



CologneOFF IV OFF (selection 1)

curated by Agricola de Cologne

Video titles:

“Etude”

by Dario Bardic (2007, 3:20, Croatia)

An étude (a French word meaning study") is a short musical composition designed to provide practice in a particular technical skill in the performance or to demonstrate technical virtuosity. Video ETUDE takes this definition to the upper-(visual) level. It is a surrealistic experience that stimulates everyone's subconsciousness. It questions the human relations and the eternal pursuit of perfection.

“Foreigner-Straniero”

by Giuseppe Girardi (2008, 6:56, Italy)

Foreigner is not only the one who lives far away from his country but also the one who lives a distance in everyday life...distance as homesickness, wanting of an "existed" existence, where dimensions of living can find a contact point...

“Anatolia”

by Sinasi Günes (2006, 2:18, Turkey)

This work contains images of womans who lives in Anatolia and have a different cultural features and relations of woman and womanveling are scrutinized.

“Coagulate”

by Mihai Greco (2008, 5:56, Romania)

Absence, presence and aquatic distortions in this choreography of fluids, mysterious forces twist the physical laws and affect the behaviour of living beings in purified spaces

“JOINED AT THE HEAD”

by David Jakobovic (2008, 4:40, USA)

A monologue from the play 'Joined at the Head' comes to life as Jim confesses his guilty, personal feelings about what he is going through as his wife is dying. Imagination, thoughts and reality, as well as past and present, are all mixed up as a picture is painted about a deep confusion in Jim's mind, as he confronts love, hate and hopelessness of a situation he can do nothing about but observe

“Who is Miri Nishri”

by Miri Nishri (2008, 14:00, Israel)

The movie begins with a question - who is Miri Nishri? This question will continue to haunt us as the mystery unravels but is never to be resolved. Many characters puzzled by this enigma are looking at us from the screen with various answers, only more puzzling.

Some of them claim that they were Miri Nishri for a while, others give vague details of the life and identity of a woman of that name as fuzzy memories of a long forgotten meeting or relation. Miri is an entity build from random associations and shreds of being and identities who seldom add up.



“El Camino–The Way”

by Felipe Matilla Alonso (2008, 12:00, Spain)

Susana is in bed but she can not sleep. She feels depressed and lonely. She is thinking of killing herself. She is now at the bathroom and in despair she draws a red cross on her image in the mirror as trying to erase herself. At that moment something happens into his mind. It is as if she were diving deep into her head. Susana is now standing next to a railway. She is staring straight ahead at a dark tunnel as if it was her own life. She puts her foot on the railway line and starts walking on it trying to keep her balance. She falls down and seems to remember something behind her in time. She turns and looks at the railway/time/way behind her.

“The Occidentalist”

by Daniel Slåttnes (2007, 1:18, Norway)

In the work we see a caricature of a western which is commenting the war in the Middle–East as a success. He calls on further warfare on behalf of God. The title refers to a stereotype towards the West as our orientalism, but also means one who is western.

The traditional orientalism is maybe not as evident today but there are other forms of orientalism. Especially towards Muslims which allude to a picture we get from mass media of the most militant and extreme. It is important to be remained upon that the stereotype precisely is a stereotype and that there are similarities on both sides.

“Trace”

by Lin Ying Chen (2007, 5:36, Taiwan)

In Trace, by using 8 passport photos and very subtle changing, I try to depict unawareness of aging. The 8 photos cross more than fifty years of the protagonist and the last scene shows his present appearance of 70s. This work combines these 2 important elements, still and moving, together and make it have a poetic visual image and universal meaning.

“Opened”

by Jay Needham (2006/2007, 5:00, USA)

Letters, salvaged air–mail and stamp collections from Europe in the Second World War intertwine with answering machine messages from 2006 in this meditation on European migration, memory and relations. In the piece, sounds from fall rainstorms in rural Illinois mix with scenes of Riga, Amsterdam and Galway.

“Testimony”

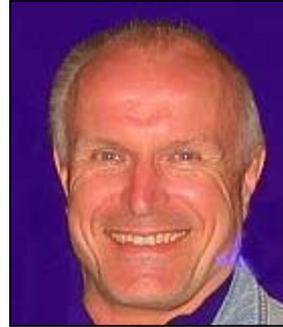
by Nhieu Do (2008, 7:12, USA)

Testimonials of an art student in three parts—Comfort Zone, The Flame, and Reflection.



CologneOFF*

Cologne Online Film Festival



Agricola de Cologne (Germany)

Here We Are!

Theme of CologneOFF IV –

4th edition of Cologne Online Film Festival 2008–12–12

After the world premiere in Maracaibo in October 2008 and the German premiere in Nuremberg in November, the festival is finally launched on the net, including more than 142 short films and videos from 40 countries.

The festival consists of 3 programs,

OFF – the official festival selection, including 35 films,

LAB series – a laboratory for 80 films under various thematic aspects,

MOTHER – a film special program on theme “mother”, including another 27 films.

Directed and curated by Wilfried Agricola de Cologne, CologneOFF IV contains the largest film selection until now,

presenting many excellent works on the online festival space,

as well in physical screenings.

CologneOFF – Cologne Online Film Festival

<http://coff.newmediafest.org>

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is a multidisciplinary media artist and founder & director of [NewMediaArtProjectNetwork]:||cologne , Media/Art/Cologne and Cologne OFF – Cologne Online Film Festival.

As a curator, he organised between 1989 and 1994 several cultural projects in Europe and curates since 2000 the numerous New Media projects of [NewMediaArtProjectNetwork]:||cologne. Since 2004, he is chief curator of VideoChannel, co-organiser and curator of several media festivals and exhibitions.

As the director of shortfilms , he is mostly also their producer, editor, composer of music and other film specific functions.

As an artist, he had more than 100 solo exhibitions in cooperation with for than 70 museums throughout Europe and is participating since 2000 in more than 350 media exhibitions and festivals around the globe (ISEA 2008 Singapore, Madeira Int. Art Biennale 2008, Venice Biennale 2007, Moskow International Film Festival 2006, Japan Media Arts Festival 2002 & 2006, ZKM Karlsruhe/G 2005, Biennale of Video & New Media Santiago/Chile 2005, Biennale de Montreal 2004, Biennale of Electronic Art Perth/Australia 2004, Biennale of New Media Art Merida /Mexico 2003, FILE 2001–2008, Videoformes 2001–2008, Art on the Net 2001, 2002, Mediaterra Athens 2002, ISEA 2002 Nagoya/Japan, SENEF Seoul 2004, 2005, 2007 etc). His projects receive numerous prizes and awards.