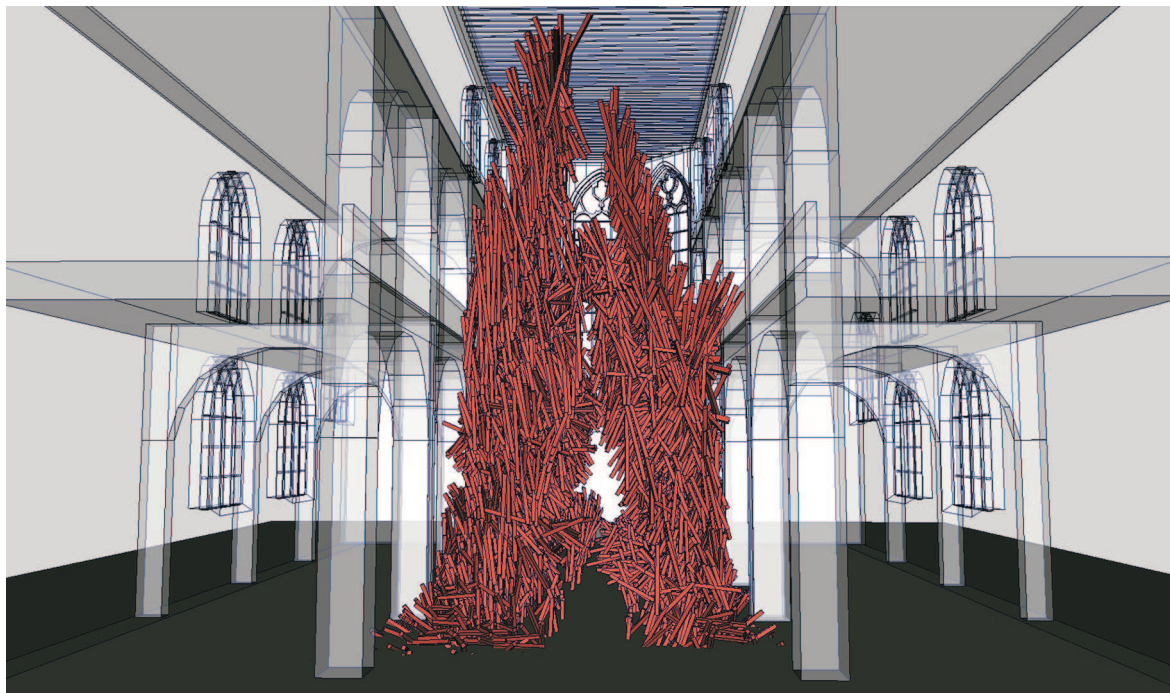


**MICHAEL SOMOROFF**  
THE RED SEA

PRESS RELEASE



**Opening: Sunday, May 25. 2008 at Kunst-Station Sankt Peter**

**4.30 pm: lecture of Michael Somoroff**  
'The Red Sea/Revelations, Transformations'  
English with german translation

**6.00 pm: Holy Mass with sermon on the subject of Exodus 14:**  
Passage of Israel throughout the Red Sea.

**Duration 'THE RED SEA': May 27 – June 15, 2008**

Openinghours:  
Tuesday – Saturday 11.00 am – 5.00 pm  
Sunday 1.00 – 5.00 pm  
Monday closed

**MICHAEL SOMOROFF**  
THE RED SEA

PRESS RELEASE

The American photographer and video artist Michael Somoroff faces one more time a spiritual subject in his work. After having created a sculpture for the renowned Rothko Chapel in Houston, Texas, he is dealing again with the unity of religion. He is placing a giant sculpture made out of wood entitled "The Red Sea" into a catholic church dealing with a Jewish subject. Faith and doubt, devotion and fear did not only accompany the Israeli people during their passage through the Red Sea – knowledge and non-knowledge for the divinity is a human subject. The aesthetic form for this need is a main subject for Somoroffs work.

The Kunst-Station Sankt Peter in Cologne and the Gallery Brigitte Schenk invited the artist at first to create a piece of art for the Easter mass. As a student of the inner secret wisdom of Judaism –the Kabbala– the meanings beneath the text of the bible are partially brought to life by Somoroff in his three-stage project called "The Red Sea". The three piece cycle starts with a video called "Genesis" introduced in the Easter night. Each of the following phases is related to the three Torah passages that have been incorporated into the Easter Mass. The main piece is now the sculpture made out of wood that will be inaugurated on the 25 May at St. Peter. In the following month of June the cycle will be closed with an installation "Binding of Isaac" that will also touch Islamic subjects. Above all the project will honour father Mennekes' work ending after 20 legendary years and is –like the passage through the Red Sea– referring to a time of uncertainty, but also belief. Somoroff is building a huge 12 meter high, 10 meter long sculptural translation of the parting of the Red Sea made of 7000 pieces of split wood. Visitors to the chapel will be able to walk through the sculpture for nearly 3 weeks following the opening and to participate at the Saturday and Sunday mass - mainly standing.

**THE BINDING OF ISAAK**  
**Gallery Brigitte Schenk**

Opening will be announced separately.  
In co-operation with Kunst-Station Sankt Peter.

*We thank K99 for the valuable support*