

Rivane Neuenschwander

EU DESEJO O SEU DESEJO / I WISH YOUR WISH, 2003
COLORED TEXTILE RIBBONS PRINTED WITH PEOPLE'S WISHES
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE

Rivane Neuenschwander's installation *Eu desejo o seu desejo / I Wish Your Wish* is a burst of color composed of hundreds of multi-colored textile ribbons that hang loosely from a white wall. Small peg holes are drilled into its surface to hold the textile straps, or, in their absence, rolled-up pieces of paper. Each band is inscribed with a quote expressing personal desires, hopes, or dreams, all of which begin with the same proclamation: *I wish, yo deseo, je voudrais, vorrei...* In preparation for her first installation in 2003, Neuenschwander asked forty people to contribute to the initial selection of wishes; since then, thousands have taken part in the exchange of desires. The rules are simple—choose a ribbon, tie the band three times around wrist or ankle, voice a wish for each knot, and replace it with your own wish. Anyone can add to the future collection of wishes reciprocally, by sticking a new note into the empty cavities. The anonymity of the ritual of exchange and its playfulness allow the participants to confide their most intimate desires, frustrations, and longings to strangers, building bridges that go beyond spatial and temporal constraints. The work is inspired by the long-standing Brazilian folk tradition in which pilgrims travel to the church of Nosso Senhor do Bonfim in Salvador, Bahia, to bind multi-colored Bahia remembrance bands to their wrists or attach them to the gates of the church. The different colors of the ribbons commemorate the *òrì à*, Yoruba deities which are supposed to oversee the fulfillment of the three wishes as soon as the bands fall off naturally. Similar to how the original version blends Catholic and Afro-Brazilian rituals, Neuenschwander explores intersections between cultures, people, and systems of communication. She looks at how our dreams, hopes, and wishes take on material forms, and how an everyday object can become a medium of interaction. She connects past, present, and future when asking the viewer to perpetuate a work that in theory is never completed, but rather continues in an everlasting cycle of artist-audience participation.

I wish I could let it all go.
I wish to be truly loved.
Deseo que no haya incendios forestales.
I wish I could have all the books in the world.
Ich wünsche mir in deiner Nähe nie einsam zu sein.
Deseo poder volar.
I wish I knew how to help her.
Deseo ser inmensamente feliz!
I wish for my mother.
I wish to accept what I cannot change.
Libertad y prosperidad para Venezuela.
Yo deseo que todos encuentren la felicidad.
Vorrei morire in Italia.
I wish I had a dollar for every ribbon that is here.
Je voudrais un grand amour.
Deseo que nunca se me termine la curiosidad.
Ich wünsche mir leicht zu sein.
I wish my brother wouldn't have to go back to Iraq.
Ich wünsche mir Kurator zu sein.
Ich will Weltruhm.
I wish my team will win the State Cup.
Deseo que haya más personas justas.
I wish I weren't so lazy.
Deseo que el arte y la emoción llenen el mundo.
Ich wünsche mir mehr Verstand.
I wish to be rid of irrational fears.
Ich wünsche mir einen Goldfisch namens Fridolin.
Deseo que mi esposo viva más que yo pues no quisiera sentir el dolor de perderle.
Ich wish to know if he loves me or not.
Ich wünsche mir mehr Lächeln.
I wish that fantasies could be something other than impossible.
Deseo tomar una margarita en mi bar favorito en México.
I wish to realize my dreams.
Ich wünsche mir die Frau in Rot.
Deseo que se acabe la crisis.
I wish there were more hours in the day for sleeping and playing.
Deseo la revolución, absolutamente.
I wish I would know what's right and what's wrong.
Desitjo tenir el poder de la telepatia.
Ich wünsche mir, dass wir die Tiere besser verstehen.
I wish not to be bored.
Deseo que no haya gravedad.
Deseo nunca perder la capacidad de deseo.

Je veux deux maisons et deux nationalites.
I wish I had 10 thousand 8 zillion dollars.
I wish I had reasons to laugh.
Deseo tener una casa, prosperidad, salud.
I wish for beauty and sex.
Deseo inmortalizarme en mis obras.
Je désire vivre au bord de la mer.
Je désire un homme inconnu et que j'aime et qui m'aime.
Deseo que te jubiles ya!
Deseo que todos nos queramos como hermanos.
Je désire ce qui est hors de moi.
Desitjo que em toqui la loteria.
Je désire que les désirs se réalisent.
I wish I could travel in space and time.
I wish I could be in "Star Wars."
Deseo tener una ilusión cada día.
I wish my shoes became clean from walking in the rain.
Deseo valentía para expresar mis sentimientos
Ich wünsche mir, dass mehr Jugendliche in die Kirche gehen.
I wish you a happy new year.
I wish for hippies.
Ich wünsche mir ich wäre schlank.
Deseo que haya proyectos como este.
Je désire d'être un animal.
I wish that i do not have to wish.
Deseo que los políticos no sean corruptos.
I wish living in my dreams.
Ich wünsche mir die Antworten auf alle Fragen zu kennen.
I wish I knew what I wanted to be when I grow up.
Deseo ser Wonder Woman.
I wish a holiday en la playa.
Ich wünsche mir nie still zu stehen.
I wish I could touch the sky.
Je desire ne plus avoir de patrie.
I wish I found my reason of being here.
Ich wünsche mir ein Schloss.
Deseo una aventura emocionante con mis amigos.
DESEO..... DESEAR



RIVANE NEUENSCHWANDER, **EU DESEJO O SEU DESEJO / I WISH YOUR WISH**, 2003
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RIVANE NEUENSCHWANDER, *EU DESEJO O SEU DESEJO / I WISH YOUR WISH*, 2003
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