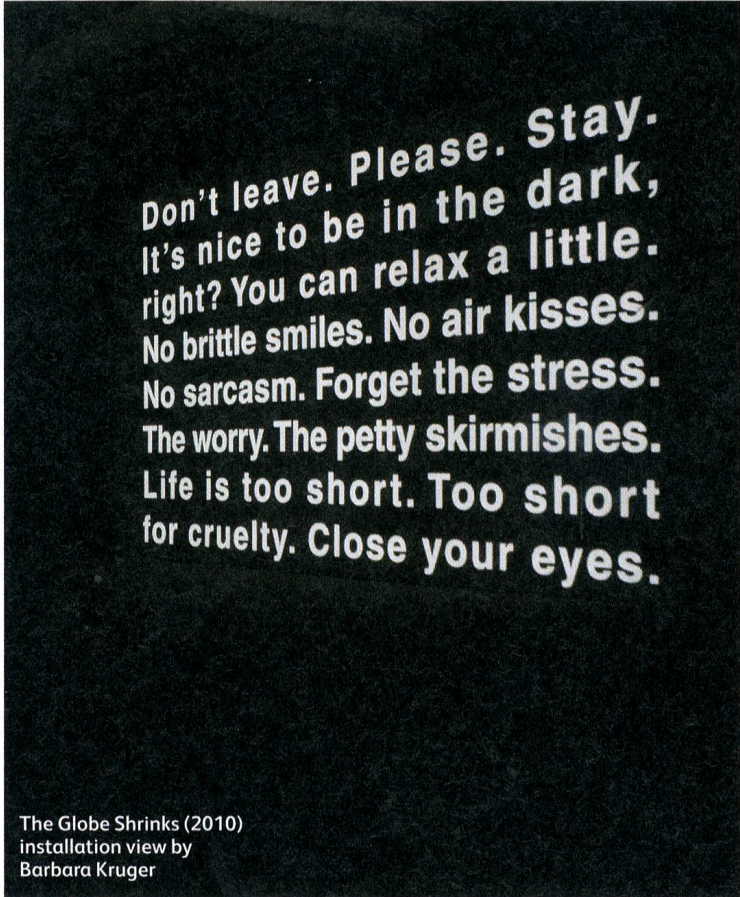


## ART

Barbara Kruger's background in media and design – she was head designer for Condé Nast's women's magazine *Mademoiselle* – informs the provocative and anarchic approach to media images and text for which she is internationally renowned. Her captions take over from the image, battling it for supremacy and questioning its very foundation with slogans such as 'Your body is a battleground', 'Not ugly enough', 'It's all about me, I mean you, I mean me' and 'The meaning of life is that it stops'. Since the mid-90s, Kruger has incorporated film and audio into her work for a more immersive experience, here presenting a multi-channel video installation that continues her exploration of the kindness and brutality of the everyday.

*Barbara Kruger: The Globe Shrinks, Sprüth Magers, 10-12 Francis Street, London SW1. Until May 21. [www.spruethmagers.com](http://www.spruethmagers.com)*

*Emma Field*



Don't leave. Please. Stay.  
It's nice to be in the dark,  
right? You can relax a little.  
No brittle smiles. No air kisses.  
No sarcasm. Forget the stress.  
The worry. The petty skirmishes.  
Life is too short. Too short  
for cruelty. Close your eyes.

The Globe Shrinks (2010)  
installation view by  
Barbara Kruger