UBX Expression
Apex art (New York, the United States)
November 2008
UBX Expression is the result of a working period at the Entomological Collection in the University of Amsterdam (UvA). The work focuses on the morphology in butterfly patterns. It basically consists in five series of drawings, pen on cardboard (8 × 8 cm) of butterfly wing pattern (always the upper wing to the left). The piece focuses on the subtle difference in each wing and in seen how those wings which are represented as schemas in books don’t ever respond to the schema but there are as individual as the amount of butterflies flying and collected in the world.

Wrapped butterflies as they are kept in the collection when they are not yet classified. When entomologists do field work, they wrap the samples in paper to transport them from the field to the collection; there they remain in drawers as unclassified material till they eventually find a spot in the collection. (Source from Entomological Collection at the University of Amsterdam.)
The work gathers sources from other collections such as the Geological Museum in Amsterdam and the University Museum in Utrecht. The display table is inspired by a slide system, which is used to store tiny microfossils in Geology.
The glass pieces depart from a device which I find in the depot of the university museum in Utrecht which was used for pedagogical purposes in teaching the genetically organization in biology. Basically you have those spheres (in different percentages in each container), you turn the container up and down and the spheres always appear distributed differently.
A remake of a pedagogical device used to visualize chance in genetic organization. The different colored glass balls are mixed in a container and will consequently always appear differently distributed in the glass tube. The devices will contain different percentages of colored glass balls: 1) 10% - 90%, 2) 20% - 80%, 3) 30% - 70%, 4) 40% - 60%, 5) 50% - 50%, 6) 60% - 40%, 7) 70% - 30%, 8) 80% - 20%, and 9) 90% - 10%.
(Sources from Collection at University Museum Utrecht)
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