



okay?

young ladies

## Mark // **Before the Curtain** Avant le Rideau

mark's works are often an investigation of seemingly common-place situations. "... tools, a form of communication concentrated upon the moment. The impulse for this is an idea, the idea of comprehending the 'world' and its rules in order to question them. The questioning of inherent rules, the shifting of the frame of reference, and the continuation of discussion are the methods of our artistic practice and expression of our attitude. We are undoubtedly involved in the economics of the art market, irrespective of whether we profit from them or not. We are subject to a kind of absorption out of which we develop a practice which can in turn absorb those conditions: as a specific framework, a system of rules and parameters with which we and the people we collaborate with can deal. [...]

Sometimes we forget that others are less familiar with critical conceptual art than we are. As a result, we operate from a general understanding and within a broad acceptance instead of from the periphery.

It is important for us to proceed from a specific context. Concentrated upon the situation, we develop our work – this certainly also represents one of the notable advantages of working within a collective."

In 2009 mark had a photo taken at the Regent Photo Studio on the Avenue du Parc in Montréal and recorded the photographer's instructions. They subsequently developed the text from this as part of an installation at WE LEFT THE WARM STABLE AND ENTERED THE LATEX VOID (WLTWSAETLV). The text also constitutes the material of this book.

mark is a collective of five artists who live in Berlin, Bremen, and Vienna respectively. mark's artistic practice draws upon professions in the fields of architecture, fine art, design, and the social services. Individual members have run spaces in Bremen in which installations, performances, and talks by other artists have been staged.

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