Not a maker of objects, Polish artist Cezary Bodzianowski prefers the transience of performance. His actions are more elusive than most, as they tend to be brief, unannounced, and take place in the public realm, outside the context of art. His audience are those who happen to pass by the artist on the street and notice the quiet protest or the comic absurdity of his intervention. Sometimes, his performances go completely unnoticed. A flâneur who walks the city streets, Bodzianowski spontaneously improvises his actions as a reaction to situations he encounters. Uninterested in an audience, an art context, or a spectacle, these performances are an expression of daily life, as if created out of necessity. Always poetic, funny, and generous, Bodzianowski’s work is also subversive and critical of the art establishments and the habits we form around the consumption and appreciation of the artistic act.

Most of Bodzianowski’s interventions and actions are documented by his wife, the photographer Monika Chojnicka, with simple remembrance photos. In The Front Room is a slideshow of these images, accompanied by spoken commentary from the artist.
Cezary Bodzianowski was born in 1968 in Poland, and he currently lives and works in Lodz, Poland. He has exhibited throughout Europe, including at the National Gallery of Art, Warsaw; Galleria Civica di Arte Contemporanea, Trento; Sorcha Dallas, Glasgow; Center for Contemporary Art, Warsaw; Neue Kunsthalle, St. Gallen; Kölnischer Kunstverein, Cologne; Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg; Secession, Vienna; and the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, among others.

Image:

*Passer, 2002*
Performance photo documentation.
Courtesy of the artist and Galleria Zero, Milan.

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