# ARCHTECTURAL MUTATION NICK ERVINCK

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# ARCHITECTURAL MUTATION

Nick Ervinck's architectural mutations are to be divided into two kinds. On the one hand, he tries to incorporate art in architecture; on the other, he brings architecture to art.

TUOHREM is one of the first sort of architectural mutations. It is a courtyard specifically designed for the new retirement home in Meerhout, Belgium. In this way, Ervinck converts a piece of art into an integrated part of a building that exceeds the normal use of art. It is no longer purely visible and aesthetic. This proves that art can serve a much greater purpose than amaze the spectator. In addition to create a pleasant atmosphere and living environment, it can be used as an everyday functional object. Other examples are IMAGROD and ODETTE.

In the other line of architectural mutations, Ervinck uses architectural elements to create art rather than integrate art in architecture. From the simple brick stone cottage style to the classical Roman domus an even Christian superstructures like abbeys and cathedrals, there is little that remains untouched. Although, the original buildings can still be easily recognised, they started mutating beyond imagination and like this gained a life of their own. Some of them grew legs and started scuttling across the beach like crabs. Others got into a process of mitosis, divided and duplicated themselves and grew into grotesque constructions of got taken over by Ervinck's characteristic yellow blobs and took to the skies.

















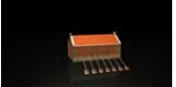
























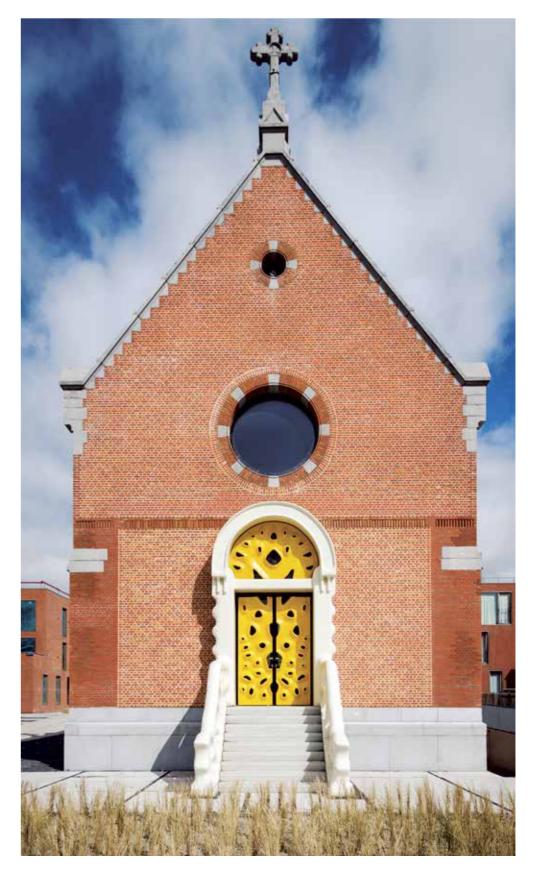












IMAGROD, 2010 - 2012 polyester and polyurethane 600 x 400 x 300 cm 236.2 x 157.5 x 118.1 inches

location: MILHO - Oostende, BE



**OB,** 2010 study



SOLOKIOW, 2014 study



**REKAMKEIZUM,** 2009 - 2014 concrete, fabric, iron and wood 556 x 1394 x 1858 cm 219 x 549 x 731.5 inches

location: park Bel-Air - Willebroek, BE



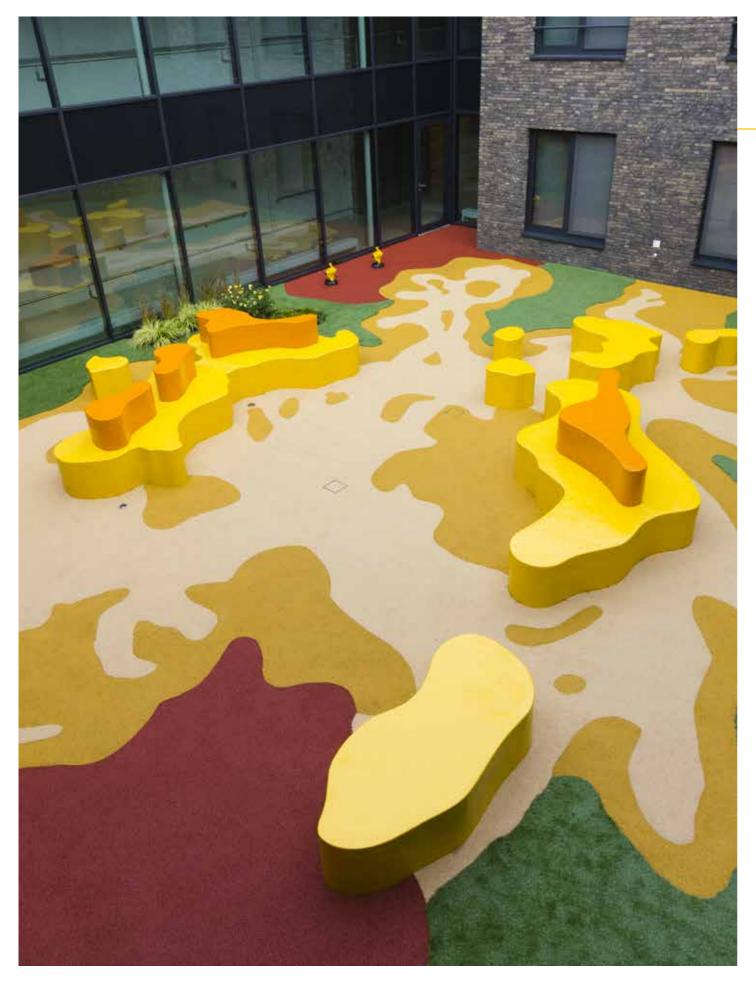


**SIUTLEPS,** 2011 - 2013 polyester and polyurethane 230 x 420 x 300 cm 90.6 x 165.4 x 118.1 inches

location: De Brem - Oostende, BE

**TOPPAL,** 2014 - 2015 iron, polyester and polyurethane 467 x 990 x 620 cm 183.9 x 389.8 x 244.1 inches

location: WZC Meersminne - Mortsel, BE





location: WZC De Berk - Meerhout, BE



# TUOHREM

■ TUOHREM is specifically made by Nick Ervinck for the courtyard of the new retirement home in Meerhout, Belgium.

At this courtyard, the inhabitants seem to dwell in an enormous painting. TUOHREM is in fact like a 'floorpainting' that spreads to all corners of the square. Nick Ervinck integrates the benches in a unity of flowing, organic colored patches. This unique visual language reminds us of a pebble that creates a series of waves in the surface of the water. Such a dynamic, digitally designed structure entails a certain energy, that encourages the inhabitants to continuously rediscover the courtyard, and to look at it in a different way over and over again. Furthermore, by using a soft floor, this work of art is very functional. TUOHREM is a unique artwork that creates a pleasant atmosphere and living environment.

**TUOHREM,** 2015 polyester, polyurethane and rubber 1100 x 1400 cm 433 x 551.2 inches

location: WZC De Berk - Meerhout, BE







# **EGATONK**

☐ The EGATONK-project was developed for the exhibition 'Horizon 8300' in Knokke which was set up to promote new architecture for this typical Belgian seaside town.

Zaha Hadid presented a complete new vision for the train station that was in high contrast with the usual white cottage 'obligations' in this town. For a referendum in connection with the exhibition, Nick Ervinck was asked as one of four artists to do 'something' with Knokke. For the artist it was immediately clear he had to use this cottage style and turn it into something absurd. The EGATONK wall print was presented on a 2,5 x 5 meter scale. The cottages are no longer static but become figures with connotations to crabs and other sea animals that walk along the beach. They remind us of the impossible structures in the engravings of the mathematician Escher (1898-1972). Their double identity, both building and animal, also relates to the well-known duck-rabbit image puzzle that challenges our way of seeing and interpreting the world.

100 x 200 cm, framed 133 x 233 cm 39.4 x 78.7 inches, framed 52.4 x 91.7 inches















YARONULK, 2009 study

YARONULK, 2009 study





# YARONULK

22

One day, Nick Ervinck wants to create a scale model of the basilica of Koekelberg, which will be 14 metres long. This modular sculpture will be composed of metal pipes, connected to one another by a system of screws.

A many-sided tent will then be hung inside this meccano-skeleton and will serve as a video room. The projected video tour will be so lifelike, shining like a hyper-realistic trompe l'oeil, that the viewers will have the momentary illusion of witnessing a filmed representation of the actual construction instead of an imaginary, digitally constructed image. Ervinck chooses for the clear delineation of geometrical volumes, typical of Art Deco, as this language is more suitable for his enterprise than the nervous rhythms of Gothic vaults. While the replica is more than 100 times smaller than the life-size basilica, the entire reconstruction was a grand task in itself. This ten time smaller scale model is not a modular construction, but consists of two 3D prints in polyamide, which were then printed and composed in about forty separate pieces. The cage was also given a rust-imitation. After it had been carefully and repeatedly sanded and varnished, the tent was placed inside the skeleton.



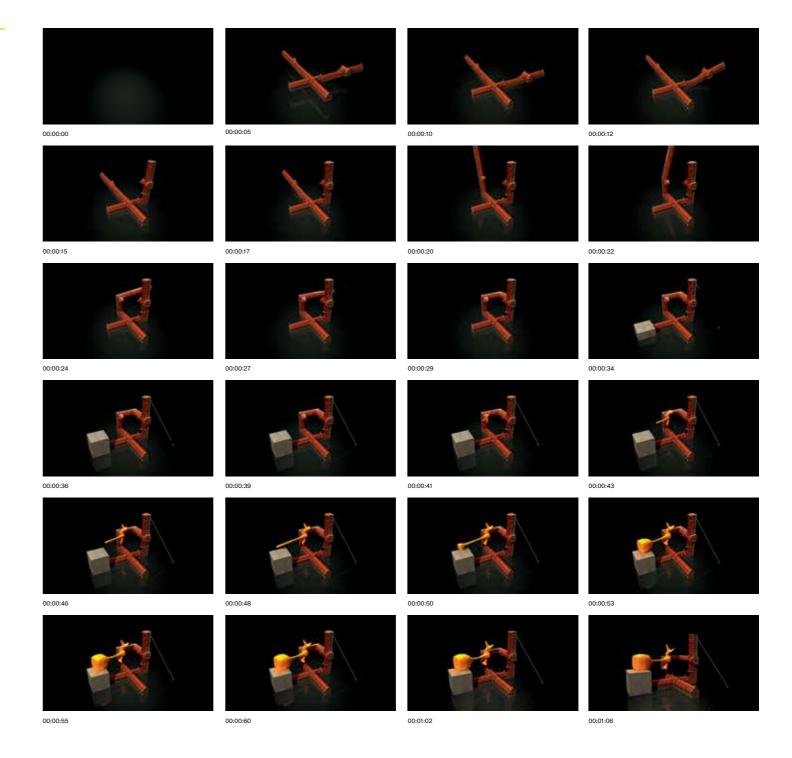


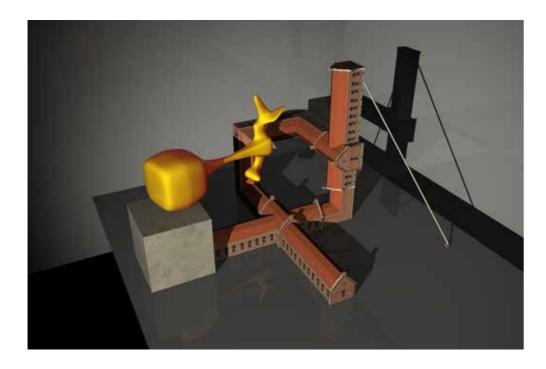


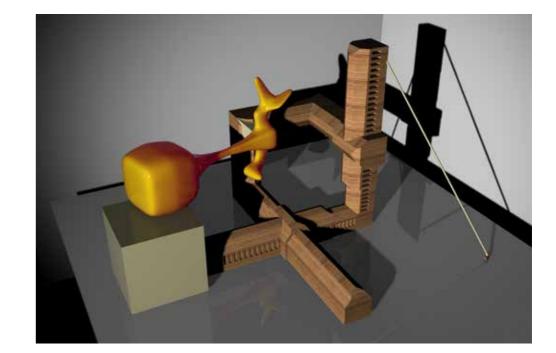
YARONULK, 2009 - 2010 3D print and plexi 70 x 138 x 90 cm 27.6 x 54.3 x 35.4 inches

LOTIPACAR, 2010









# SOLBARGIAFUTOBS

SOLBARGIAFUTOBS is a panoramic image of a familiar landscape, occupied by 'futuristic architecture of the past'. Using large wall prints, the virtual designs are now applied to a physical bearer and thus present in real space. Yet, this image is a construction of a possible world which can never be materialised. This world cannot be mounted by the viewer.

The rough bric-a-brac version of the sculpture is almost opposite to the smooth, clean shape of the blob. The rough version is representative of our physical world, whereas the clean version is characteristic of the digital, industrial world. The area of tension between both worlds is what interests Nick Ervinck, who is mainly fascinated by tension between the box and the blobs. He captures organics blob shapes in cages and places old angular architecture in symbiosis with new organic blob shapes – balanced combinations, tensions and fertilizations between old and new, the physical and the virtual. This also includes sculptures such as Xobbekops, Elbatargscu, Siutobs and Salb Furchak.



SOLBARGIAFUTOBS, 2004 - 2010

408 x 1464 cm 160.6 x 576.4 inches

location: Milho - Oostende, BE

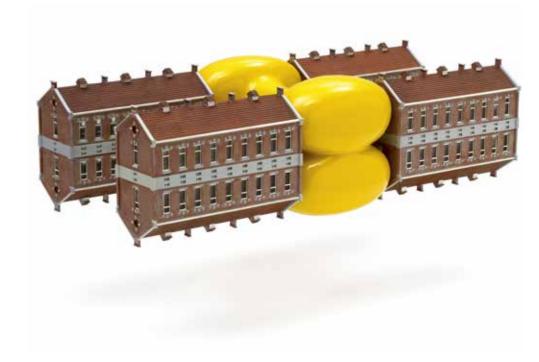
wallprint

408 x 1464 cm 160.6 x 576.4 inches

100.0 X 370.4 IIICHE

location: Milho - Oostende, BE





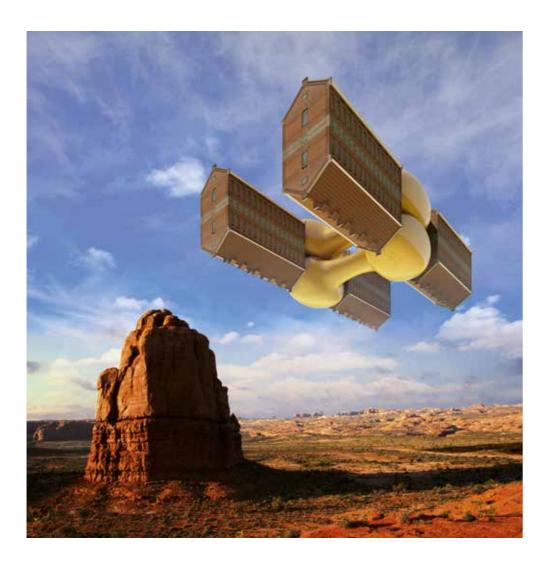
## COLBATROPS, 2007

print 50 x 100 cm, framed 74 x 124 cm 19.7 x 39.4 inches, framed 29.1 x 48.8 inches

TRIAFUTOBS, 2007 iron, plexi, polyester and polyurethane 20 x 65 x 30 cm 7.9 x 25.6 x 11.8 inches







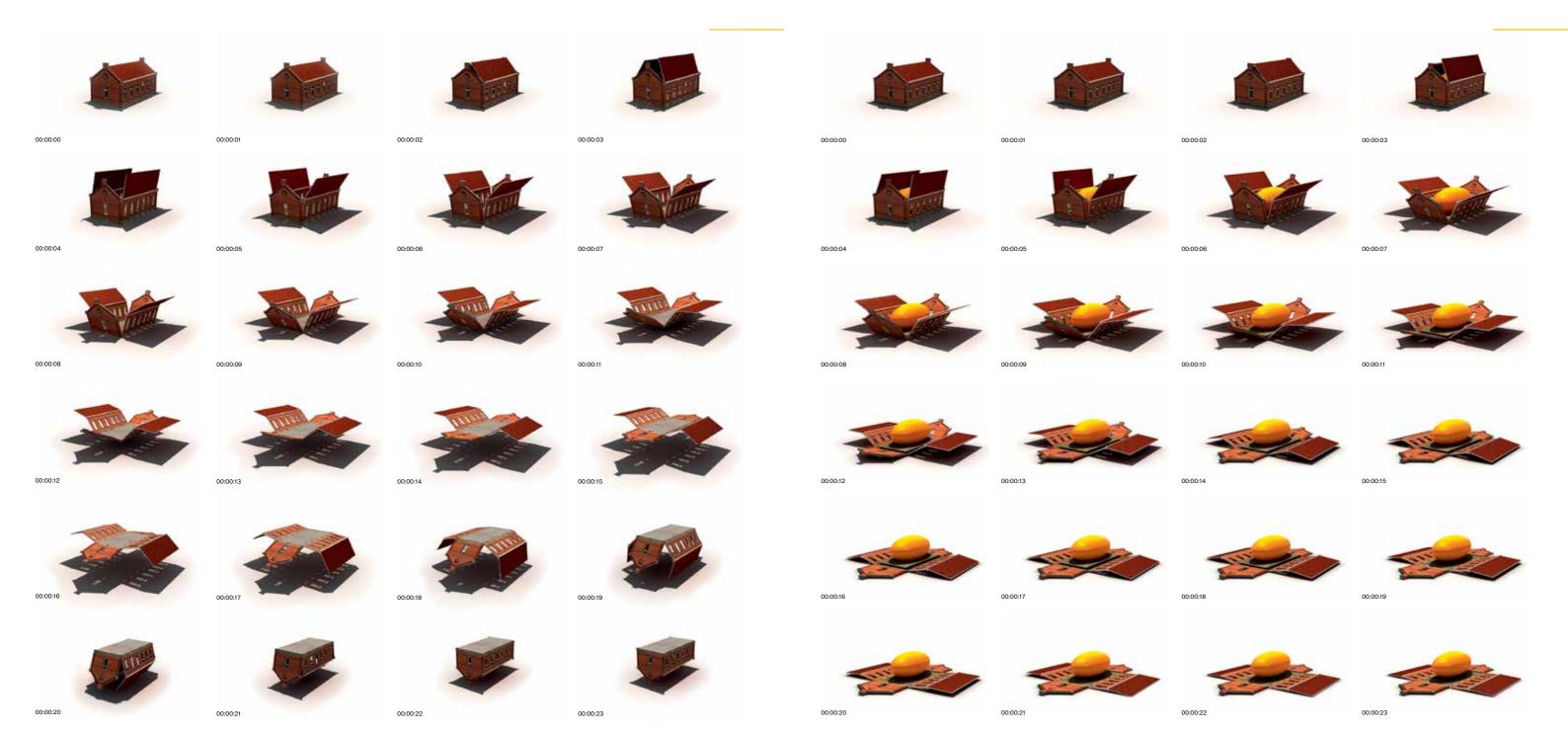




print 50 x 100 cm, framed 74 x 124 cm 19.7 x 39.4 inches, framed 29.1 x 48.8 inches







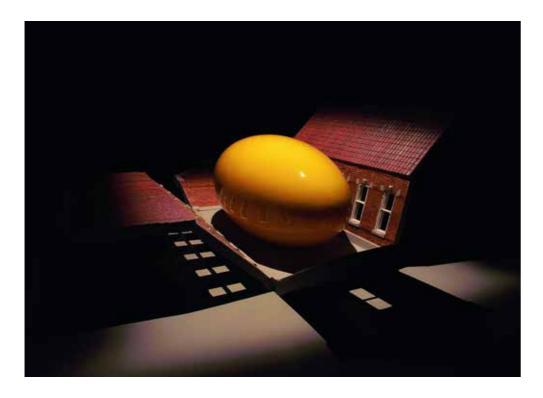








studio view: 2007 Studio Nick Ervinck - Kortemark, BE





## **SIUTOBS,** 2007

print 40 x 30 cm, framed 56 x 46 cm 15.7 x 11.8 inches, framed 22 x 18.1 inches

**SIUTOBS,** 2006

print 83 x 56 cm, framed 107 x 80 cm 32.7 x 22 inches, framed 42.1 x 31.5 inches



**ODETTE,** 2008 iron, pvc and wood 52 x 200 x 130 cm 20.5 x 78.7 x 51.2 inches



print 48 x 36 cm, framed 64 x 52 cm 18.9 x 14.2 inches, framed 25.2 x 20.5 inches

## **ODETTE,** 2008

print 50 x 100 cm, framed 74 x 124 cm 19.7 x 39.4 inches, framed 29.1 x 48.8 inches





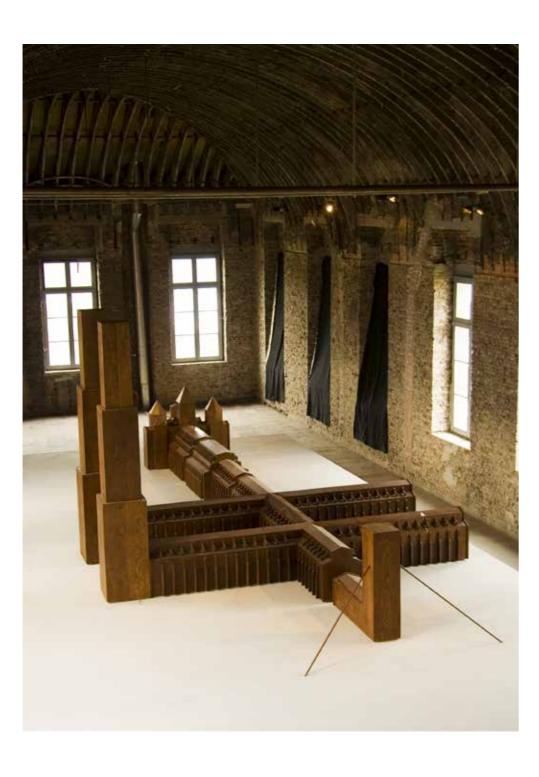


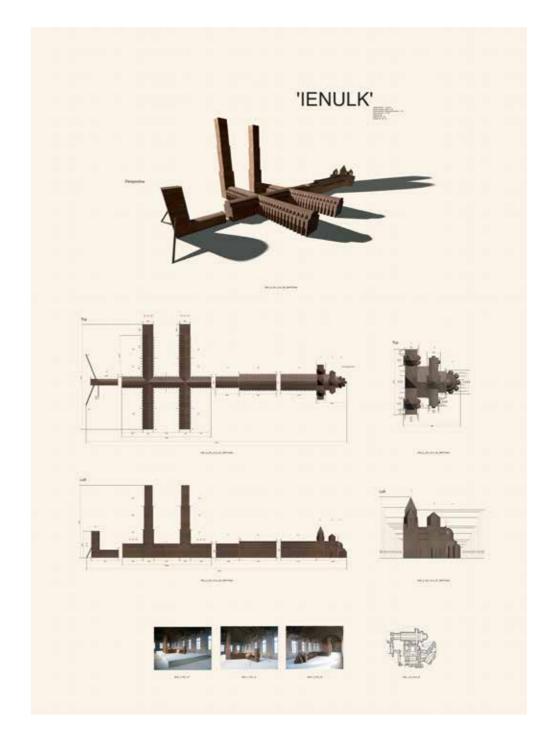




ODETTE, 2008
DJset, dvd-players, I-pod, lights, music boxes, TV's, wood, ...
450 cm x 1469 cm x 853 cm
177.2 x 578.3 x 335.8 inches







**IENULKAR,** 2004 - 2006 oak wood 330 x 1105 x 475 cm 129.9 x 435 x 187 inches

IENULKAR, 2004 - 2006



# IEBANULK

lacksquare The 20th century was characterized by a growing mobility, and consequently by a growing cultural exchange. This exchanges sometimes resulted in a culture clash. Nick Ervinck tries to visualize the problems of our hypermobile culture by mounting the abbey of Cluny - a Benedictine monastery in France in Romanesque style, dating from the 10th to the early 12th century - on an enormous oil tanker.

IEBANULK can be interpreted as a hypermobile ark of Noah and has reminiscences to a Western Culture, which once was very powerful. By combining these two elements, the public is forced to observe in a different manner. While the dimensions of the tanker and the cathedral are perfectly balanced, the towers are raised beyond proportion. Here, Ervinck points at a current 'tower of Babel-complex' in our society; a striving to build beyond the sky, in order to show off and to reach God, or at least to find the unknown. Yet, IEBANULK will never sail away, and therefore it is rather an empty meditative space. IEBANULK is designed fully digital and the lower part was moulded by a machine. Resulting out of this working process is a symmetric form, with smooth curves, which are polished afterwards.



IEBANULK, 2004 - 2006 49.2 x 98.4 x 29.5 inches

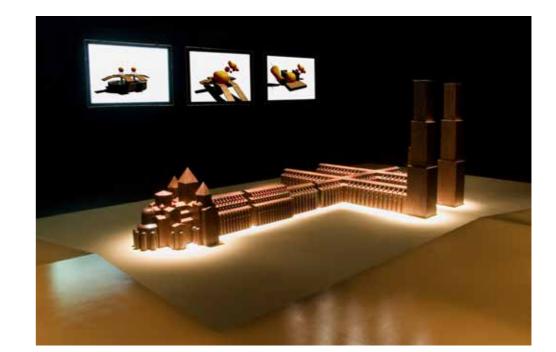
polyester and wood

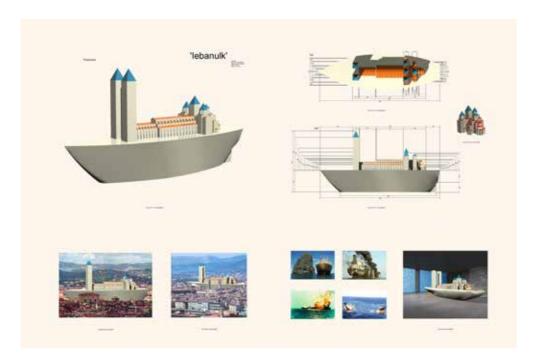
125 x 250 x 75 cm

IEBANULK, 2004 - 2006 polyester and wood 125 x 250 x 75 cm 49.2 x 98.4 x 29.5 inches











IEBANULK, 2006

print 84 x 126 cm, framed 108 x 150 cm 33.1 x 49.6 inches, framed 42.5 x 59.1 inches DARCHINOX, 2002 - 2007 chalk, gauze, plaster, styrofoam and wood 32 x 48 x 32 cm and 32 x 48 x 32 cm 12.6 x 18.9 x 12.6 inches and 12.6 x 18.9 x 12.6 inches















**GNI\_D\_GH\_102\_jan2004,** 2004 print 80 x 106 cm, framed 104 x 130 cm 31.5 x 41.7 inches, framed 40.9 x 51.2 inches

print 80 x 112 cm, framed 104 x 133 cm 31.5 x 44.1 inches, framed 40.9 x 52.4 inches





**GNI\_D\_GH\_133\_jan2004,** 2004 print 80 x 106 cm, framed 104 x 130 cm 31.5 x 41.7 inches, framed 40.9 x 51.2 inches

print 78 x 100 cm, framed 102 x 124 cm 30.7 x 39.4 inches, framed 40.2 x 48.8 inches

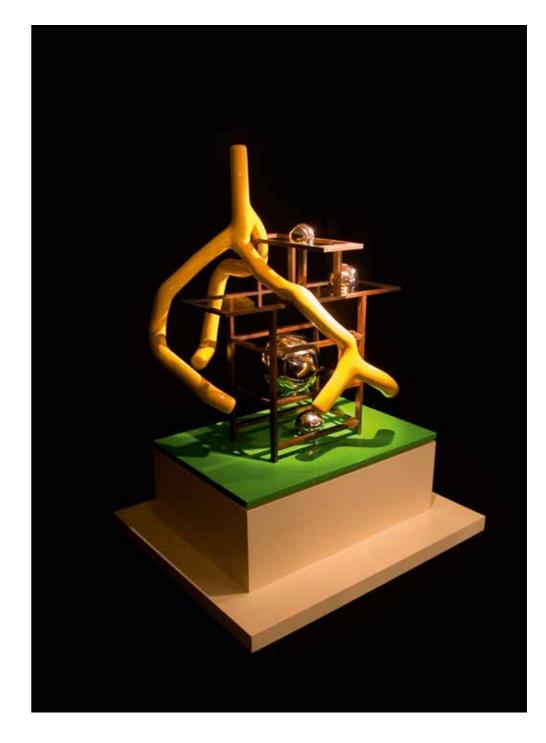




**GNI\_D\_GH\_55\_mar2004,** 2004 print 60 x 84 cm, framed 84 x 108 cm 23.6 x 33.1 inches, framed 33.1 x 42.5 inches

GNI\_D\_GH\_50\_apr2005, 2005 print 115 x 80 cm, framed 139 x 104 cm 45.3 x 31.5 inches, framed 54.7 x 40.9 inches





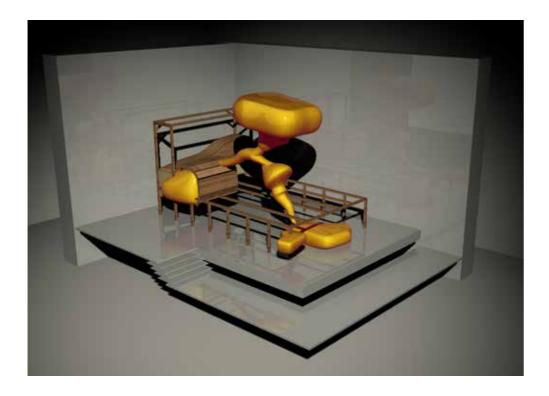


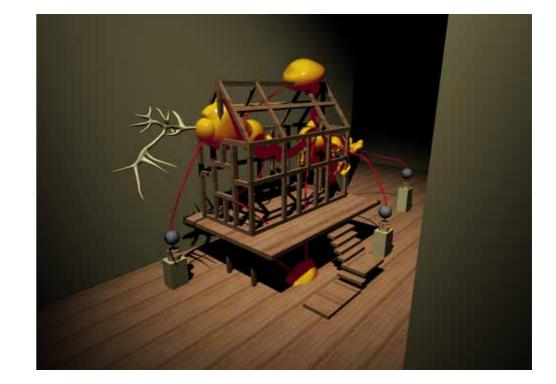






KOSUBKNAT, 2007 - 2008 iron, polyester, pvc and wood 155 x 130 x 390 cm 61 x 51.2 x 153.5 inches TAMAKINA, 2007 - 2008 iron, polyester, polyurethane, pvc and wood 240 x 267 x 172 cm 94.5 x 105.1 x 67.7 inches





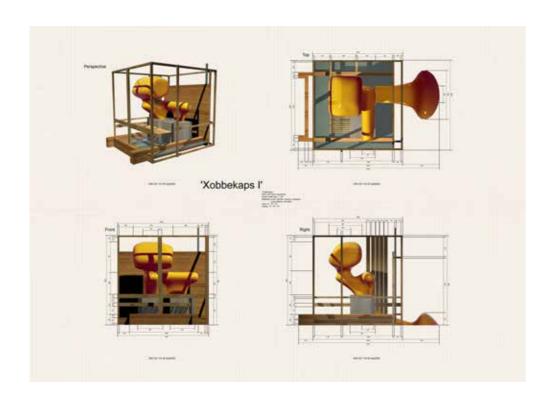
**GNI\_D\_GH\_102\_dec2003,** 2003 print 80 x 120 cm, framed 104 x 140 cm 31.5 x 47.2 inches, framed 40.9 x 55.1 inches

print 80 x 109 cm, framed 104 x 133 cm 31.5 x 42.9 inches, framed 40.9 x 52.4 inches





studio view: 2006 Studio Nick Ervinck - Kortemark, BE





# XOBBEKOPS, 2005

print 55 x 70 cm, framed 74 x 94 cm 21.7 x 27.6 inches, framed 29.1 x 37 inches

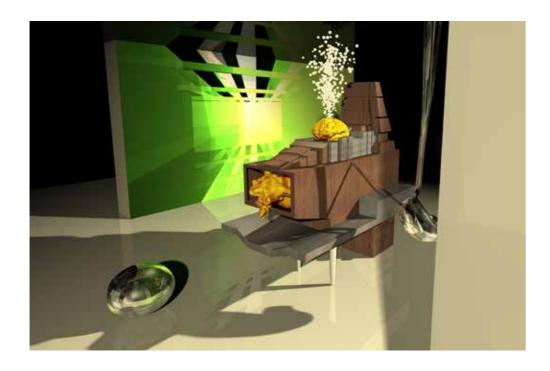
print 80 x 116 cm, framed 104 x 140 cm 31.5 x 45.7 inches, framed 40.9 x 16.7 inches





# XOBBEKOPS, 2007

print 50 x 100 cm, framed 74 x 124 cm 19.7 x 39.4 inches, framed 29.1 x 48.8 inches





**GNI\_D\_GH\_2\_apr2005,** 2005 print 80 x 120cm, framed 104 x 144 cm 31.5 x 47.2 inches, framed 33.1 x 56.7 inches

etebnozay, 2005
ceramics, chalk, chardboard, formica, gauze, plaster, and wood
270 x 329 x 180 cm
106.3 x 129.5 x 70.9 inches

exhibition view: 2006 Filiaal van de hemel, Stedelijk Museum Lokeren – Lokeren, BE



# OLBATAWSGU, 2005

print 91 x 80 cm, framed 115 x 104 cm 35.8 x 31.5 inches, framed 45.3 x 40.9 inches

print 93 x 79 cm, framed 118 x 103 cm 36.6 x 31.1 inches, framed 46.5 x 40.6 inches



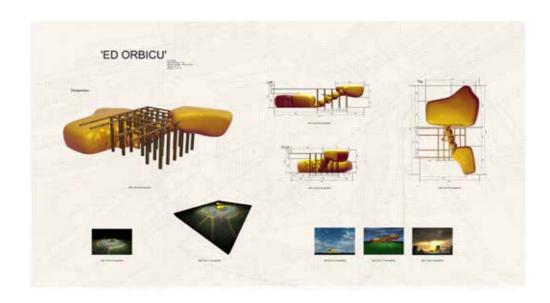


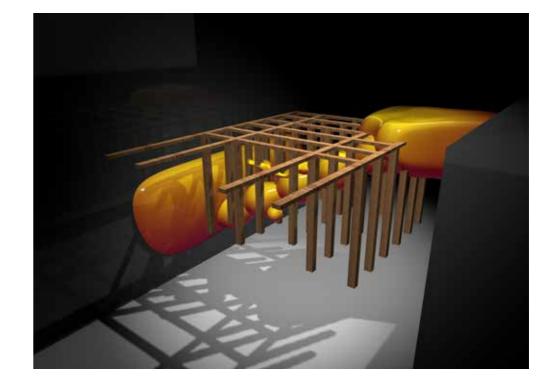


**ELBATARGSCU,** 2005 formica, grassfiber, iron, lamps, plaster, plexi, polyester, polyurethane, pvc, trees and wood 210 x 200 x 90 cm 82.7 x 78.7 x 35.4 inches

# ELBATARGSCU, 2005

print 73 x 73 cm, framed 97 x 97 cm 28.7 x 28.7 inches, framed 38.2 x 38.2 inches





print 45 x 85 cm, framed 69 x 109 cm 17.7 x 33.5 inches, framed 27.2 x 42.9 inches

print 80 x 110 cm, framed 104 x 134 cm 31.5 x 43.3 inches, framed 40.9 x 52.8 inches







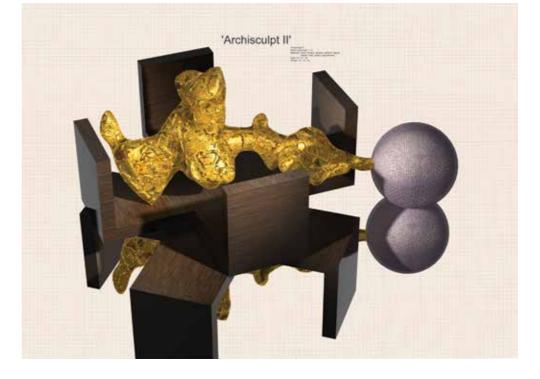
ARCHISCULPT V, 2005 chalk, gauze, iron, plaster, plastic, styrofoam and wood 104 x 185 x 142 cm 40.9 x 72.8 x 55.9 inches

# GNI\_D\_GH\_30\_may2004, 2004

print 60 x 84 cm, framed 84 x 108 cm 23.6 x 33.1 inches, framed 33.1 x 42.5 inches



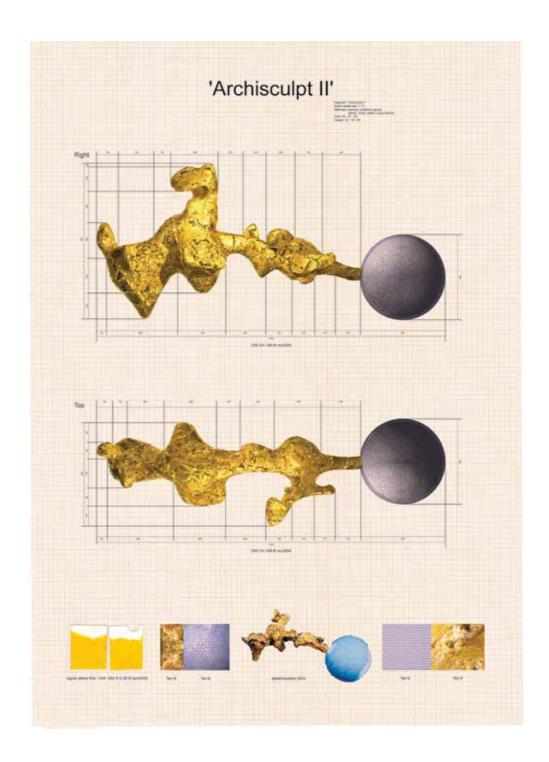




**ARCHISCULPT VI,** 2005 chalk, gauze, iron, plaster, plastic, styrofoam and wood

# ARCHISCULPT II, 2005

print 50 x 70 cm, framed 70 x 90 cm 19.7 x 27.6 inches, framed 27.6 x 35.4 inches



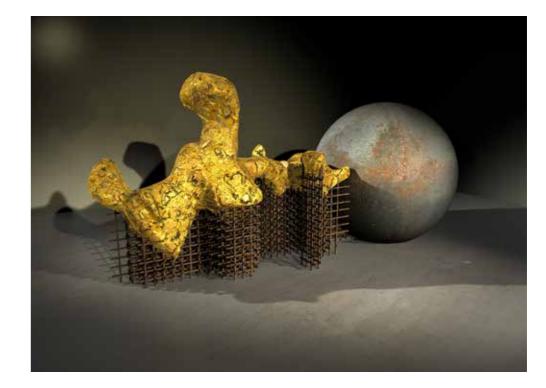




ARCHISCULPTOBSY, 2005 polyester and polyurethane 49 x 52 x 20 cm 19.3 x 20.5 x 7.9 inches







ARCHISCULPT, 2004 - 2005 iron, plastic, polyester and wood 33 x 65 x 18 cm 13 x 25.6 x 7.1 inches

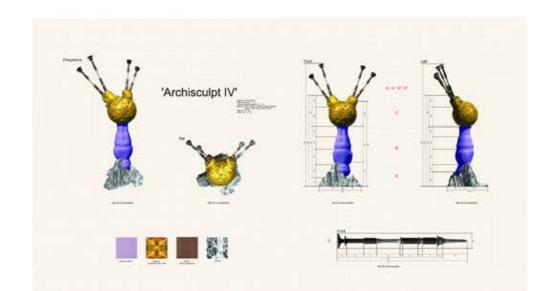
**GNI\_D\_GH\_26\_nov2004,** 2004 print 60 x 85 cm, framed 84 x 109 cm 23.6 x 33.5 inches, framed 33.1 x 42.9 inches







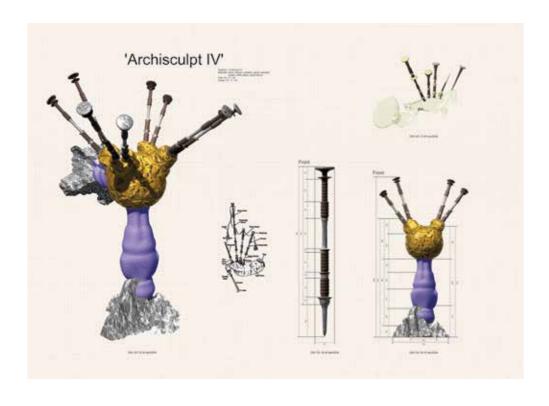




ARCHISCULPT\_III, 2004 chalk, chardboard, formica, gauze, plaster, plastic and wood 75 x 205 x 178 cm 29.5 x 80.7 x 70.1 inches

# ARCHISCULPT\_IV, 2005

print 50 x 90 cm, framed 70 x 110 cm 19.7 x 35.4 inches, framed 27.6 x 43.3 inches





# ARCHISCULPT\_IV, 2005

print 50 x 70 cm, framed 74 x 94 cm 19.7 x 27.6 inches, framed 29.1 x 37 inches









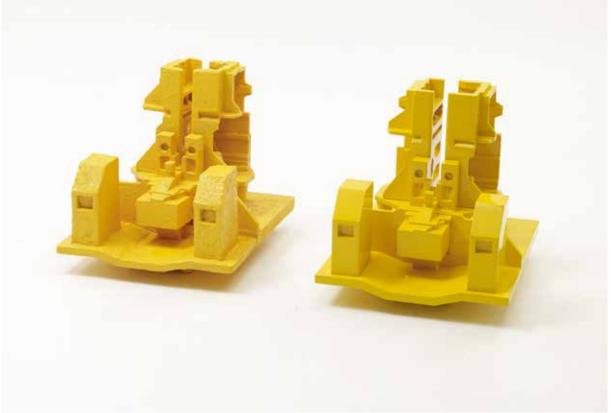












exhibition view: 2008 GNI-RI feb2008, Benedengalerie – Kortrijk, BE

GNIURKS M, 2002 chalk, gauze, plaster, polyester, styrofoam and wood 2x 80 x 82 x 60 cm 2x 31.5 x 32.3 x 23.6 inches









# **GNIURKS L, 2002**

chalk, gauze, plaster, polyester, styrofoam and wood 210 x 210 x 135 cm (13 parts variable placing) 82.7 x 82.7 x 53.1 inches

Text: Studio Nick Ervinck

Graphic concept: Studio Nick Ervinck

Photocredits: Luc Dewaele, Peter Verplancke, Bob Van Mol and Studio Nick Ervinck

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