

## Adad Hannah

— *New York, USA 1971*



### *TWO MIRRORS*

YEAR OF PRODUCTION: 2008

PRESENTATION MEDIUM: DVD

DURATION: 6' 36"

EDITION: 5

ADAD HANNAH has lived in the USA, Israel, and England, studied in Vancouver, and currently lives in Montreal, Canada. Primarily using video and photography, Hannah has worked on his *Stills* (real-time video recorded tableaux vivants) since 2001, producing and exhibiting them in museums and galleries around the world. [www.adadhannah.com](http://www.adadhannah.com)

In *Two Mirrors* two men use a small mirror in order to implicate themselves and enter - if only visually - Velázquez's *Las Meninas*. In this work I borrow a gesture from Velázquez's *Venus at her Mirror* in which a nude Venus looks out at the viewer through a mirror held delicately by Cupid. The mirror in my work deflects one's gaze from the iconic painting to the world in front of the canvas, both within and outside of the camera's purview. While a photograph is the index of a specific moment when the shutter opened for a fraction of a second - the before and after firmly implied - in each of these videos time itself becomes a crucial element, the live image negating the imagined before and after, insisting on the live/lived present. It is within this uneasy space between movement and stillness, the recorded and the live, that I hope to open up a space for viewers to take an active role in the generation of meaning - a meaning that is formed relationally between the viewer and artwork. This work was made and images taken with the authorization of the Museo Nacional del Prado in December 2007. The artist wishes to acknowledge the assistance of the Canadian Embassy in Madrid and the Quebec Arts Council.

Represented by:

**PIERRE-FRANÇOIS OUELLETTE ART | MONTREAL**



Adad Hannah, *Museum Stills: Two Mirrors*, 2008