



**nothing is
lost, nothing
is created,
everything is
transformed**

The Québec Triennial 2008
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Jocelyn Robert
The Republic

Liberté, égalité, sororité, 2006

Liberté, égalité, sororité (view of installation), 2006

La République, 2006

La République (view of installation), 2006

Archaeologists are wonderful people. From a fragment of porcelain or an old rusty nail, they spread out before your eyes the origin of a civilization, the drifting of continents or a day in the life of a farmer twenty centuries ago, complete with intentions, philosophies and religions.

The same goes for our interest in the things around us. If we look closely at them, very closely, then within what seemed to be an ordinary image a whole history lies hidden; what we took to be an insignificant piece of furniture is actually evidence of an entire epoch, a social system, a political organization, fears and hopes. A scrap of newspaper lying around, a street lamp, an old jacket: everything can form the foundation of a view of the world. There is, in each of the objects around us, in each structure, a digest of history, seen by the person who conceived it. You just have to look closely.

La République, which consists of two video projections entitled *La République* and *Liberté, égalité, sororité*, plus a few objects, arises out of that principle. The two pieces are two brief excerpts from hours of more or less documentary footage shot in Paris. This shooting was done absent-mindedly. Neither of the video segments was shot following a specific plan; they were taken from the original bank of images, just as various others could have been. Each image, each movement contains a history that simply needs telling.







