non-thing becomes a something. ([www.doublebarre.info](http://www.doublebarre.info))

The publication was sold at the contemporary art center OUI at their annual Christmas event *Léon* in 2010, Grenoble, France. The book is also on sale at the record and book store Blind Spot in Rennes.

double barre





doublebarre.info

doublebarre.info

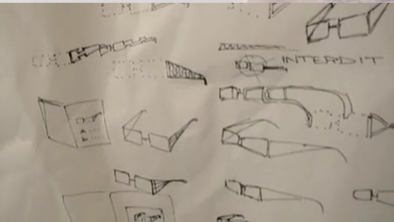


sncf scrape sfp slide sfp meee wRef sfp gmail gmaps imdb W wiki f fook DBordwell CA\_BANK UBU Waxy WFMU sfp etym Spanish

# Double Barre

Double Barre glasses have two bars on each side instead of one. It is the most popular style of glasses in France. Our book is a collection of Double Barre styles, seen and not yet seen.

Les lunettes Double Barre ont deux barres sur chaque côté au lieu d'une. C'est le style le plus populaire en France. Notre livre est une collection de styles Double Barre, déjà vus et pas encore.

doublebarre.pdf



English

to order a book, [send us an email](#)

Français

double barre book scan; website w/ film stills

*Breadline* - bread installation and video • 6'55" • Rennes, France • 2011

In the center of Rennes there is Place République, a busy meeting point for people, buses, and trams. There is a canal that runs through the middle of République. I wondered how it can be made more interesting. I noticed that there were old ladder rungs built into the 10-meter walls that hold the canal. Once again baguettes came to mind.

We strung a rope of baguettes across the canal like a clothesline. Since it was situated in a public environment, the project was meticulously planned, but unknown factors could (and did) affect its outcome. Part of the project was to make a video that would survive the physical *Breadline*. What started as a digital fossil became a separate independent creation.

b r e a d l i n e



*breadline*  
photograph; film stills

# Jivko Darakchiev

Born on December 28th, 1986 in Sofia, Bulgaria

## EDUCATION

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New York University, Tisch School for the Arts for Film/TV

- BFA in Film/Television, directing and cinematography

FAMU Film/TV School. Prague, CZ

## WRITER/DIRECTOR

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- *Breadtape Vol. I*. 6'45". Coproduction with Jeff Sisson. Rennes, France. 2010
- *À Table*. Short film; coproduction with Perrine Gamot. 6'30". Brooklyn, NY. 2010
- *Os*. Super 16mm; 25'. New Jersey, New York. 2010
- *Cowboy*. Music video for *Motel Motel*. 35mm stills, HD, animation, 7'30". 2009
- *Mousey* and *Birdey* series. D-SLR animation, 30" and 1'. 2009 (on-going)
- *Mine*. Multi-format, 1'50". East Islip, NY. 2008
- *Stêstičko* [Pure Lily]. 35mm, 6'. Prague, Czech Republic. 2007
- Series of five short films shot on B&W 16mm. 2005-6

## DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

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- *Piano Fingers*. REDCam, 35'. Los Angeles, CA 2009
  - 1st prize cinematography in *Rhode Island International Film Festival 2010*
  - *LA Shorts* festival 2010- best short film; *Dances with Films* festival- Audience Award
- *Winter*. A Jamtown Films production. 16mm, 18'. New York State 2009
  - Best of Fest award- *Big Apple Film Festival 2009*; *Queens International Film Festival 2009*- best short film
- *Naked*. Commercial. HD w/35mm adapter, 30". New York, NY 2008
- *Restless*. Thesis film. Super 16mm, 20'. New York, NY 2008
- *Abuela*. Thesis doc. Super 16mm, 25'. San Juan, Puerto Rico 2008
- *Pictures of You*. HD w/35mm adapter, 32'. San Francisco, California 2007
- *Tour of the Human Voice*. Color 16mm, 6'30'. New York, NY 2007
- *The Flower*. Color 35mm, 10'15". Prague, Czech Republic 2007
  - *Sundance Film Festival 2008*; *San Francisco International Film Festival 2008*
- *Hunk*. Short film with Macula Films. B&W 16mm, 4'. New York, NY 2006
  - *New York Underground Film Festival 2008*

## ARTISTIC WORK

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- *Bread Line*. Bread installation and video in Place République in Rennes, FR. 2011
- *Double Barre*. Artist book made in collaboration with Jeff Sisson. Rennes, FR. 2010
- *Mousey BBQ*. Video installation. A Dawn of Man production, collective exhibit *ARTillery*, Bushwick, NY- studios and artist spaces. 2009
- *My sister wearing sneakers*. Photos and installations, *Mediums* show; Dawn of Man collective exhibit. Chelsea, New York. 2008-9

## AWARDS/WORKSHOPS

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- Werner Herzog's *Rogue Film School*. United Kingdom, 2011
- 1st prize in cinematography for Piano Fingers in *Rhode Island International Film Festival*, 2010
- Recipient of Warner Brothers Post Production Grant for film *Os*, 2009
- 4-month directing/cinematography fellowship working with 35mm film in FAMU- Film school in Prague, Czech Republic, 2006
- Film camera workshops I and II (16 and 35mm- Arri 3 and Panaflex G2), 2007
- *Directing the Actor* workshop with director Joan Horvath, 2006

## SCREENINGS, PUBLICATIONS, OTHER WORK

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- Post production for Dawn of Man projections at *Armory Show* opening night. MoMA, NY 2011
- Filmed live broadcast for the *Multiplex* show at *Hors-Pistes* festival. Centre Pompidou, 2011
- Worked as camera assistant on Bocalupo Films' feature film *Rives*. Paris 2010
  - film selected for screening by the *ACID* association during the Cannes film festival 2011
- Artist book *Double Barre* on sale at art center OUI, at event *Lëon*. Grenoble 2010
- Video *À Table* screened at *Videoholica Film Festival* in Varna, Bulgaria 2010
- Video *Breadtape Vol I* exhibited in *Converted* show in EFA Project Space, NY 2010
- Rough-cut of *Os* screened as part of *New Filmmakers* series, Anthology Film Archives, NY 2009
- Visiting artist in *Beam Camp*- art camp in the mountains of New Hampshire, US 2009
- *My sister wearing sneakers* photo series published in February '09 issue of *Insight*, a quarterly of F.O.K.U.S. art collective
- Photo and video work exhibited in *Mediums* show at The Print Factory, Chelsea, NY 2008
- Organized *The Nervous System* event and screened work with Dawn of Man, sponsored by *KiptonArt*, 2008
- Filmed private performance of pianist Lang Lang for *KiptonArt* organization, Soho House, NY 2008
- *Stêstïcko* [Pure Lily] screened at a *KiptonArt* night, Soho House, NY 2008
- Video installation at Monroe Center Gallery with Dawn of Man Productions, New Jersey 2007
- Five-month internship at *Forensic Films*. Worked with producing partners Robin O'Hara and Scott Macaulay (*Julian Donkey Boy*, *Gummo*) 2007
- Filmed IFP Conference in Soho, NY. Fall 2007
- Interview with independent filmmaker Peggy Ahwesh, archived by Lynn Sachs for the *Filmmaker's Co-op* collection. New York, NY 2006
- Group screening at FAMU film department. Prague, CZ 2006

## SPECIAL SKILLS/ABILITIES

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- Proficient with Final Cut Pro, Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, etc.
- Professional experience with cameras: REDCam, Panaflex G2, Arri 435X, Arri SRI-III, Arri S, Aaton Xterà, Canon 7D/5D, Panasonic HVX200, Canon XHA1, DVX100B, etc.
- Fluent in: English, French, Bulgarian
- Facile with HTML code and website design (see [www.jivko.org](http://www.jivko.org))
- Experience with carpentry and other work requiring electric tools
- 9+ years experience in B&W printing and color photography

jivko darakchiev

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