

### Ilya Kabakov

**title, year**

"Palace of Projects" 1999,  
2003

**technique**

Serigraph, offestlithograph, collé

**edition**

30/30, 10 a.p., 4 p.p

**paper**

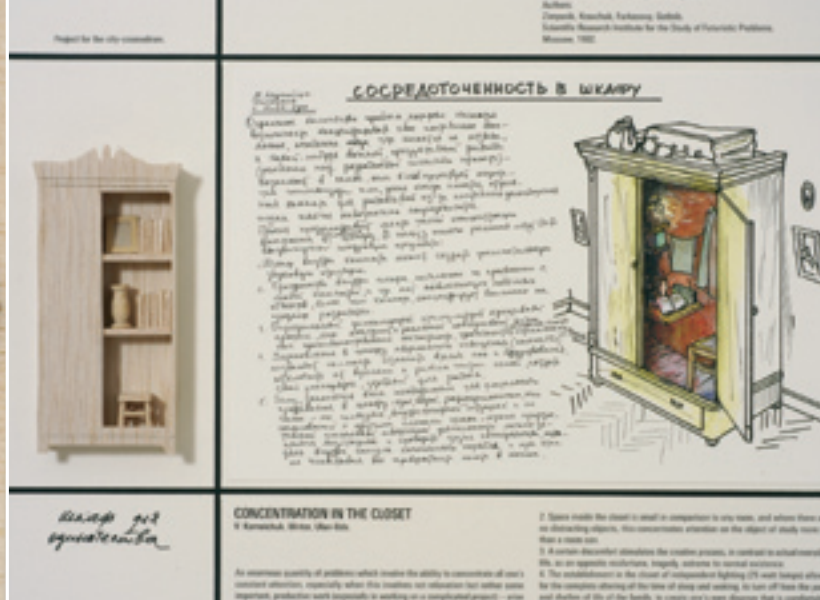
300g/qm, Somerset Velvet white

**size**

120 x 160 cm, box 135 x 175 x 7 cm

**printer**

mike karstens graphics



Ilya Kabakov

**“Palace of Projects” 1999**  
Kokerei Zollverein Essen, Germany

The installation displays and examines a seemingly commonly known and even trivial truth: the world consists of a multitude of projects, realized ones, half-realized ones and not realized at all. Everything that we see around us, in the world surrounding us, everything that we discover in the past, that which possibly could comprise the future – all of this is a limitless world of projects.

But turning to oneself, thinking about one’s own life, we, as rule are not sure about this, we do not discover in ourselves, so it seems to us, any special project, especially not a major one which captivates us entirely. We think that to have a “project” is most likely the business of some other, special people and therefore they are standardly referred to as “creative,” or it is in general some sort of special, extreme state which requires a special resolve and special personality traits.

But we are convinced, and we try to demonstrate this in our installation, that the only way and means to lead a worthy human life is to have one’s own project, to conceive it and bring it to its realization. To have one’s own project, to realize it, perhaps, should be inherent in every person, the project is the concentration, the embodiment of meaning of life, only thanks to it can he establish “who he is,” what he is capable of, can he receive “a name.” It is only from the moment of the determination of his project that his true “existence” and not just “survival” begins.

