

Video Art Festival Miden // TWIXTlab

Video Art Festival Miden presents at TWIXTlab, Athens, two screening programs with video-works selected from the festival's archive, curated by Gioula Papadopoulou & Margarita Stavraki. The programs were initially presented in the frame of Re- culture III: RISK, Patras, in 2014.

Date: March 5, 2016, 19h

Address: TWIXTlab, Empedokleous 19, Pangrati (Varnava square), Athens

Total duration: 77 min

Sense of...

Curated by Margarita Stavraki

Duration: 39 min

A selection that outlines the poetic dimension of videoart and is based on senses. The main issue here is the detection of the limits of the senses, the aesthetic qualities and meanings that emerge when these senses are placed in specific contexts. The program focuses on experiments based on the image and hearing, experiments based on sound and touch, experiments based on touch and movement.

1. Feargal Cunningham, Reflection 1, Ireland 2012, 5.49



"Reflection 1" is a fixed camera performance based video where an interior concrete floor is routinely mopped with water.

The starting point for Cunningham's work is an observance of or meditation on quotidian existence in an attempt to penetrate its 'sameness' and through this, glimpse the ever present live nature of reality.

Bio: Originally from Dublin, Feargal is now based in Cork city. He holds a BA(Hons) in Fine Art and an MA (First Class honours) in Art and Process from the Crawford College of Art and Design, is a member of Cork Printmakers and the Backwater Artists Group where he exhibits regularly and was featured in their anniversary publication "Backwater Twenty - 10".

2. Renata Ferraz, Body Without Organs (Corpo Sem Órgãos), Portugal 2012, 8.31



Body Without Organs starts of the choreographed and interpreted performance IN by Valentina Parravicini and presents the idea that there is nothing like natural body. What we recognize as inherent properties of the body – walking, smiling, looking and speaking – are the results of space, temporal and emotional examination. In our world where the shapes is worshiped and, therefore, used as a form of camouflage control, discuss the naturalization of the particulars we ascribe to body is a form of resistance.

Bio: Renata Ferraz was born in São Paulo, Brazil. She worked as an actress for 12 years. In 2007 she founded a Multimedia Art Collective, called Corrosivo, which made projects in Brazil, France and Spain. With the Corrosive began his research in video-performance and achievement in experimental video. As video artist, the followings works are highlights: Permuta/Exchange (2008), Regras/Rules (2009), To Lewis Carrol (2010), Another Place (2013). Her latest production Riot, Herói Trágico (Tragic Hero) was showed at FUSO – Lisbon International Vídeo Art Festival while Corpo sem órgãos has Just won the Audience Prize at InShadow – Vídeo, Performance and tecnologia.

3. Mark Nieuwenhuis & Hugo Meijer, Koog Bloemwijk, the Netherlands 2012, 1.51



A music video made with sounds recorded in a dull station just outside Amsterdam.

Bio: Mark Nieuwenhuis (1981) is a trumpet player and producer from Westzaan, The Netherlands. He studied Composition and Music Technology at HKU in Utrecht. In 2012 he was named city composer of Zaanstad. He also plays in various bands in styles ranging from world music, hiphop to jazz and reggae.

4. Paul Taylor, Firebox, USA 2012, 6.43



Video made during a fellowship at the Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA. Inspired by fire alarm boxes in San Francisco.

Bio: Paul Taylor was born in Northfield, MN. He attended Carleton College and received his BA in art in 2000. He moved to California to attend the University of California, Davis, and received his MFA in art in 2011. Upon graduating, Paul was the recipient of a fellowship at the Headlands Center for the Arts. He works in multiple media, including video, drawing, sculptural installation, photography, and performance. Paul's work has been shown in the United States and internationally.

5. Miloushka Bokma, Softly to Not #5, the Netherlands 2011-12, 2.35



Two women facing each other, a newspaper in between them. Light and time goes from right to left. Are they entwined or not? Comforting each other or themselves? They suddenly let loose, the paper falls away and they look at each other for the first time.

Miloushka bokma is a visual artist, mainly working in the field of Photography and video. The personal and emotional history which every man carries is the premise of her work. Memories are experiences reflected in someone's face, glance or posture.

Bio: Miloushka Bokma was born in 1971 in Curacao and based in Netherlands, Amsterdam. She graduated from the Academy of Arts in Utrecht in 1995. Her work has been exhibited and screened both nationally and internationally. Including exhibitions in: Gallery of photography Dublin, Art Amsterdam, Houston center for photograpy , Reuten Gallery, Cicterna art gallery Moscow, Fries Museum Leeuwarden, Holland Tunnel art gallery New York, photo festival Lodz, Poland. She is represented by Gallery Reuten, Amsterdam.

6. Christina Gangos, LANDLOCKED/PADDY, Ireland/Greece 2013, 10.00



LANDLOCKED is a series of full body portraits of people in silence that form a multi-video installation. In this piece people were asked to contemplate traumatic or life-changing events for

a number of minutes while their streams of consciousness were filmed in a nondescript space. Their thoughts are kept private documented only by the video recording the physical process. Here we show Paddy, a 5 year old boy who works at a local Saturday market with his grand parents. The work is deeply concerned with the human condition at large, partially lost amongst the chaos that ensued through the economic growth and meltdown. Defying place, time and identity it encourages to stop, to observe and to be silently in communion.

Bio: Christina Jane Gangos is an independent documentary filmmaker based in Limerick, Ireland and Athens, Greece. She studied journalism and history in Athens and then went on to do a Masters in Documentary by Practice at Royal Holloway, University of London. Her work has been exhibited in different forms: from video installation Sundance to experimental documentaries like Lettuce and Peppers and HAMMER TO BELL. Christina has been awarded the Arts Council New Work award as well as the Create award for Community Arts and completion funding through the Irish Film Board. Her film have shown at the National Portrait Gallery in London, Center Pompidou In Paris, Gate theater London, IFI Dublin and various major festivals. She is currently funded through the Arts Council through the Project and Bursary award.

7. Samantha Dillehay, Forsaking My Mother's Heirloom, USA 2014, 2.41



This is a cinematic essay about how I envision the relationship between my mother and I to crumble when she discovers my sexuality.

S. Dillehay's work meditates on sexuality, gender, and personal identity.

Bio: Samantha Dillehay was born in Tennessee. She studied film and video art at the University of Oklahoma, where she received her M.F.A. Currently she is living in Ada, Oklahoma where she is a full time instructor of audio and video production at East Central University.

Sense off

Curated by Gioula Papadopoulou

Duration: 38 min

In contradiction –but also complementary- to "Sense of ..." selection, "Sense off" is playing with about the same conceptual elements (especially with the exploratory and persistent vision), but focusing mainly on the intensity of the concepts derived from the meticulous observation of slow processes that almost displace the senses or put them aside. A series of video-works where presence becomes absence and where, behind a slow action and a minimal movement, constantly lurks something disturbing, something that points to disaster, nothingness, existential or social asphyxiation, deterioration and death.

1. Greta Alfaro, In Ictu Oculi, Spain 2009, 10.35



There is a table in the middle of the countryside, but the guests are absent. There is a feast of food and wine waiting in the cold weather and the dry landscape.

The vultures are to come and to eat our food and destroy our setting: the still life, the banquet, the space of enjoyment and civilization. The vultures, the beasts linked to death and dirt, to violence and fear, arrive by surprise, and like in a fable, represent for us some of our own qualities.

Bio: Greta Alfaro was born in 1977 in Pamplona in Spain. She studied Fine Art at the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia and Photography at the Royal College of Art, London. Alfaro has exhibited individually at MoCA Hiroshima-Japan, Museum Ex Teresa Arte Actual-México City, CENTRO DE ARTE CONTEMPORÁNEO HUARTE-Pamplona-Spain, Carpe Diem Art & Research, Lisbon- Portugal and other exhibition places in Spain and UK. Group shows include *They Sicken Of The Calm Who Know The Storm*, Fridman Gallery, New York; *New Order: British Art Now*, Saatchi Gallery, London; *Whitechapel Open* at the Whitechapel Gallery in London; *Bêtes off* at La Conciergerie in Paris; *Bloomberg New*

Contemporaries 2010 at the ICA London; *Drama, Baby, Drama* at Kunsthaus Essen, Germany, and many others. She has been awarded several prizes and grants, like the Genesis Foundation Award-London, The James Prize-Moving Image Video Art Fair-New York, CAM grant for Visual Arts-Spain, Special Cinema Jury Award at Erarta Motion Pictures Film Festival-Saint Petersburg-Russia, and others.

2. Jan Brand, Rosenthal, Germany 2009, 6.04



“Rosenthal” works like the landscape photography of an autumn forest. The forest appears empty - but with an exact look it is possible to find several persons, parties and movements in the picture. A group of policemen appear suddenly and combs the forest, like a reflection of the search of the viewer.

Bio: Jan Brand was born 1975 in Frankfurt am Main in Germany; 2009 Diploma in Visual Communication from the Academy of Art and Design; He currently lives and works in Frankfurt, Germany.

3. Boris Eldagsen, How to disappear completely / POEM #60, Germany 2011, 2.33



A 1900-like scenary. An angel-like woman sits on a dark meadow with a gramophone. She starts the machine, but instead of putting the needle on the record she uses her fingernail and starts to sing a song without words. We hear a car approaching from the distance. It stops behind us and turns off the engine.

Bio: Berlin-based German artist Boris Eldagsen has studied photography and conceptual art at the Art Academies of Mainz, Prague and Hyderabad / India, and philosophy at the Universities of Cologne and Mainz. Eldagen's photomedia work has been shown internationally in institutions and festivals such as Fridericianum Kassel, Deichtorhallen Hamburg, CCP Melbourne, ACP Sydney, EMAF Osnabrück, Videonale Bonn, Edinburgh Art Festival, Athens Video Art Festival, Kuyre Istanbul, Media Forum Moscow, WRO Media Art Biennale Wroclaw, Biennale Le Havre and Biennale of Electronic Arts Perth.

4. Chi-Yu Liao, Twinkle series: Ji-min, Taiwan 2011-12, 2.45



In Twinkle series Chi-Yu Liao presents a tableaux vivant through a series of video portraits of female characters. Each persona is situated at a dining table, offering to serve the viewer from diverse banquets of food and drink. Referencing 17th century Dutch still life painting and Asian animation genres, the artist creates video images that are caught between action and non-action, where narrative is both imminent and suspended.

Bio: Chi-Yu Liao (b. 1986) is a Taiwanese artist specializing in video and video installation works. Her solo exhibitions include Lucid Dreaming at IT PARK, Miss Farewell at VT ARTSALON, Twinkle at the Kuandu Museum of Fine Art -Taipei and *MimiLucy – Never Give Up – The New World* at VT ARTSALON (Taipei). She has also shown her work in various international group exhibitions.

5. Muhammad Taymour & Nouran Sherif, Home, Egypt 2013, 8.00



Home is the place you search to settle down, to get shelter and be protected from any unwanted outer effects, all these things won't be found between walls.

Bio: Muhammad Taymour is an Egyptian Artist born in 1985, he started to be interested in Art when he was 22 years old, his work is influenced by Abstract & Conceptual Art. His interest turned gradually to video art as a tool of expression.

Nouran Sherif is a Visual and Audio artist born in Cairo 1990, graduated from applied arts college in 2012. Works with different tools and Medias (Video-Audio-Painting-Drawing-photography).

6. Adam Forrester, Inhumation, USA 2012, 2.02



In this short narrative film the main character begins a peculiar task of labor. As the film unfolds, the observer may realize that the labor this character assumes serves as a way to negate the function of the instrument of that very labor.

Bio: Adam Forrester (b. 1980) is an artist and filmmaker based in Athens, Georgia, in the Southern United States. He makes work about bizarre myths, enduring folktales, and mumbled truths. In 2011, Adam was awarded the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts Research and Performance Grant for his documentary featurette, *Eat White Dirt*. His work has been screened and exhibited nationally and internationally.

7. Miguel Andrés, System, Spain 2014, 4.49



Every system requires a set of established basis that supports it and prevents its collapse. Definitely the socioeconomic system that shelters humans is not exempt from these rules. For proper operation it requires to program terminals/individuals with the basic notions of operation. Social rules and religion are just some, since any stimulus received from the outside is assimilated as their own.

This work is intended as a digital allegory (in pure 21th century's style) of how The System inserts in us the basic guideline for its own perpetuation. The same individuals defend the System's basis, their System.

Bio: “I was born in a village of Murcia (Spain), the name of which I have no desire to call to mind. I always felt attraction by arts, but I studied advertisement (since child I always wanted to be an actor). I was art director in advertising agencies of Madrid and Valencia. Now I dedicate my life to art world with special attraction to performance, between other things.”

8. Maria Kosmadaki, No title, Greece 2014, 0.30



The video is an experimentation for the creation of an image that will create an obvious discussion between the past and the present.

The "Diadoumenos" classic statue was chosen as a symbol of the ancient Greek civilization, a symbol of beauty and ideal. The reference for today is directed to the existence of the individual in a society, the loneliness, the vanity, the crisis and, finally, the asphyxiation.

The reflection of each spectator's ego on the face of the statue is the starting point for his or hers personal interaction with the work. The vital operation of respiration refers directly to notions of birth and death.

Bio: Maria Kosmadaki was born in Athens in 1980. She graduated from Stemnitsa Silver-Gold Smithery School in 2007 and then studied painting in Athens School of Fine Arts (2009-2014) under professor Tasos Christakis. She has participated in various group exhibitions.

Video Art Festival Miden::

One of the earliest specialised video-art festivals in Greece, **Festival Miden** is an independent organisation for the exploration and promotion of video art. Founded by an independent group of Greek artists in 2005 in Kalamata, it seeks to stimulate the creation of original video art, to help spread it and develop relevant research.

Through collaborations and exchanges with major international festivals and organizations, it has been recognised as one of the most successful and interesting video art platforms internationally and as an important cultural exchange point for Greek and international video art. It also provides an alternative meeting point for emerging and established artists and a communication hub between artists, organisations, festivals and art spaces around the world.

*(*Miden means "zero" in Greek)*

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TWIXTlab: art, anthropology & the everyday

* twixt: shortened version of betwixt, which means in between, neither the one nor the other. The social anthropologist Victor Turner used the phrase betwixt and between in order to characterize the intermediate out of three stages of the rite of passage as ultimate transitional, subversive and creative moment of societies' lifetime.

TWIXTlab: an art project situated in between – twixt – contemporary art, anthropology and social reality, which adopts the form of a laboratory in order to propose or support interventions in everyday life. TWIXTlab's activities bring together artistic and scientific research and are characterized by their systematic reference to humanities' critical discourse.

The project runs since February 2014 and is based in Athens.

TWIXTlab team: Elpida Rikou (social anthropology, visual arts), Io Chaviara (visual arts), Sofia Grigoriadou (visual arts)

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