

ARM 2008/09 photography contest. First prize winner: "Mother Watches Daughter Feed - Beijing Refugee Camp, Chad." Photo: Omar Odeh.

from Milk Dress

The cloth mother is heated by a light bulb hidden

deep inside. She'll offer comfort but no nourishment. She'll offer her body wound with a towel. And the baby monkey will cling. The baby will turn from the other mother made of mesh, the other mother who is all hard edges who is offering her milk.

The macaque monkeys were removed from their mothers after birth for the experiment. For this purpose we contrived two surrogate mother monkeys.

Inside the mother the light bulb blinks and warms and casts its shadows.