

QUESTION TO RADIO YEREVAN

by Graw Böckler

QUESTION TO RADIO SCHENGEN

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1) Question to Radio Yerevan (video)

Radio Yerevan is actually not a radio station and it is also not from Yerevan. It is a category of political jokes from the ex-eastern bloc, partly aiming at deconstructing (socialist) ideology. The jokes are aiming at the gap between experienced reality and official ideology during the time of the soviet empire.

Artist duo Graw Böckler use the Radio Yerevan jokes to structure their documentation of a journey to Armenia and Karabakh.

The anachronistic jokes confront the actual reality with it's ideological past of declining socialism.

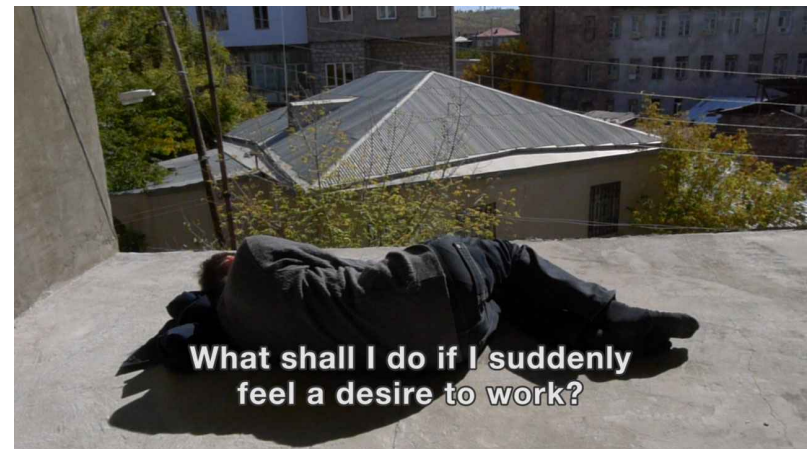
Title: Question to Radio Yerevan

Runing Time: 24 min.

Medium: HD video

Year: 2012

[Watch video online](#)



2) More questions to Radio Yerevan (video)

A digital pan over stitched panoramic images from a trip to Estonia. The panoramic mode is misused to deconstruct portraits into pieces of abstraction. The Radio Yerevan jokes are integrated into the landscape.

Title: More questions to Radio Yerevan

Runing Time: 30 min.

Medium: Animated Panoramic Photos

Year: 2013



3) I also have a question to Radio Yerevan (video)

Teens from Liverpool are having some serious questions to Radio Yerevan station.

Title: I also have a question to Radio Yerevan

Runing Time: 4 min.

Medium: HD video

Year: 2013

[Watch video online](#)



4) Question to Radio Yerevan (poster edition)

Various poster with questions to Radio Yerevan
and images from Armenia.

52 poster, A3, b/w photocopy

Is it correct that Grigori Grigorievich Grigoriev
won a luxury car at the
All-Union Championship in Moscow?



Are there any historical precedents for
the Soviet system of elections?



Is Marxism an exact science?



5) Question to Radio Schengen (project)

Europe has entered a period of crisis. There is of course an economical and a political crisis and there is a crisis of personal dissent as well. Many people do not identify with Europe anymore. They even developed a hatred towards a formerly promising utopia. The European Union of today seems an anonymous, bureaucratic monster that took control over peoples lives.

The project „Question to Radio Schengen“ creates a connection from this imminent crisis of Europe to the crisis of the declining Soviet Union in the 70s and 80s of the last century. The link between these two empires are jokes. „Question to Radio Schengen“ is a new category of political jokes, partly aiming at deconstructing european ideology. The jokes will be transposed from the soviet to the european reality.

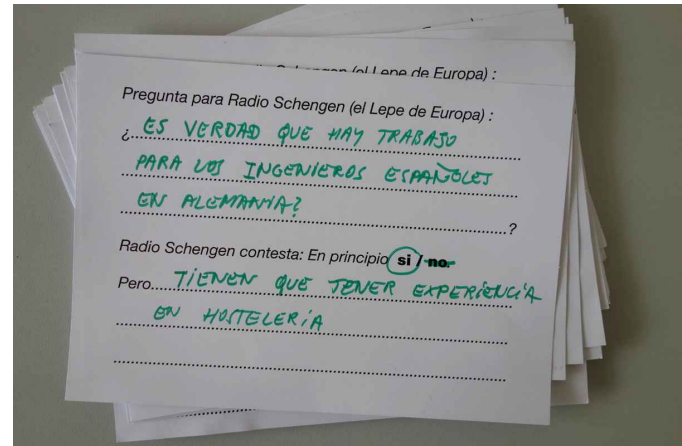
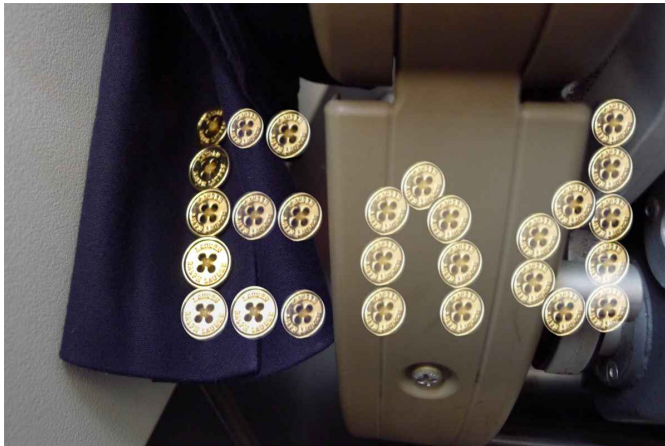
An example: „Question to Radio Schengen: Is there a difference between Saddam Hussein and Angela Merkel? Radio Schengen answers: In principle, no. Only Merkel does not know it yet.“



5) Question to Radio Schengen (workshop & film)

Workshops will be held in different european countries to invent jokes about the European Union. The newly invented „Radio Schengen“ jokes will structure a film about Europe.

The film „Question to Radio Schengen“ will be presented in conjunction with „Question to Radio Yerevan“ to create a funny link between the declining Soviet Union and the current state of the European Union.



6) Radio Yerevan Exhibition & Contact

2013 – La Envidia, Valencia, screening & jokelab

2013 – Invaliden1 Galerie, Berlin, Question to Radio Yerevan – an exhibition with 47 old jokes from the soviet hemisphere

2012 – EKKM, Tallinn, Armeenian kogemuste õhtu: RAADIO JEREVAN

2012 – General Public, Berlin, Radio Yerevan – evening of armenian experience

7) Reviews & Contact

Review of „Question to Radio Yerevan“ by Helene Romakin at Small Worlds Project.

Blog Post by Olga Fedina about Radio Yerevan in Valencia.

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