

VideoChannel*

Media art initiative by Cinematheque at MediaArtCentre (MAC) and [R][R][F]2006-→XP

VideoChannel* selections 2006 COFF – Cologne Online Film Festival

Unexpectedly real

Curated by Agricola de Cologne

Selected artists

Listed on DVD

Daniel LoIocono (Germany) – **Digital Snapshots 2'30''**
Agricola de Cologne (Germany) - **House of tomorrow – 3'00''**
J.G. Periot (France) – **Devil Inside – 2'50''**
Li Hyung Kim (South Korea) 3:34
Alla Girik and Oksana Shatalova (Kazakhstan) – **Warning! Women – 3'12''**
Lorenzo Nencini (Italy) – **Traviata – 10'00''**
Rafael Alcala (Puerto Rico) - **Smoked – 3'00''**
Joao Paulo Simoes (Portugal) – **Take.This.Turn – 5'43''**
Unnur A. Einarsdottir (Iceland) – **Toilet – 5'00''**
Agricola de Cologne – **Evolution - Involution – 10'00''**

Curatorial statement

“Unexpectedly real” refers to different meanings, states and definitions of reality. The 10 videos selected and curated by Agricola de Cologne from the base of VideoChannel, a project environment dealing with the subject of “memory & identity”, approach the “real” and the “reality” from different artistic point of views. The viewer becomes confused as the limits between the “objective” and the “subjective” become more and more vague changing continuously their values. The technological possibilities of the medium “digital video” enforce and encourage the artists to manipulate what is generally recognized as the “real” and give the classical theme in art which is exploring the different states of reality a new dimension. - 9 artists surprise the audience with these 10 films.

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1.

Daniel Lo Iacono (Germany)

Digital Snapshots (2:30), 2003

[curated by Agricola de Cologne/Germany]

is a kind of docu-animation dealing with the correlation of digital manipulations and candid documentary shots. It was produced as part of a Media Design diploma thesis from the University of Applied Sciences Mainz , Germany in 2003.

What does a moment look like? Can snapshots freeze a moment in time?

In DIGITALSNAPSHOT, motion fragments were captured and rearranged in a new visual context via unconventional digital manipulations. A long take camera movement cycle generates a unique "digital painting".

In this case DIGITALSNAPSHOT enables the viewer to experience a virtual walk through a beautiful park during summertime

Short bio:

Daniel Lo Iacono, born 06.02.1977 in Frankfurt/Germany

1998 - 2003 studied Media-Design at the University of Applied Sciences Mainz/Germany with focus on compositing and motion graphics

2003 diploma thesis "DIGITALSNAPSHOT", works since 2003 as a Designer and Inferno Artist at tvf. Postproduction / Frankfurt, Germany

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2.

Agricola de Cologne (Germany)

info@agricola-de-cologne.de

is a multidisciplinary media artist and founder & director of [NewMediaArtProjectNetwork]:||cologne – www.nmartproject.net , As the director of his video films , 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, 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.

He is co-organiser and curator of several media festivals and exhibitions, and is participating since 2000 in more than 200 media exhibitions and festivals around the globe (Moskow International Film Festival 2006, Japan Media Arts Festival 2000& 2002, 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 2001-2006, Videoformes 2001-2006, Art on the Net 2001, 2002, Mediaterra Athens 2002, ISEA 2002 Nagoya/Japan, SENESE Seoul 2004 & 2005 etc) with his online and offline multi-media works

Title: **House of Tomorrow**, 2005, 3:00

The *house of tomorrow* is the house of one's identity, it does not need to be a concrete house or building, but represents a secure and protected place where people can stand for what they are and represent, a human being. And this human may have many identities in different fields, the sexual identity represents only one among many others.

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3.

Jean-Gabriel Périot + Tom de Pékin

jgperiot@free.fr

tomdepekin@free.fr

*Jean-Gabriel Périot :

Baby-sitter, barman, clothes and handcrafts salesman, videotapes program clerck, assistant director, editor, mime, auction sales assistant, journalist, danse filmmaker, artist...

*Tom de Pékin

Tom de Pekin is not really from Pekin but from France and live in Paris. Political artist, designer, director, his works deals humour and transgender. He worked for french papers, non-profit organisations. He directed videoclips and movies, often screened in international film festivals.

Title : **Devil Inside**, 2004

revolutions, queer & Rock'n Roll

4.

Kim Yi Hyung (South Korea)

Wo-men, Wo-rld (3:34), 2003

[curated by Won-Kon Yi, South Korea]

The video is about fe-male identity.

Short bio

Media artist, born in Seoul, 1968

MFA from Hongik University

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5.

Alla Girik and Oksana Shatalova (Kazakhstan)

shatalova@mail.ru

Alla Girik (born in 1965) and Oksana Shatalova (born in 1972) live in Rudny (Kazakhstan). They work in video, photo and installation.

Projects and exhibitions (selected)

1997-2001: issuing Literature and Art Magazine "Pygmalion" (Rudny).

October 2004: International Festival "Videoidentity: The Sacred Places of Central Asia" (Almaty, Kazakhstan).

June 2005: took part in video program "Art from Central Asia: a contemporary archive" under the Central Asia Pavilion of the 51st Venice Biennale.

September 2005: the event "Capturing Utopia" (Fournos, Center for Digital Culture, Athens, Greece)

October 2005: 2nd Bishkek international exhibition of contemporary art "In the Shadow of Heroes" (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan).

November 2005: VAD International Festival of Video and Digital Arts of Girona (Spain).

January 2006: SWGC Art Gallery's Contemporary Film & Video Festival (Corner Brook, NL, Canada)

Title: Warning! Women

year of production : 2005, duration: 3 min. 12 sec

In non-modernized patriarchal societies (they are still the majority of humanity) the role of cultural organizing force, "intellect" and "consciousness" is traditionally given to male.

A woman symbolizes the power of the Unconscious, intuition, chaos. It's a kind of some impersonal force. She is dangerous like the nature (= threat of disaster).

The trilogy "Warning: Woman!" is a Rabelaisian illustration for ideas on woman as a "corporal bottom". It's an ironic illustration of feminophobia; an illustration of archaic myth (about "vagina dentata"). Woman here is represented as a brutal (though funny) monster that always can deprive a male of his phallic regalia.

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6.

Lorenzo Nencini (Italy)

conte@cassero.it

Marco Urizzi e Lorenzo Nencini met around two years ago, amongst the desks in Bologna University and fell in love straight away. A partnership, between a distant, aristocratic, theatre student and an exponent of underground culture, that is even a passionate melomaniac, eager to expose the falsehoods in most conventional stereotypes about the youthful and “Fine Arts” culture. *Traviata* is their first project together.

Title: **Traviata**. 204, 10:00

Something is happening in front of one of the most famous Opera Houses in the world: the Teatro Comunale in Bologna, in the country that is the temple of Lirica, Italy.

In the heart of university city, in between distrustful students and punks, a diseased Violetta and a post modern Alfredo meet, and fall in love straight away.

Based on what is probably Giuseppe Verdi’s most famous Opera, *Traviata* is the trailer for what will be a really special set up, offering itself as a real event in a situation that becomes even more dangerous!

7.

Rafael Alcalá (Puerto Rico)

Smoke (3:00), 2003

[curated by Heidi J. Figueroa Sarriera and Marianne Ramírez-Aponte/Puerto Rico]

Wasn't smoking said to be dangerous?

short bio

Born and raised on the Caribbean Island of Puerto Rico, *Rafael Alcalá* started and obtained his bachelor’s degree in Architecture from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, NY.

After years of work as an architect, his interest in computer generated imagery and their malleability convinced Alcalá to currently pursue a Masters in Fine Arts with a concentration in Electronic Media.

As a Multimedia artist and educator his current work uses video and computer generated imagery to deal with issues of identity and the acceptance of human expendability in our society. To animate is to create, and as an artist Alcalá creates imagery that fuels the imagination. His work has been exhibited at The Arts Center of the Capital Region, Troy, NY and The Fulton Street Gallery, Troy, NY. Alcalá has taught courses in Web Design and Digital Content Creation at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

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8.

Joao Paulo Simoes (Portugal)

Rear Entrance Films,

perugina@gmail.com, joao_paulo_simoes@hotmail.com,

<http://www.survivalmxn.com/filme2.htm>

<http://www.survivalmxn.com/filme.htm>

<http://www.theultimatearchitects.com/english/banda.html>

Born in 1976 to Angolan parents, Portuguese Filmmaker João Paulo Simões developed from an early age an interest in the visual arts, impressing teachers and artists alike with his drawing skills. The taste for painting, photography and comic book art was eventually combined with the passion for Literature – whether in the shape of ambitious novels, short stories or evocative poems. The different mediums were gradually fine-tuned to form a very personal view of the world. Up to the point that music came into play and everything developed till then was entirely directed to a single form of expression.

In the early 90's, concept and performance come together in the shape of cult rock band Freud's Groin . The project was to come to an end only a few years later, but the experience – which involved not just song-writing and live performance, but also very cerebral work in recording studios – would prove to be crucial in defining the direction to take.

Cinema, the source of so many emotions, that was always very much present, was to become the key-language in João Paulo Simões's art. Its totalitarian quality appealed to him as much as the perfectionism he sees as crucial to follow an idea or subject through.

Having trained mainly as an Editor, once finished the film course at Sheffield Hallam University he developed a challenging project that was to be his first official outing as a Writer/Director: the short film Imogen Meets The Merchant (2001).

A second 43-minute film then followed. Overture (2002) was the first digital film in the slate of projects to come. In part a necessity due to a low budget, but also a clear decision to experiment with digital technology.

A few professional misfortunes lead João Paulo Simões to embrace the opportunity of making a film in his hometown of Lisbon, once Portuguese Producer Pedro Molar agreed to collaborate on a project.

Under the banner of Captura Filmes, Torpor (2003) was made on a shoestring budget, with black & white digital cinematography embellished by a poetic narrative and a lavish score and sound design.

Simultaneous work with a second music project named The Ultimate Architects ensued, in a brief hiatus from filmmaking due to health problems.

Once back in England, a new project entered pre-production. Duchess, Duchess (2004) is an old-fashioned tale of retrospective jealousy leading to inevitable infidelity.

João Paulo Simões has also made recently the feature Ausências de Espírito (2005) and is currently working on Antlers of Reason , an erotic mystery tale, which is now in Post-Production. (2006).

Title: **Take.This.Turn**, 2005

In which three musical interludes are combined to form a three-part Video Illustration about the nature of identity in an abstract, sci-fi context.

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9.

Unnur A. Einarsdottir (Iceland)

unnura@gmail.com

Born in Reykjavik, Iceland 1981. Graduated from the Icelandic Academy of the Arts 2005, with a B.A. degree in Fine arts.

→

Performance in Smáralind on the international Buy noting day (2001).

"The death war", a co-exhibition with Kristín Eiríksdóttir in Gallery nema hvað (Reykjavík, 2003). –

"A certain turbulence" , performance festival in the Reykjavík Museum of Art (2003).

"Manzanilla Rooms, Sesión de audio y video" , video festival of the Manzanilla art group in Mau mau underground (Barcelona, april 2004).

"Manzanilla Rooms, Sesión de audio y video", video festival of the Manzanilla art group in Mau mau underground (Barcelona, August, 2004).

"Dagskrá", co- exhibition with Icelandic artists, Gallerie Pulic (Paris 2004).

"Útskriftarsýning Listaháskóla Íslands", Kjarvalsstaðir, Reykjavík (2005).

"Grassroad", annual exhibition with young Icelandic artists, Living arts museum (Reykjavík 2005).

"Garnival", exhibition in association with Reykjavík Culture Night (Reykjavík 2005).

"Islandia", exhibition including artists, musicians and designers, KBB- Kultur Buro Barcelona, (Barcelona 2006)

"Apocalypse Lauw", Short film exhibition, Worm,(Rotterdam, 2006)

"Sound and Vision from Reykjavík, Iceland, The Tank, (New York, 2006)

Title Toilet (2005),

A woman, dressed in a pink night dress and high heels, is licking a toilet seat covered with whipped cream and candy, with sexual intensity.

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Title: **Evolution-Involution**, 2005, 10:00

The film represents a interpretation of José Roberto Sechi's performance of the same name, performed during the Interferencias Festival in Junin October 2005. It shows the performances as a process towards a complete artwork, which is vanishing in the moment when it is completed.

The music is performed and remixed by one of the many identities of Agricola de Cologne as an artistic counter part and the completion of the artwork on different levels.

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About the curator

Agricola de Cologne is the founder and director of [NewMediaArtprojectNetwork]:|||cologne – www.nmartproject.net, the experimental platform for art and New Media from Cologne Germany. He is the chief-curator of VideoChannel – <http://videochannel.newmediafest.org> and the founder and director of COFF – Cologne Online Film Festival - <http://coff.newmediafest.org> He is guest curator and co-organiser of several video festivals.

His projects are presented since 2000 on more than 200 media art festivals and exhibitions, to mention a few Biennale of Video & New Media Santiago/Chile 2005, Biennale of Electronic Art Perth/Australia 2004, Biennale de Montreal 2004, etc

More details on <http://bio.agricola-de-cologne.de>

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<http://videochannel.newmediafest.org>
CologneOnline Film Festival
<http://coff.newmediafest.org>
Wilfried Agricola de Cologne
<http://www.nmartproject.net>

contact:
videochannel@newmediafest.org