

ALLISON HRABLUIK  
A QUESTION OF LAW, A QUESTION OF FACT,  
AND ANOTHER QUESTION OF LAW

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The *Singularly Significant* series features concise projects by artists making significant developments in contemporary art practice.

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s|sign singularlysignificant series

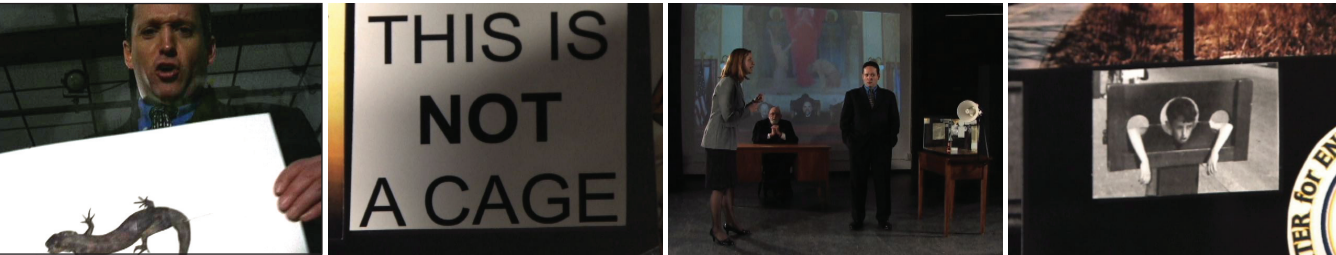
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# ALLISON HRABLUIK

## A QUESTION OF LAW, A QUESTION OF FACT, AND ANOTHER QUESTION OF LAW



IMAGES: *A Question of Law, A Question of Fact, and Another Question of Law*, 2008, video stills. Images courtesy of the artist.

*A Question of Law, A Question of Fact, and Another Question of Law* provides a fifteen-minute window into a dysfunctional court case drama featuring the threatened Jefferson Salamander who is suing the Province for infringement of her natural habitat. Using a script that borrows from a variety of literary and newspaper texts, the trial humorously looks at some of the arguments, passions and strategies surrounding rights to ownership.

In a rare moment of calm, we are given some insight into the fundamental questions of the case:

**Prosecution:** We would like to argue the last point, Your Honour. When there is purposeful misguidance about the contents of a contract, then the signatory's signature is meant for a contract that differs from the one signed. If the signatory cannot read, as is the case with my client, then a great deal can be taken advantage of when the signatory places her trust in a deviant.

**Judge** (wisely): Yes, but does not innocence have eyes to see what experience cannot?

**Prosecution** (exasperated): I am not talking about innocence, Your Honour, but ILLITERACY. Surely a contract is invalid if one cannot read what one is signing. This is intellectual coercion.

**Salamander:** This could be the final moments of the notion of civil society.

-Allison Hrabluik

Allison Hrabluik recently completed Postgraduate studies at the Higher Institute for Fine Arts (HISK) in Ghent, Belgium. Her previous work has focused on explorations of urban and rural anti-heroes and their workings in contemporary life as described through elaborate stop-animated videos, drawings, and sculpture. Hrabluik's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in group and solo exhibitions and film screenings. She is represented by Tatjana Pieters, Belgium.