



‘Cultural Baggage’

en route ‘Cultural Baggage’ is a mail art project being co-ordinated by Catalyst Arts. We would like to invite you to participate in this event involving all the ‘Nomadic Territories’ consular offices.

Cultural Baggage

The project ‘Cultural Baggage’ will be exhibited here in Belfast from the 7th - 24th October. We are sending empty suitcases to all seventeen Nomadic consular offices with the request that they fill them with ‘Cultural Baggage’ returning them to Catalyst.

Issues which are hoped to be addressed are the effects of globalization on the individual and society and how this reflects change/no change in our consciousness and our identities and how these are formed through a sense of nation state. This will hopefully bring to light the question of regionalism/parochialism and how they are essentially universal - linking the local with the cosmopolitan and pointing towards a cultural pluralism.

As the expression suggests, ‘cultural baggage’ is often used in its derogatory sense but as the ambiguity also suggests, could also mean its opposite, i.e., what is important enough not to be left out, to be seen as essential for our journey.

It is anticipated that in this small sample of consular offices that a tenuous link can be observed which will be seen as a reflection of thought as we approach the new millennium, by looking at our sameness through our respective cultural diversities.