



811

121

908

108

5

764

955

456

89

715

818

371

92

63

964

27

828

629

926

179

420

771

272

785

26

761

270

381

792

555

165

301

497

177

778

299

12

316

124

1015

116

105

416

217

313

1014

503

624

513

52

525

1026

221

422

997

698

999

1800

1313

214

3

140

501

1006

797

252

121

1322

321

1012

151

852

1033

434

25

78

1035

636

NICOLAS GROSPIERRE  
THE BANK



# ALARCON CRIADO

## The Bank

*The Bank* is a photographic installation which plays with the idea of the financial institution, where the bank stands as a metaphor of wealth, and more generally, all material things.

*The Bank's* key driving ideas are the following : on the one hand, that one is always drawn to what is hidden and concealed, and that one always wants to discover what is behind closed doors. And on the other hand, that appearances may be deceiving. Practically, the installation consists of series of photographs and of photographic objects which are designed to tickle the viewer's curiosity and try to discover what is hidden behind the innumerable doors of the Bank.

Formally, *the Bank* is organised on three sets of elements.

First, the viewer is confronted with photographs of deserted and disused New York banks interiors.

Second, the viewer enters the vault, which is made out of 10 life size photographs of safe deposit boxes. There are approximately 2000 safe deposit boxes represented in this vault, each one with a number. The numbering of the safe deposit boxes hide a secret message, invisible at first sight, that the viewer is invited to decipher.

Third, and finally, the viewer is confronted with the Safe, at the core of the installation. It is a photographic object representing a life size bank safe, whose doors may be opened.

Metaphorically, *the Bank* is an attempt at tackling the finiteness and illusory character of all material things. Once all doors have been opened, the viewer may well realise that there really is nothing to be found.



854

130

729

399

10

330

626

99

291

510

83

400

317

652

790

103

278

101

212

47

78

135

663

295

90

627

391

434

27

991

509

120

683

360

87



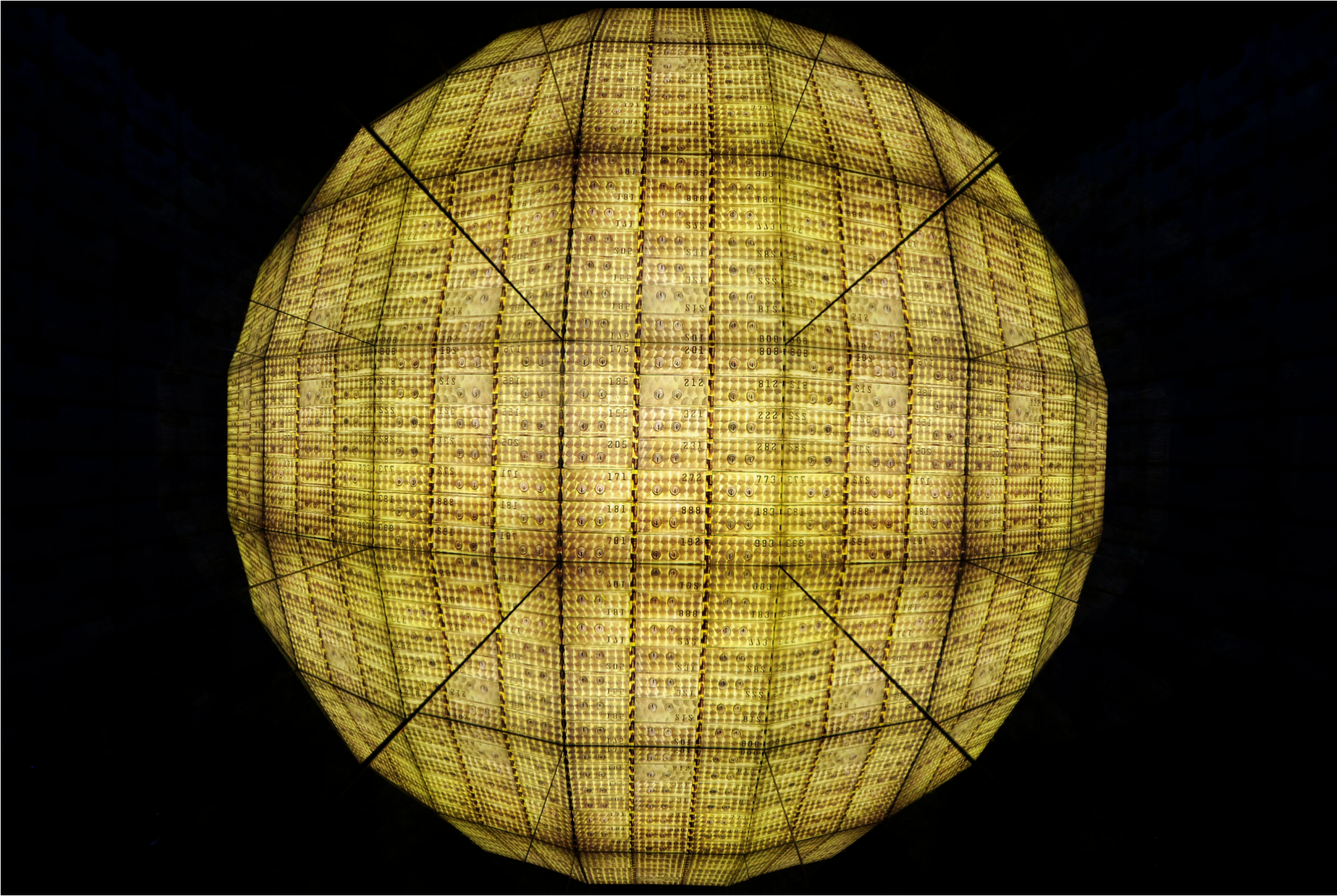


The Vault (installation view at BWA Warszawa, 2011)











# ALARCON CRIADO



*The Safe*

Photographic object, Lambda D-prints on aluminium, lamps, mirrors, 2009, 70 x 70 x 90 cm.

*The Safe* constitutes the core of the Bank installation. From the outside, it looks like a massive bank safe, life size. Its doors may nevertheless be opened. Its inside hides a structure made out of safe deposit boxes, which appears actually larger than the safe that contains it.

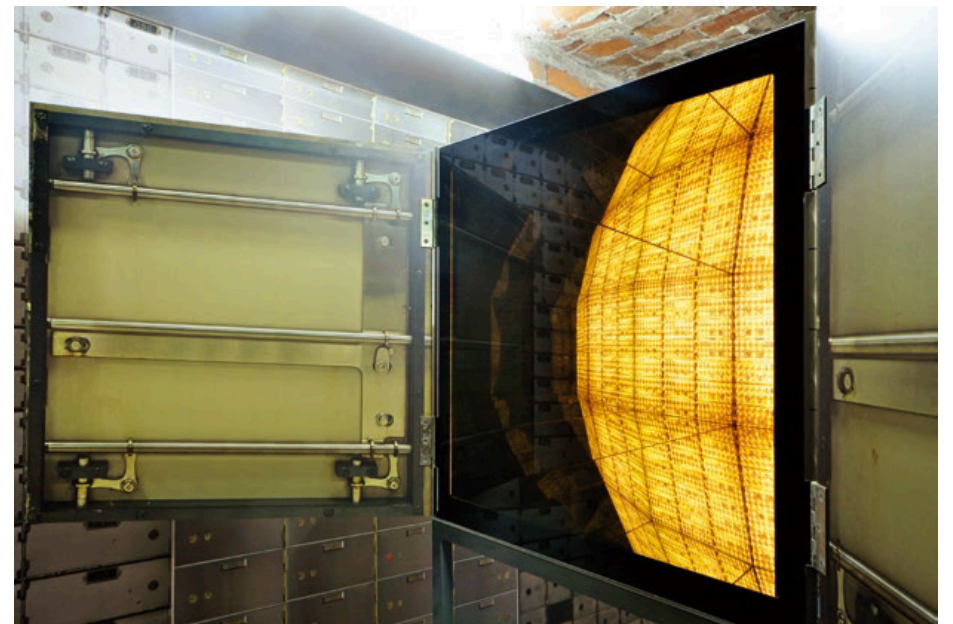


# ALARCON CRIADO





# ALARCON CRIADO





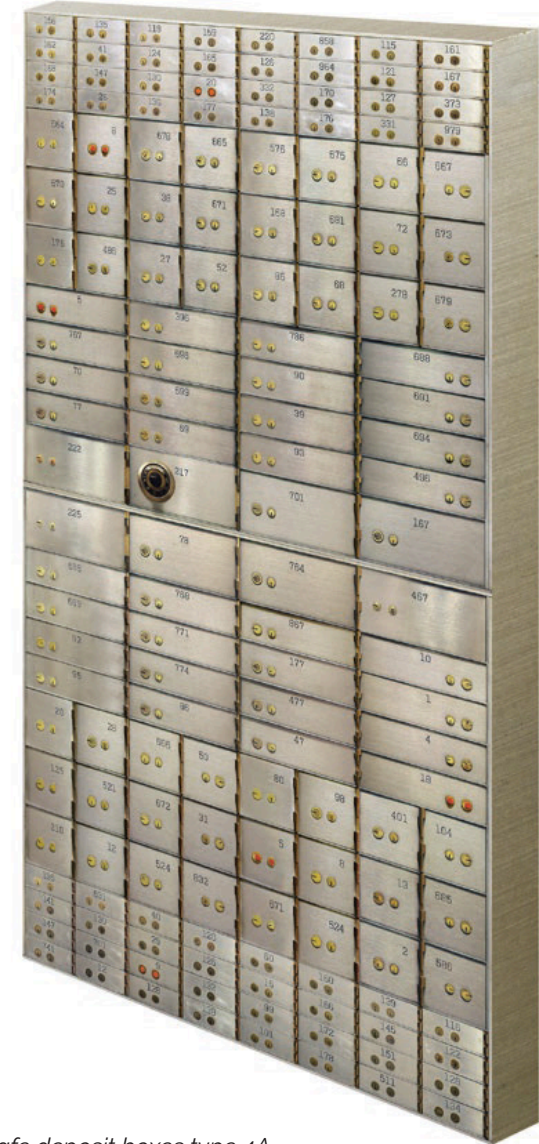
# ALARCON CRIADO



*Safe deposit boxes type 6 G*  
 Lambda D print, 2009, 100 x 200 x 10 cm.  
 Ed. 4 + 1 A.P.



*Safe deposit boxes type C*  
 Lambda D print, 2009, 100 x 200 x 10 cm.  
 Ed. 4 + 1 A.P.



*Safe deposit boxes type 4A*  
 Perspective view of the work,  
 encased in a thick aluminum framing



# ALARCON CRIADO



Safe deposit boxes type 4 A  
Lambda D print, 2009, 100 x 200 x 10 cm.  
Ed. 4 + 1 A.P.



Safe deposit boxes type 2 B  
Lambda D print, 2009, 100 x 200 x 10 cm.  
Ed. 4 + 1 A.P.



Safe deposit boxes type Queens D  
Lambda D print, 2009, 100 x 200 x 10 cm.  
Ed. 4 + 1 A.P.



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