



# CologneOFF\*2015

*video art in a global context*

## CologneOFF 2015

@ Fonlad – Digital Art Festival

<http://www.fonlad.net>

23 May 2015

Body & Soul  
Transformations

selection  
curated by Wilfried Agricola de Cologne

### List of videos

Apotropia (Italy) – K, 2012, 4:00  
Matt Gibson (USA) – The Turtle, 2013, 2:00  
John Graham (Canada) - Sincerus, 2013, 8:41  
Heidi Kumao (USA) –Swallowed Whole, 2014, 3:53  
Baptist Coelho (India) – Beneath It all I Am Human, 2009, 9:41  
Sanglim Han (S.Korea) – Bloom, 2012, 3:35



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Apotropia (Italy) – K, 2012, 4:00

K is a video performance shot during the 2012 winter solstice. The color violet is at one end of the spectrum of visible light just before the invisible ultraviolet.



Matt Gibson (USA) – The Turtle, 2013, 2:00

The Turtle is a journey of the body and the mind, in dialogue with nature, art, fashion, and music. The Turtle seeks to capture that element most fundamental to the human soul. The Turtle's journey is simultaneously death and rebirth; the void that is that moment between existence and nonexistence. The Turtle invites us to share a part of ourselves, and if we do, it shares back with us a new part we may not have previously known. The Turtle's pain is our pain, but The Turtle's victory is our victory. The Turtle, simply put, is life.



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**John Graham (Canada) - Sincerus, 2013, 8:41**

A young, artistic man experiences visions of a world that he once knew with sight. Having never fully come to terms with a boyhood train accident that left him blind, he encounters potent, surreal apparitions in both his waking life and his dreams. As his poetic imagination flourishes, he rediscovers sincerity.



**Heidi Kumao (USA) –Swallowed Whole, 2014, 3:53**

“Swallowed Whole” is a somber, animated, experimental film about surviving extreme isolation and physical limitations as a result of traumatic injury. In this movie, I create a desolate and disorienting dreamscape as a metaphor for the deep netherworld I was thrust into when I broke my back in a sledding mishap. When I describe to people what it was like to be supine on the couch for 3.5 months, I have often used the image of being trapped under a frozen lake; I experienced everything by looking up from below. This sensation became the kernel from which I created this film.



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**Baptist Coelho (India)**  
**Beneath It all I Am Human, 2009,**  
9:41

The video illustrates a Siachen soldier's clothing being mysteriously removed to reveal his bare body. The act reminds us that beneath the layers of protective gear there exists the vulnerable human form. The meticulous unzipping is reminiscent of the laborious task that each soldier endures daily; under brutal weather conditions that are life-threatening. During the process of undressing, details of the soldier's body are exposed which gives a sense of liberation from the conflict and his



**Sanglim Han (S.Korea) – Bloom, 2012, 3:35**

A woman is lying on the floor upside down. She looks up and blinks her eyes. Fluids, which look like thick slimy paint, start to drip down on her face. Fluids of various colors keep dripping down on her face and it creates an abstract painting on the screen. By the time the video ends the female face is almost completely indistinguishable and she seems to be a part of the painting.



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## *CologneOFF 20XX - videoart in a global context – Searching for an ideal form of presenting “art & moving images”*

As a dynamic media art event context and nomadic festival project designed, programmed, curated and directed by Agricola de Cologne in the framework of Cologne International Videoart Festival, “CologneOFF 20XX – videoart in a global context” started in 2010, when he took the perception how the jury for his 6th festival edition (directors of 7 renown international festivals) was voting - just one video collected 4 votes showing the curators following strictly their individual curatorial point of view - as the basis for researching an (his) ideal form of (re)presenting videoart.

The result is a flexible work in progress, a process incorporating the idea of a festival, not bound to a physical location, but travelling from one venue, country and continent to another presenting a hybrid type of mono-channel videos, which can be presented in the same way via screening, projection and installation.

A dual system is forming the supporting frame-work

- virtual (online) components (see links) – all videos, info & event updates online – juxtaposed with the physical component in form of networked screenings & exhibitions
- Agricola de Cologne’s curatorial opinion juxtaposed with the curatorial opinions of 40 curators (40 countries) demonstrating the multi-facetted diversity of artistic and curatorial approaches
- the active presenter juxtaposed with the passively consuming audience to be activated via interventions like lectures, panel discussions, artists talks, round table or workshops, not to forget the different types presentation forms, in total, an interactive context intending to link the audience, artists, curators and institutions by thinking and acting in new terms without any restriction.

### About *CologneOFF*

Founded in 2005 and unique in its kind, CologneOFF is based on the unconventional concept to be a festival without a static festival location but built on global networking instead, based on a growing collection of art videos to be expanded each year by realising a new festival edition, instead of organising each year again an event just for 3 days, based on a dual system of equal virtual and physical components, focussing on new and experimental artistic expressions, instead of following already known paths. All this gives its founder and director Agricola de Cologne all freedom to set through his ideas of encouraging artists to create "total art" works by using the multi-facetted medium of digital video.

In 2014, CologneOFF was realising its 10th festival edition celebrating 10 years exciting developments in the field of “art and moving images”

Cologne International Videoart Festival is operated by artvideoKOELN - the curatorial initiative "art & moving images".



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## Cologne *OFF* \*

International Festival platform

is representing the umbrella for a wide range of activities around “art & moving images” including the festival platform for

Cologne International Videoart Festival

animateCOLOGNE

1#minuteCOLOGNE

exDox – experimental documentary film festival

CTF \_ Collective Trauma Film Collections

VideoChannel – international curatorial platform for art and moving images

## artvideo **K**oeln

artvideoKOELN – the curatorial initiative “art & moving images”

Founded in 2010 by Agricola de Cologne as tool for developing the field of “art & moving images”, artvideoKOELN is representing the operating system behind Cologne International Videoart Festival and the associated platforms.

The status as an initiative without any institutional affiliation and structure Give its founder all curatorial and artistic freedom to explore video as a multi-faceted medium of contemporary art.

<http://artvideo.koeln>

<http://ifp.newmediafest.org>

<http://coff.newmediafest.org>

<http://coff.newmediafest.org/blog/>

<http://caaf.newmediafest.org>

<http://comf.newmediafest.org>

<http://exdox.newmediafest.org>



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Agricola de Cologne - <http://www.agricola-de.cologne>

was launched on 1 January 2000 as an artist brand, standing for the

→ interdisciplinary media artist, director of experimental shortfilms and videos, curator of media art and the designer of culture

→ founder & director of artvideoKOELN – the curatorial initiative „art & moving images“ (2010),

→ founder & director of CologneOFF - Cologne International Videoart Festival (2005)

→ founder and director of Le Musée di-visioniste – the new museum of networked art (2000), a global network on different virtual and physical levels

Besides for a broad bandwidth of dynamic curatorial contexts he is initiating in physical & virtual space, Agricola de Cologne is standing also for the co-curator & co-organiser of events like festivals & exhibitions of contemporary art, but also for the jury member of divers festivals.

Since its introduction in 2000, Agricola de Cologne is represented as an artist on more than 600 festivals and media art exhibitions in New York, Chicago, London, Paris, Marseille, Madrid, Barcelona, Lisbon, Oslo, Seoul, Bangkok, Jakarta, Manila, Phnom Penh, New Delhi, Basel, Vienna, Linz (Ars Electronica), Graz, Kiev, Riga, Tallinn, Moskow, St.Petersburg, Tallinn, Tokyo, Rome, Milan, Turin, Karlsruhe (ZKM), Berlin & more, but also on Biennials like ISEA Nagoya (2002), Venice Biennale 2003-2005, Biennale of New Media Art Merida/MX 2003, Biennale of Electronic Arts Perth/Australia (2004), Biennale de Montreal (2004), Biennale Video & New Media SantiagoChile (2005), ISEA Singapore 2008. His media art works received numerous prizes and awards.



**Agricola de Cologne**  
encoded excellence since 2000

Director & chief curator of - artvideoKOELN –international  
<http://artvideo.koeln>

Director CologneOFF - Cologne International Videoart Festival  
CologneOFF XP nomadic- videoart in a global context  
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