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# **Knocking On Bricks**

created 4.24.2008

## by shoshana brand

# Description

The artists and curators Shoshana Brand and xtine have launched their new public art project, the site www.knockingonbricks.com. The project includes 18 international artists.

First Brand and xtine composed absurd proposal letters and mailed them to different national institutions and well-known public personas. Shortly after the expected rejection letters arrived, they extended themselves into an individual creation of two-dimensional artwork, by mentoring, curating and promoting an international group of visual artists to create artwork addressing the absurd proposals, which had already been rejected. The final step includes essays written by well-known visual artists, commenting on the topic of rejection and personal success in the art arena.

KNOCKING ON BRICKS subverts the dynamic force of creation in the face of rejection. The artists deliberately chose to empower themselves by writing towards decisive refusals, and once their proposal was delivered they visited their mailbox daily in hopes of finding a letter of Knocking On Bricks rejection. They received one rejection letter after another,

some sent only one week after they mailed their proposal. Should it be considered a success or failure? Was it the result of an unusual talent or merely blind luck? The artists were amazed to find throughout the process of writing, deliverance and anticipation that they transcended the aching concept of rejection by transforming it into a work of art.

Launched on April 24, 08 the website has already had more than 5000 visitors from around the globe.

**Biography**Shoshana Brand is a visual and media artist. She constantly locates herself in a creative zone, producing sculpture, site-specific installation, public art and video art. She grew up in Israel, and from 1989 she has been a resident of Los Angeles. Brand has been attending academic institutions most of her life, both in Israel and in the U.S, studying Fine Arts, Cinema, and Education. In 2003 she graduated with a MFA degree in Sculpture from Claremont Graduate University, California, and in the last four years she has been invited to create video installations and public art projects in China, Alaska, Canada and the Czech Republic; and throughout the U.S including Los Angeles, San Diego, New York and Nebraska City.

Shoshana has taught art to children and adults in many forums and has served as a curator for several art shows. In 2006 she established a non-profit organization for the Arts, called Contemporary MAP. Her most recent project is a 45-minute Documentary about the Antelope Valley and its residents, to be screened and become a DVD in April 2008.

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