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a bit tired by the duty of thematic treatments, we decided to let this issue frisk freely. but, through a strange subliminal pressure, texts and images reflect, at least sequential and subjective, anyhow, the flourishing trend of globalism, the explanation is simple: some members of ki have their residences in spaces with exotic names, such as Waterloo, Ferney-Voltaire and Toronto, others sometimes travel to Tokyo, Montpellier, Norwich, Haarlem, Kronstadt, Alpha, Mikalaka and trough the markets of Paris and one of them scoured a zillion exhibitions of new media art without moving from the chair in front of his computer, eventually, all together + surfing the magic net justify the mentioned

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subliminal effect, leading to the structure and the content of the present issue.

puţin obosiţi de obligaţia unor tratamente tematice am hotărît ca acest număr să sburde în libertate. numai că printr-o ciudata presiune subliminală, textele şi imaginile reflectă cel puţin parţial şi oricum subiectiv trendul globalismulul în floare. explicaţie este simpla: unii membri ai grupului kl au rezidenţe în spaţii cu denumiri exotice, cum ar fi Waterloo, Ferney-Voltalre şi Toronto, alţii mai călătoresc pe la Tokyo, Montpellier, Norwich, Haarlem, Kronstadt, Alpha, Mikalaka şi prin Halele Parisului, iar unul dintre ei a umblat în ultimul an pe la enspe expoziţii de arta numerică fără să se fi mişcat de pe scaunul din faţa computerului. în fine, toate la un loc + navigarea pe reţeaua fermecata, justifică efectul subliminal menţionat, conducînd la structura şi conţinutul numărului de faţă.

peter hügel caius grozav judit angel romulus bucur liliana trandabur roxana chereches INTERMEDIA Is the magazine of the atelier kinema ikon editors: museum arad & ki design: calin man print: TRINOM srl publicație finanțată de către Considul Județean Arad Centrul Cultural Judelean Arad 300 copies address: museum arad kinema ikon plata enescu 1 2900 arad romania tel: 057/210015; fax: 057/280114

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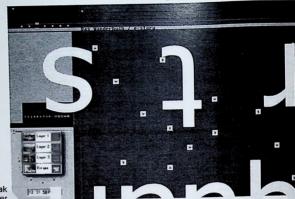
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OES

George Sabau > WHAT ARE DREAMING YOUNG PIXELS OF? - a pseudo quarrel on "supports" -SNIOA

DIXE F 2



What is the pixels' gender, after all? Is it possible to speak about male-pixels and female-pixels? Wouldn't be better to say they are hermaphrodites, just like angels? The question is neither rhetoric nor ironic; on the contrary, it is getting more and more imperative to answer it today, when this entity called biocomputer enjoys such a rapid development. I am certain that, despite being are not sex discriminated the young pixels, as "qualia sensibles" would rather dream of playing the part of immaterial actants, since they consider themselves to be minimal subjects to the digital process of updating programs capable of generating digital objects and fictions. Naturally, they would also like to play some parts in a "new arena of representation", seen as a "new space for revelation"

The complexity of this theme is so fascinating and overwhelming that I will have to narrow it down to two particular sub-themes: enunciation medium and reception medium. The former being the medium upon which the computer produced work is transferred whereas the latter is creating an interactive relation between the work and the user.

An Arts History from the exclusive perspective of medium ("support") evolution would be rather interesting to write. In this respect, it is not difficult to notice the lack of a clear distinction, in all traditional arts, between media and means by which works are created. Similarly, there is no distinction between enunciation medium and reception medium (painting, books, etc). However, there is a general agreement on the artistic representation on a material "support", an agreement established during the Renaissance and still observed by the iconological "theory of strata in a work of art (Panofski, 1939)

A clear separation between medium ("support") and means of creation occurs at the same time with the appearance of recording means (mechanical, optical, chemical), such as photography, cinematography, discography or later video and television all paradigmatic means of analogical expression. Medium can be divided into enunciation medium (films, magnetic tapes) and reception media (screen, computer display).

In Romance languages, the meanings of the terms: "means of creation" and "medium" ("support") are clearly distinguished. (The same distinction appears in German: distinguished. (The same distinction appears in Communication Ausdruckmittel and Unterlage). Unfortunately, the two meanings are covered by a single word in the English language, the word medium, which explains McLuhan's famous phrase: "The Medium is the Message". The polysemantic aspect of the English language makes the understanding of this essay rather difficult, as my approach relies on the distinction between means of creation (materials, instruments, technique) and medium ("support" on which works are transferred).

IAHW

George Sabau > WHAT ARE DREAMING YOUNG PIXELS OF? - a pseudo quarrel on "supports" -

DKERMING

revoltaire archive kinema ikon

AKE

Movie making has escaped the "pressure" of installations and film as "support" has prevailed in this domain, although there were some attempts in the past to replace it: "the magic lantern" or the "cinema elargi". Meanwhile. video-art has been dominated from its very beginning (1963) by the structure of video installations to the detriment of magnetic tapes. It is this "legacy" which has highly influenced the development of digital and virtual installations

I have heard (sic!) that the pixels in the structure of same digital or virtual installations, and with them the computer entity too, feel frustrated and suffer from alienation and oppressive anxiety. Schizophrenia or who knows what complex does not seem too far, either, We may find out soon about clinics offering cyberpsychiatric treatment to digital entities, hospitals built in the vicinity of MIT Media Lab, Art 3000, ZKM, a.s.o.

In order to avoid such an embarrassing situation, the best solution is in my opinion, to offer pixels the opportunity to play in a friendly environment, like, for instance that of the "support" disk. There are several substantial arguments to support this thesis, as well as the interactive reception on the monitor screen. Before mentioning these pro-disk arguments, it is proper to mention some of the arguments against it. I have to admit that I experienced moments of perplexity when I noticed that the main Impediment in the reception of an artistic digital discourse on cd-rom could be found in the main characteristics of the digital system. First of all, it is this obsession to interact by all means, then the unpleasant manipulations on command interfaces; it is the noise produced when pressing the keys, the "click" on the mouse, the belated reaction to orders; furthermore, there are differences in speed between the visual and the auditive discourse, which bring about gaps in the relation image sound. Also, due to subsequent appearance of images, there is a persistence of disturbing fluency in the syntagmatic plan of the discourse. Finally, loading cd-roms on-line can be also

I fully agree with those theorists who uphold the radical difference between "hypermedia configuration" and "virtual reality", the former being based on the conversion from analogical to digital while the latter refers to synthetic image generations, with no reference to reality. Both configurations can be accessed on disk (cd-rom, off-line) as well as on-line; in addition, there is a possibility to combine them. In order to simplify my expose, I will restrict my approach to hypermedia configuration, including both disk and installation.

I conclude this introductory part with a personal remark which is also embraced by the members of my group, kinema ikon: out of the vast field of IT in full swing, we are almost exclusively interested in the validation of the digital system as a new means of artistic creation. Digital works that do not fulfill this desideratum may be extraordinary or marvelous, but they do not belong to the artistic digital world. They are simply different.

An approach based on the opposition existing between "support disk VERSUS support installation" would be improper. I don't have anything against installation in general or against digital/virtual in particular. I have to admit they are both exciting and spectacular to public to such an extent that they, plus video-installations, projections, performances (analogical means) cover most of the space and time allotted to electronic art in grand international exhibitions (included ISEA). In contrast. works on "support" disk are allotted minimum space and time. Thus, installation (digital as well as virtual) tends to become an autonomous trade in contemporary art, while pixels remain mere assistants, integrated in the hybrid structure of installation "the true reic (Dingheit) support of the work" (Heidegger, 1957).

If we consider access modes, digital / virtual installation falls into the category of the "spectacular" (not in that of the "reading") since it has created a sort of holding of "supports". Thus, this hybrids device offers a combination of visual, auditive and tactile sensation as well as mental relations. Its effects are polymorphous, polysensorial and polyglot (as combination of languages). In addition, they are rather strange, reminding me of those "amateur cabinets, of perspectives, anamorphoses and other catoptrics curiosities, which resemble Athanasius Kircher's "camera magica" Wundercamem (1646).

If writing is the art of constructing a story and fixing it on "support" (medium), then installations (digital and virtual) can be seen as multiple writings staged by means of a proficiently computerized protocol. Digital installations can be also perceived as devices the "bricolés" type in the sense given by Claude Levi-Strauss: "process of pragmatic thinking during which individuals and cultures use objects in order to assimilate and develop ideas."(1962) We should also consider in this respect Sherry Turkle's proposal, which can be summarized in the phrase "object to think with" (1995); hence digital / virtual objects can be stirred to develop / generate ideas.

George Sabau > WHAT ARE DREAMING YOUNG PIXELS OF? - a pseudo quarrel on "supports" -

LOUNG



All these drawbacks can be felt now in December 2000 with tools which are not extremely performant. I am convinced that all these flows will be soon forgotten and, so I am going to concentrate on the advantages of using "support" disk (cd-rom, dvd etc.) instead of using digital installation:

- 1. There are fewer opportunities of negative manipulation on "support" disk than in Installations or audio-visual mass media. Thus, the user acquires a more prominent status, as co-author,
- 2. An interactive approach is more complex for a "support" disk than in installation. The approaches also differ in nature. In traditional arts, to contemplate requires a certain immobility of the viewer, or in Louis Lavelle's words "I must cease action if I want to contemplate" (1921). The paradigm of interactivity in digital system entails direct actions from the part of the user both physical (movements, touch) and, especially, intellectual, upon a discursive structure proposal by the author.
 - 3. The opportunity of altering the work by recycling it as work in progress; the user enjoys the same right, if creative and competent in computers.
- 4. Accassing through "reading" allows, among other things, the acquisition of the disk, also, one can come back to it any he / she wishes. Furthermore, one can even swap disks, which is virtually impossible for installations.
- 5. There are themes, topics and creative genres which are 5. There are themes, topics and creative genres which are better suited for hypermedia configuration on cd-roms, such as, essays of digital art or "hyper-essays". This model is understood as commentary on the trajectory of a validated work of art or of a fragment of it, a fragment of great interest like, for instance "the yellow spot on the wall" in Vermeer's work (View from Delit). This fragment can be approached from a multitude of perspectives, including the one which relates Proust to Elstir and Bergotte. There is an infinite potential.
- To "digitalise enunciation" (Deleuze, 1985) is to fulfill an old dream: that of formalizing artistic discourse, the way E.A. Poe conceived it: "representations of hallucinatory visions, rigorously controlled in form." (1848)



George Sabau > WHAT ARE DREAMING YOUNG PIXELS OF? - a pseudo quarrel on "supports"

DREAMING

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The advantages of cd-rom's interactive aesthetics when compared with the spectacular aesthetics of installations are after all subjective. Artistic digital practice confirms the autonomous existence of the two creative paradigms. We may witness a sort of aesthetic compromise once voxels (tri-dimensional pixels) develop. The pixels, understood, as bidimensional mini-entities will continue to be attached to hypermedia on "support" disk while the voxels with their holographic dimension will become the main protagonists in the discursive structure of installations, a sort of cheerleaders. Artistic practice also reveals that some authors make parallel version of the same work installation, cd-rom, network, plus the temptation to combine formats and "supports". Or, the other way around, the tendency to go beyond the notion of "support". according to which pixels and voxels are freed from the limits of their genres.

The reader / audience may have understood that I am using the term "pixel" as a metonymy of digital / virtual entities whose sex and ability to dream remain a utopian desideratum. Researchers in the domain claim the contrary: this is not utopy and these "Creatures" are endowed with DNA, with chemical receptors, neurons, temporal lobes and many other parameters specific to human brain. If these Creatures are capable of reproduction, as some researchers claim, it means that they are sex discriminated and thus they can couple happily ever after... However, no matter how far things may evolve in this field of Artificial Life, there are two psychic processes which are impossible to fabricate: these Creatures cannot dream (the title of my expose is just a metaphor), and moreover cannot have revelations in the deep meaning of the term. Because, these two processes "occur" in an non-existent place, the erogenous area of the third eye...

> text presented at ISEA2000 Paris _ Revelation Panels _ Medium and Media at Forum des Images

> > Translation: Livia Marinescu



7. A pixel as a minimal entity endowed with creative powers the eighth "qualia sensibles" (1947) in Souriau's system and a computer as a new "machine to produce stypefying images" (Kircher) should have a muse... This muse seems to be the chimera definited by Descartes as "an unreal being made up of parts of real beings." In other words, the constructed digital objects (like virtually generated objects too) are perceived as "paradoxical beings" (Meinong, 1904), "beings without country" (Heimatlos), without a referential universe, which is quite relevant. It is what psychopathology applied to creation calls "agglutination" whereas associative psychology calls it "synectic", both terms being complex synonyms of the word chimera.

After digital objects have been constructed, the most difficult problem follows: their display in a coherent artistic discourse, which should be both fictitious and narrative. The crisis is resolved when we apply the creative ability of the hypertextual method to produce non-linear narrations with multiple possibilities to combin and interchange. If a digital installation may be compared with a Wundercamem, then a cd-rom may be seen as a sort of "Wunderblock" (Freud, 1900), whose potential to "freely associate" narrative nuclel is unlimited.

9. It is no use to panic at Nicholas Negroponte's shocking statement according to which "interactive multimedia allows little imagination" (1995). This statement reminds me of the "brain-dozing" applied by André Leroi Gourhan to cinema and television public. Contemporary creators of hypermedia discursive works have not fallen into the narrative trap of computer games, as they have understood that less plot, fewer characters, and a more minimal scenographic cronotrop can offer more opportunitles for users to put their imaginative abilities to a try.

10. All the above arguments entail a new regime of digital perception, the so called "cyberception" (Roy Ascott, 1996) which combines Seeing and Being. It would be also possible to say that the new regime of digital creation needs a user who has already recycled his computer proficiency.

11. Last but not least, a "support" disk allows transfer to a HTML (or equivalent) format, understood as a programming language for the Internet. The reverse transfer is also possible: a work or web pages can be transferred from the Internet to a cd-rom. The reasons may be purely informative and extensive; Timothy Murray speaks about "the extension of rhizomatic frontiers in digital art" (2000). Thus, calin man's work, Esoth Eric [off-line]on-line project] can be included in this reversible genre. The work is constructed by means of a delirious imagery structured in non-linear fiction / narration. It can be accessed on cd-rom, as well as online; its sinaesthetic effects are similar.

12. Speaking of transcending the notion in the field of digital art, the dominant preoccupation refers in this moment to the "art ON the net" (l'art EN reseau) and net.art (l'art DU reseau). In the first case, medium has an exclusively telematic role (a means of communicating works of art), while in second case - a really problematic one - the question arises whether is acceptable the possibility of a way of artistic creation in real time. Anyway, in this moment the main trend is net.art (webart) followed by compact disc (cd-rom, dvd) and interactive installation.

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er Institute in World Art Studies (SIWAS), Norwich, 6 August - 2 September 2001 Organizer: School for World Art Studies (Sainsbury

Centre for Visual Arts Norwich1 Sponsors: University of East Anglia (Norwich) the Getty Grant Program Institute Director: John Onlans (UEA) Resident Faculty: Elisabeti

de Bièvre, T.A. Heslop

Richard Hodges, Cesare

Popol, Robin Skeates- UEA

Martin Powers (University of Michigan) School Faculty: Steven Honner John Mitchell Ludmilla Jordanova - LIFA rers: Paul Bahn (Hull ersity), Hans Belting chule für Gestaltung. ruhe), Chris Chippindale (Cambridge University), ert Damisch (Ecole des Hautes Etudes, Paris) Wilfried van Damme (Afrika Museum, Netherlands), Jack Goody (Cambridge University), Ian Hodder

(Reading University) Griselda Pollock (Leeds University), Colin Renfrey (Cambridge University). Michael Rowlands (University College London) Marilyn Strathern (Cambridge University) sborah Swallow (Victoria A Albert Museum, London)

(Starrford University), Simon

Kaner (Cambridge

ersity), Stephen Mithen

Participants: Laura Malosetti Costa (University of Buenos Aires), Levon Chookshazian (Yerevan State University) Germain Loumpet (University of Yaounde), Alexandra Loumost-Galitzine (University of Cam

Nicholas Thomas (London

Elissaveta Mousakova (Cyrli ethodius National Library, ofia), Shiping Luo (Cent stitute for Fine Arts











Laura Marty Elissaveta



The Institute

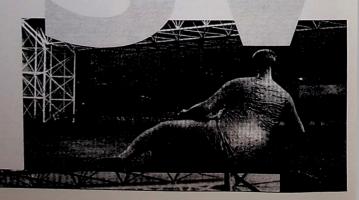
The expression world art studies, launched by John Onians in the early nineties, was meant to frame the understanding of art into the global tendencies of the late XX century. The concept took institutional shape through the School in World Art Studies (University of East Anglia, Norwich), associated with the highly eclectic Sainsbury Collection. Yet, professor Onians ironically found out that "... perhaps the greatest single advantage of the concept of World Art Studies is that, since no one knows what it is, everyone can contribute to its definition" (Onians 1996, 206). As to get new contributors to the definition, the School literally expanded to a global scale through last year's Summer Institute. The organizers succeeded in bringing together a group of 30 scholars, involved in art-related fields of study, from all continents, and a number of outstanding personalities as main lecturers. Slowly overcoming prejudices like "the west has to teach rest", the Institute became an occasion of intense debate on a variety of items related to art.

The Human Mind

The first statement was plain:

It turns out that just the constancy of our biological make-up explains the constancies of art as an activity, so the differences in our environmental experiences go a long way to explain its variations.

It belongs to John Onians (Onians 2000, 15) and is fascinating, as so many other general, almost aphonistic statements that seem to miraculously explain the essential But, just as these, it relies on reductionism and gives way to abuse in logic deduction on particular cases, the "biological make-up" (especially the human mind) becoming the pop-up explanation for everything that can not be argued otherwise. Neurology and neurophysiology are far away from drawing a clear and detailed image of how the human mind really functions. Scientific data offer leads for theories on the evolution of human intelligence and its role in explaining the origins of art. Based on the hypothesis of the modular brain structure, Steven Mithen explains the making of art as a product of cognitive fluidity across the three domains of the human mind: technical, social and natural history intelligence. Though the three cognitive processes required for producing art - mental conception of an image, intentional communication with reference to some displaced event or object and the attribution of meaning to a visual image not associated with its reference - were present in the early human mind, they were displayed in different domains and functioned isolated for millennia. The cross-links required for artistic creation were established about 40.000 years ago and conditioned a "cultural explosion" (Mithen 1998, 171-210). But, for making art (with special reference to art objects), there is more than the three cognitive processes pointed out by the brain-focussed discourse. A major requirement is the physical ability to translate a mental project into an object of art. You might call it skill, craftsmanship or talent. This made the essential difference between the potential art producer and the real artist. Marcel Duchamp pointed exactly to this gap with his ready made art objects, driving the importance of the artist's skill to zero. In our days, the same idea can be traced through Richard Long's "walkings" and the "displays" of Mark Dion, which, once more, enlarged the boundaries of what was considered art.



Thomas Hlobil (Palacky

Republic) Reet Varblane

(Institute of Art History of

(Estonian Academy of

University Olomouc, Czech

Music), Kakha Khimshiashvili

Georgia, Tibilissi), Subashini

Art objects are things produced by man. Things produced by man are commodities. Are art objects

of being exchangeable indicates that there are counterparts which have, in immediate context, an

equivalent value. To be exchangeable is to be "common" the opposite of being uncommon. incomparable, unique, singular, and therefor not exchangeable for anything else (Kopytoff 1986, p. 68).

splitting and the homogeneity of too much lumping. (Kopytoff 1986, p. 70) The key to the whole discussion is one of perspective. In a complex interactive structure, such as the

human society, relations between parts develop on a multitude of levels. To keep the social system

functioning the relations need to be quantifiable through language, rules, laws. The basic units of

measurement refer to quantity. They are totally implied in conditioning the fluidity of the economic

circuit. Through the economic perspective, all art objects are commodities, since they can be evaluated by quantitative measurement units. Framed into market rules, they are a response to a specific

demand, that of aesthetic contemplation and delight. Unlike other commodities, which also imply the

aestethic function, the art object relies just upon this, defining itsself as a monofunctional commodity.

There is a certain a tendency within the artifield to reach the immeasurable, whether by increasing the

Though art objects are agents of expression (Gell 1998) it is very difficult to use them as means for

understanding the elements of the context that generated them. This is one of the major problems in

A relevant moment of my SIWAS occurred on the very first day of the institute. Assuming to deliver the

opening "participant's presentation", I pointed to the importance of the context within archaeological

Illustrates some of the main problems in developing a global understanding of art:

method of logic induction in drawing general conclusions;

Interpretation, illustrating the idea with the changing significance of artifacts which moved across the

borders of the Roman Empire. The presentation caused the hostile reaction of some participants, who expressed the opinion that "if you have nothing to say, you speak about context". This situation

a. the recurrence of the technical, yet subjective approach to particular items (in fact, a

b. the preference for the fashionable, random collage, replacing the analytic induction; c. the failure of defining and redefining notions otherwise than through poetic metaphor.

The institute pointed to the crises of the "moral sciences", art history among them, which haven't yet

that still leaves interdisciplinarity to be a desiderate and bans the global understanding of art into a

developed a methodology and a language compatible with those of the "natural sciences", a situation

Art Bulletin, LXXVIII, 2, 1996, p. 206 209

Mithen, Steven, The Prehistory of the Mind, London, 1998

Cambridge, 1986, p. 64-91

substitute for the methods of natural sciences) which makes it largely impossible to apply the

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Kopytoff, Igor, The Cultural Biography of Things, in The Social Life of Things,

commercial value of the material involved or by driving it's importance close to zero and pointing only to

Commodities are things produced as to be exchanged in a transaction for a counterpart. The very fact

system (...) is everything a commodity and exchangeable within a unitary sphere of

In no system is everything so singular as to preclude even the hint of exchange. And in no

exchange. Such a construction of the world in the first case totally heterogeneous in terms

of valuation and, in the second, as totally homogeneous, would be humanly and culturally impossible. But they are two extremes between which every real economy occupies its own

In brief, what we usually refer to as "structure" lies between the heterogeneity of too much

The Things

commodities?

the idea.

The Context

References

Onians 1996

Onians 2000

Mithen 1998

Kopytoff 1986

The general conclusion has been drawn:

neculiar place

studying non-literate societies.

collection of artifacts from around the world.

















Peter H

photos by Marty Powers















Aryan (Home for Folk-Tribal Arts, Gurgaon, India), Mana-Camilla de Palma (Museo Etnocrafico Castello d'Albertis, Genoa), Ruta Kaminska (Latvian Institute of Literature Folklore & Arte Riga) Suzana Mileveka (Museum of the City of Skopie, Macedonia), Karen Cordero (Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City), Peter Brunt (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealandi Katarama Raranska (Ethnographic Museum, Krakow), Pawel Leszkowicz (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan), Peter Hünel (Museum Arad, Romania). Matei Craciun (Francisc Rainer Anthropological Research Center Bucharest\ Codruta Cruceanu (National Museum of Art of Romania). Florin Drasoveanu (Banat Museum, Timisoara, Romania), Natalia Taksami (Museum of Anthropology & Ethnography St. Petersburg), Olga Deshpande (The State Hermitage), Anna Mainicheva (Institute of Archaeology & Ethnology of the Russian Academy of Science Novosibirsk) Zdeno Kolesar (Academy for Fine Art & Design, Bratislava). Verena Perko (Regional Museum of Kranji, Slovenia), Suna Güven (Middle East Technical University. Ankara), Yuri Rassamakin (Institute of Archaeology of the National Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kievi Suzanne Blier (Harvard University), Zalnab Bahrani (State University of New

York), Dragana Antonovic



Judit Angel > Top 2001: best moments with and without art

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2001

dol

Some time ago a young artist (she was in her best twenties and appreciated) told me, though she liked what she was doing as an artist at that time, she could easily imagine herself changing her profession, let's say ten years later. At her age I was thinking in more idealistic terms, but now I agree that there are many things in life at least as Important as art. But is art a profession? I incline to say that it isn't, it has to deal with more general needs of the individual, but I know many counter-examples which work quite well. I did a lot of (art) administration this year, which disturbed me since I can hardly reconcile It with creativity. No wonder that looking back, the best moments are those of going out, all connected with art. There are also two exceptions.



Paris - Montpellier (in February and in October)

Following my colleagues from Kinema-Ikon (Roxana, Lili, Mr. Sabau with Limerique) I visited Paris for the first time. I immediately liked it and felt homely. In school I prefered English to French language, now I cannot say this. Paris en-passant in my way to Montpellier where we curated an exhibition with Ami Barak. In spite of Mircea Cantor's efforts, who was my guide and selected contemporary art galleries, I prefered to see Paris as a tourist: the old districts, Les Quais, Les Tuileries, La Notre-Dame, Le Louvre, Brancusi's studio, the perfumeries on Les Champs-Élysées, La Défense. My intuition was right, the offer of the galleries was weak at that time, even the shows in the Beaubourg were less exciting than I expected. However, the latter's bookshop provided a highly compensatory experience and a discovery, Nicholas Bournaud's book on relational art. It was exactly what I needed for the theoretical argumentation of my upcoming exhibition dealing with service-art. Unfortunately I couldn't see Le Palais de Tokyo, curated by the same Bournaud and Jerome Sans, which will open the next year and it has a specific understanding of the relation between contemporary art and the public. Until then it is worth following its website: www.palaisdetokyo.com. Another pleasant discovery: 'En Cours', the space run by Julie Heintz, art historian whose guest I was for some days. There was the show of a young artist, Marika Bührmann, who invited people to unusual rendez-vous with her holding one's hand, passing a street together, warming up with her shawl - "micro-situations" as she calls them.

Montpellier is the very "South": olives and palm trees, the closeness of the sea, flat buildings, an aqueduct from the Roman times, a general calmness mixed with busy, colourful spots such as the shopping streets, the markets or the Arabian district. Ami Barak was a perfect host, we did a good collaboration which resulted in the 'Parti-pris' exhibition (www.fracir.org), but it was not only work there was time for linner - now I experienced why meal or excursions to Sete, to Lyon and reciated in France - for excursion to Sete, to Lyon are one and for much discussion. The FRAC Languedoc-Roussillon is a relatively small space, but it has a strong collection (Douglas Gordon, Jonathan Monk, Magala Bulloch, Fabrice and a flexible exhibition (there is preferance for s rather than art trends, a media). Similar art center are in Sète, Nîmes, Serigna and though I know, this is normal, the Holland, I wonder how is this high or close to each other Germany, In of contemporary art possible on a regional area? Cel there is money for art, but it is also true that contemporary art has for long entered the realm of cultural policy.



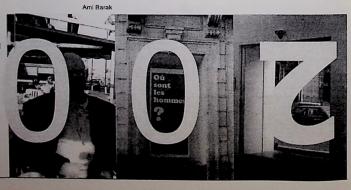
Mircea Cantor & Judit Angel

Essen (June)

The old team - Lia, Dan, Sorin, Ana, Sandor and Jozzo (1 - from the times of 'Art Unlimited' ('94) and 'Inter(n)' ('95) was together again in Essen thanks to the invitation of the Kunsthaus (www.invitation.kunsthaus-essen.de) and namely, Ingrid Weidig, a photographer and media artist, who visited Romania years ago. It was her idea to invite six Romanian artists to work alongside with artists from Essen. The Kunsthaus is located in an old school, which now serves for studios and exhibition space. We lived in big classrooms and had the feeling that our university times were back. It was the same way as in Bucharest. Lia and Dan's studio was the core of socializing, our German colleagues loved to come there too and we all enjoyed the meals served by Jozzo, who is a notorious cook. Though the artists were very different, the joint show had a "clean" aspect and got positive feedback (eg.Kunstforum). Dan introduced us to Iris Dressler and Hans D.Christ, the curators of the 'hARTware projekte' in Dortmund, where we saw 'new ideas-old tricks', a critical show reflecting on 'the old myths of progress with smart new outfits'. A lasting impression was provided by the Kokerei Zollverein (www.kokereizollverein.de), a former coking plant, now in a location for contemporary art and criticism. Its new programme signed by Florian Waldvogel and Marius Babias starts from the socio-historical features of the former site, promotes art that engages with socially relevant questions and re-defines the notion of 'production' via ideas, communication and criticism.



The Last Goodbye _ Såndor Bartha



2001:



Service, in Budapest

Venice (July)

It was in fact an anniversary: ten years ago, as members of the Youth League from Arad, Sandor and me did our first trip to the West, to Northern Italy: Vicenza, Padova, Jesolo and Venice. At that time I could hardly imagine the circumstances of my several returns there. The Biennale played a basic role in them: two years ago I was engaged with the Romanian Pavilion, now Sandor. Whatever artistic reasons, my wish for a vacation and my permanent longing for the South were stronger, so I took it as a relaxation and I think this was the best thing I could do. We lived at Fran Siegel, our American friend who was teaching in Venice and rented a veritable Venetian apartment in Campo San Agnese in Dorsoduro. We did a lot of walks together, discovered places like Nuova Icona, an art space run by Vittorio Urbani, a physician and a sensitive curator at the same time, Mike Nelson's project in the Giudecca and San Francesco della Vigna, a franciscan monastery which I previously knew from a Dutch-Flemish exhibition catalogue (1995) and which impressed me much. A steady attraction for us was the enormous, quasi-Fellinian ship which landed near the Giardini, In spite of the continuous change of the participants the Biennale irradiates the same atmosphere resulting from the combination between an old-fashioned system and up-to-date inputs. But this old-fashioness (eq. the presentation of international art according to geographical and national criteria, the prerogatives of the general curator, its system of awards) does not necessarily have a negative meaning, it also points to a certain stability which is indispensable for identification. I liked the movie character of the Romanian Pavilion, the 'real' movie in the Canadian Pavilion and Mark Wallingers's (British Pavilion) short video with people steadily entering the "arrivals" door in an airport accompanied by the sound of Gregorian music. The Arsenale is always an experience in itself with its architecture, the route, the lagoon making its way among the buildings. Besides Cattelan and Serra this year I noticed many unknown or less known names: Jarenco L'Africano (Verona/Malindi) with his strange painted sculptures, Ron Mueck (Australia) with his hyper-realistic style, Richard Billingham (Britain), Veli Granö (Finland), Luis Gonzalez Palma (Guatemala) in photography, Matthieu Laurette (France) with his project of 'reimbursable shoppings'



Service, in Budapest (September)

I've been thinking of an exhibition based on processes for a long time. A normal exhibition situation usually implies that there is the viewer and something (painting, sculpture, photo, a video, etc) to be looked at and between them there is always a distance. Even Minimalism which thematizes 'the perception of perception' plays on this reflexive distance. Interactive works of art transform the spectator into a participant, but require technology as a medium. I wanted to put the spectator into every-day situations in which it is difficult to trace the border between art and life. Compared to the Romanian art scene, the Budapest one, where I'm living for three years seemed interested in aesthetical questions rather than in social issues. I was curious to test this and find out what kind of reactions could elicit my concept on 'service-art'(2. In my conception 'service' was an import in the field of art, a pattern for action which implies social feedback, i.e. a medium for the communication between art and the large public. The response of the art scene exceeded my expectations, there were more proposals than I finally selected (21 projects in total). There v three categories of services: audience services, services targeting the exhibition practice and services targeting the art-mediation. Some examples: horoscope service for the encounter with the artworks, the daily top-ten of the works which elicited the greatest attention, art-consulting, the possibility of renting artists, permanent discussion space about topical issues in politics, society, economics, bus-trips with the artist to Hungary's first socialist town, Dunaújváros, photo-studio for making identityprotheses, etc. I especially enjoyed that project which permited the visitors to call me on a mobile and ask questions. I also liked that 'Service' and 'Climate', another exhibition which was on view at the same time, shared the same space; the projects from the first being in the middle of the room, the works from the second displayed on the walls. Finally I succeeded in making an exhibition which was not looking like an exhibition and a catalogue which is not a document, but a 'service-guide'. Apart from criticism concerning mostly the non-spectacular character of some projects or the mixing of the two shows, the reception was mostly favourable. It was a good experience for me and in this case I do not mind my administrative efforts, I only think that if I had an assistant the things would have a more natural course.

Arad (from time to time and all the time)

Since I moved to Budapest, Arad has become a place connected with vacation. I'm consciously trying to resist idealising it, nevertheless I know that this it is not entire possible. Let's think of vacation as an optimal state for creative activity or just for gathering creative energy. I agree with artists, especially (post) conceptual, project or service oriented artists, that on the level of the distribution of labor (and this sounds very marxist) artistic activity is work, which has to be paid, i.e. the artist is entitled to getting a honorar for his/her work. When I equate vacation with creativity I think of the proper conditions which may generate a creative state of mind. And here comes our group, Kinema Ikon, whose members I think never considered that they are at work while making their artistic contributions. There is of course, an exception, calin man who is doing this review while being in a cultural worker's position, but he considers it also creation and Kinema Ikon is full of paradoxes anyway.

1. Lia Perjovschi, Dan Perjovschi, Sorin Vreme, Ana Adam, Sandor Bartha and József Bartha

2. 'Service', exhibition catalogue, Múcsamok, Budapest, 2001.

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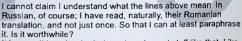


Роботы, роботы

роботы речь мою прерывают.

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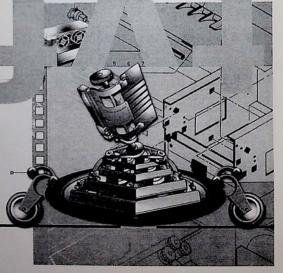
It is something about robots, automata, and stuff like that. Like hordes of automata coming to buy tomato juice from other automata. Quite a leftist vision of the alienating future. And one may, with a certain reason, ask who are / what are those automata standing for. Humans turned machines? Machines having replaced humans? And does it really make any difference?

It seems we have moved from one negative utopia to another. From 1984 to Brave New World. Does the computer, and, on a larger scale, the internet, play any part in this?

And, quoting (again) a Russian thinker, what is it to be done? To continue our fascinating game with glass-beads? To revolt, the old anarchist way, like some characters in a Norman Spinrad book, trying to destabilize the system by selling computer viruses? To try to be model citizens, working, having fun, begetting children a. s. o.?

To be artists what is an artist, anyway? and perform our more or less outdated tricks, on paper, on canvas, on screen? I don't know, and, for now I am so tired that I cannot even conceive new questions.





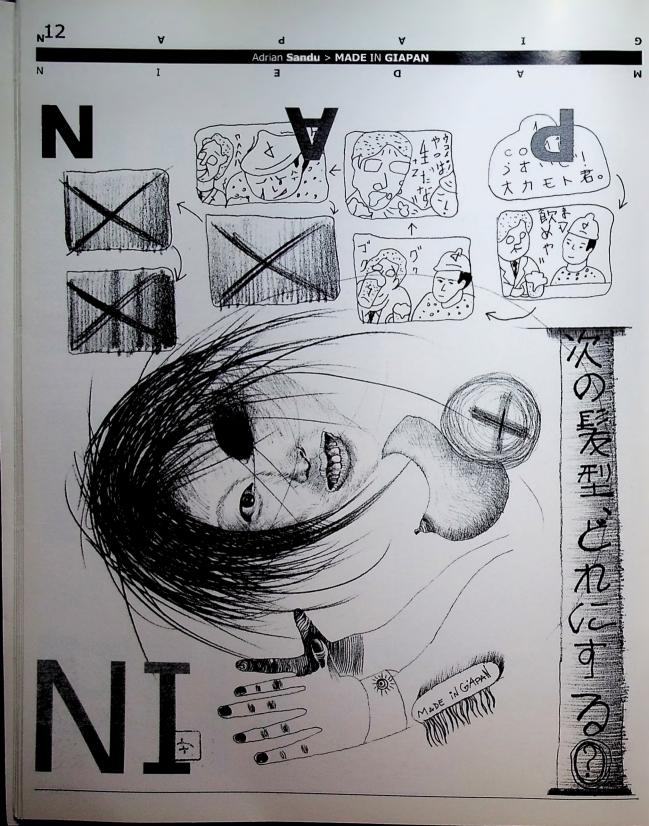
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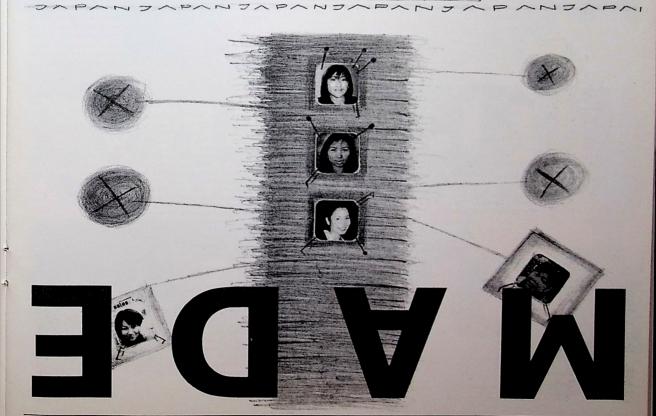
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Liliana Trandabur > Considérations frontalières sur l'art de tourner autour du pol

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From: strains

Date: Féday, November 20, 2001 10:01 AM To: Jean Yves Torchet

> primit txt liliana intermedia _ cerem aprobare publikat motivatzie jean yves despre întirziere txt liliana_



U (

I have noticed yesterday that Liliana has started something (10 lines) but there is something I would like to explain you: Eventhough Lili has no job other than looking after the kids (and sometimes after me III), the days are short and full. Wake up (always too eraly). Breakfast (very fast). Kids to school, Teaching romanian to a retired lady. Back to school at 1130. Lunch time, Plpl. Caca with the kids. Back to school 1:30. But half the time, Ilinca is home or has to be taken to the ortophonist or other specialists. Then 4:30 is already there. Time to pick up Alex again at school. A small snack. Helping Alex for his lessons while not leaving llinca on her own can proove to be a very difficult exercice. Then preparing Diner. Then I get home. We have diner. Then we do activities with the kids like guitar, reading, playing with the computer but of course during that time, Lili is washing the dishes. Then kids to bed but we like to tell stories or sing songs and finally when 9 o'clock has come. We are finally together and so exhausted that we have little energy and just wanna relax. And finally, TV is really good at eating your time at night without you even noticing it. Of course, Lili is also in charge of doing most of the shopping, cleaning etc. During weekends, we always have plenty of activities to do with the kids such as swimming pool, learning Alex to ride his bike or roller skates, learning llinca to ride her tricycle, going to the mountains. Visiting friends. Playing the computer with the kids. Helping Alex do his lessons and encouraging llinca as she is drawing or playing. We also sometimes go to my parents... To give you an example, this saturday alone, Lill will be working half the day at the market selling christmas goodles to raise money for the school, in the afternoon, it is very likely that we will go to the swimming pool with the kids. At night, we will yot on the swimming pool to the montains of dee our sleigh in the fresh snow (this is the new #1 activity for Alex and linca these days). And o

Jean Yves Torchet

From

Date

Subject:

To:

Jean Yves Torchet

reVoltaire

Be: arde

Friday, November 23, 2001 10:51 AM

Liliana Trandabur > Considérations frontalières sur l'art de tourner autour du pot

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trontalleres

Considérations

Il se trouve que nous habitons depuis peu de temps dans une petite localite à la frontière suisse à 15 minutes de Genève, et donc par la-même, en position péripherique et centrale en même temps, sorte de petit paradoxe pataphysique: plus on s'éloigne d'un Centre, plus on s'en approche (d'un autre...). Voilà que notre petite localité est périphérique et centrale en même temps: périphérique par rapport à Paris et centrale par rapport à Genève; siège des nombreuses organisations internationales.

Nos quelques considerations vont porter sur l'art de tourner autour du pot, (c'est-à-dire sur le melange de débrouillardise, diplomatie et de savoir-faire) des frontaliers. Nous allons prendre pour exemple le fameux plan Vigipirate recemment réactivé dans toutes les institutions publiques du genre écoles, crèches, centres de loisir. Si le principe de départ est bon, assurant le maximum de protection pour le personnel et le public, il y a façon et façon d'appliquer ce principe: on peut en rajouter des choses, on peut en rester au pied de la lettre ou on peut ajuster cette disposition à la réalité.

Ainsi il se trouve aussi que des trois écoles existantes dans notre petite localité, chacune applique le fameux plan en question de facon différente. L'école du centre-ville continue son activité comme de rien n'était, tout en ayant affiché à la porte de l'entrée la circulaire concernant l'application du plan Vigipirate. Pour une meilleure comprehension de la situation, il faut préciser qu' un important pourcentage de la clientèle de cette école-ci est constitue par les résidents suisses de Geneve qui accèdent à l'enseignement public français grâce à une dérogation rondelette payée à la mairie de notre petite localité. Une deuxlème école, pas très loin de celle du centre-ville, école catholique privée cette fois-cl, applique le plan Vigipirate de façon prudente, correcte, avec un petit amendement au déroulement de l'activité normale, c'est-à-dire qu'en dehors des heures d'entrée et de sortie de l'école l'accès des parents est limité par une stricte surveillance de la part du directeur. Et nous voilà à la troisième école de notre petite localité de frontière, école qui décide que le plan Vigipirate doit être applique tout en chassant les parents de son espace public et tout en mettant des barrières et des verrous partout,

Dans ces conditions nous déposons nos enfants comme des colis aux portes de l'école et nous venons les y récupérer à la fin des cours. Si on a quelques chose à communiquer aux enseignants c'est faisable seulement a travers le grillage de la clôture d'une facon tout aussi civilisee que l'ancestral «parier à la clôture» dans le milieu rural roumain(c'est-à-dire en traduction roumaine «vorbitul la gard»). Pour avoir quelques informations en plus, il faut dire que cette demière école est localisée dans ce qu'on pourrait appeler le quartier «chaud» de la ville, avec un fort pourcentage de population immigree. Le multiculturalisme et le plurilinguisme donnent à notre petite localité le cachet specifique des grandes villes et constituent la source principale à partir de laquelle s'est développe l'art de tourner autour du pot dont il est question. De la même dynamique géographique centre-périphérie naît dans notre cas une inhabituelle effervescence culturelle pour une ville de 7000 habitants: 13 associations socio-culturelles, 2 théatres, 5 galeries d'expositions plastiques, 1 conservatoire de musique et de danse, un collège international et un lycée international. Comme toute localité frontalière qui se respecte, la nôtre pratique

postes de frontière et le contoumement de la loi fait office de règle no.1 du savoir-faire de la région. Les fernesiens développent aujourd'hui une effervescence culturelle qui rendrait fier celui qui a donné vie au domaine de Ferney il y a 250 ans : Voltaire.

résidence. Le controle douanier est quasi-inexistant à certains

aussi le petit trafic, car tout est moins cher en France et donc

beaucoup de genevois font ici leur courses et leur lieu de

Liliana Trandabur

Nov.2001, Ferney-Voltaire

elle fuol

From: Jean Yves Torchet

Date: Friday, November 23, 2001 10:51 AM

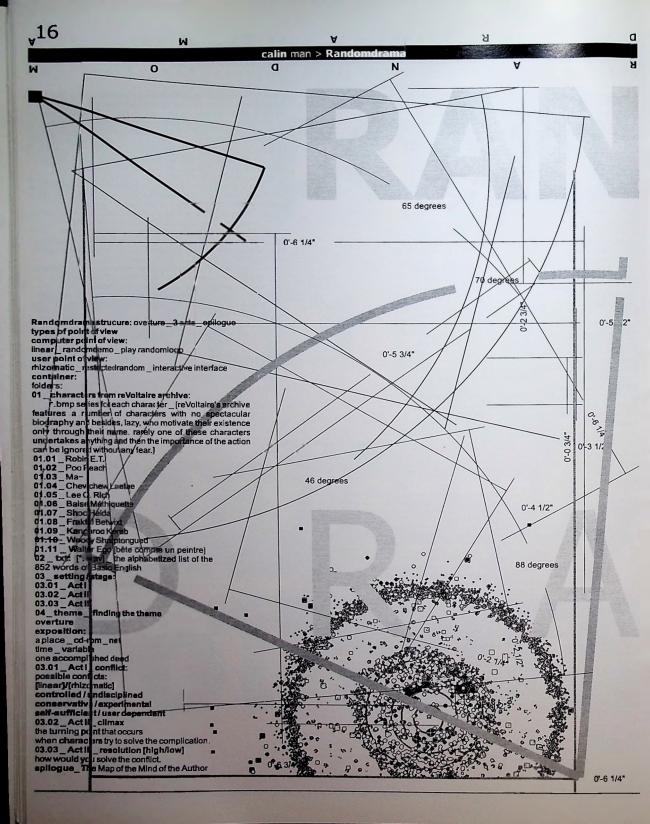
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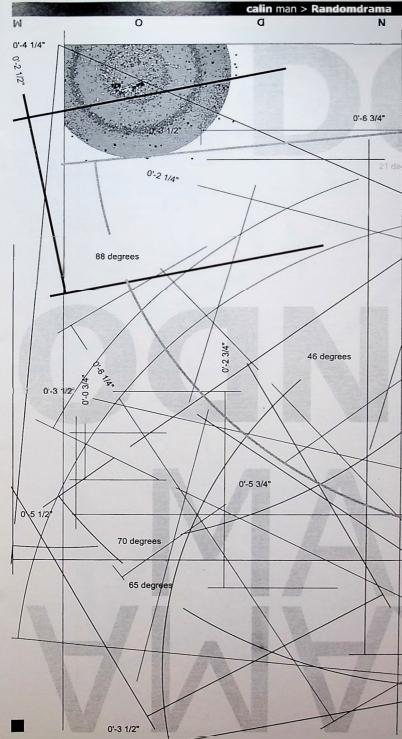
Mes bien chers frères

Je vous donne ma bénédiction pour la publication de mes écrits si peu catholiques III Surprise, surprise, après plusieurs soirées à coglier un petit-qualquechose, volci l'article tant attendu. La pauvre Lill a quand même travaillé hier soir jusqu'à 1:50 du mattin à moins que cela ne soit hier matin jusqu'à 1:50 du soir III VA AM PUPAT _ JY

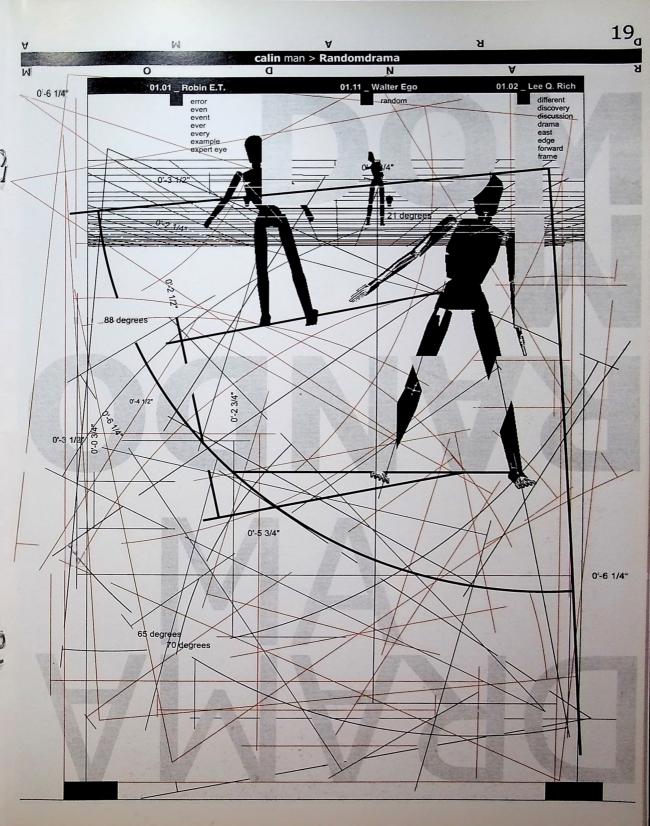


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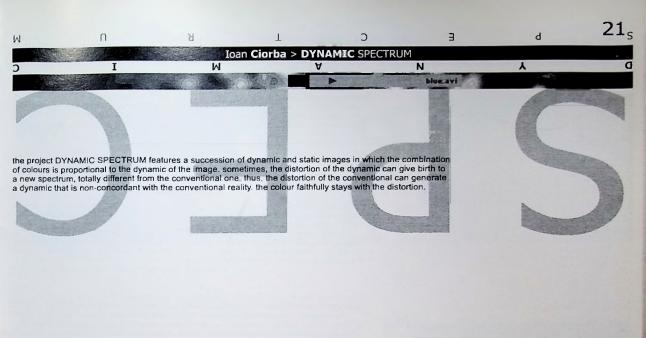


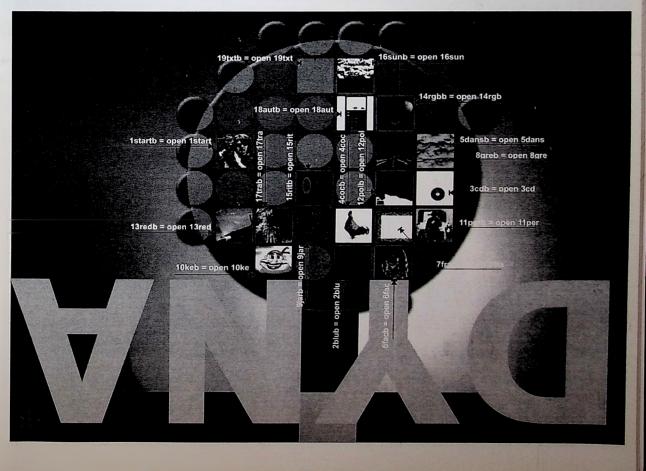


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u I

Gheorghe Săbău - În contra directiei de astazi în arta contemporană română

IZEISE

directiei

COULLS

contemporan

Parafraza la textul maiorescian rămîne doar la nivelul titlului. Lucrarea citată (1868) se referă la "cultura romană", subiect prea complex pentru acest eseu dar pot recurge la sintagmă ca și punct de pornire, afirmînd cu inima îndoită că mare parte din "cultura română de azi" (2001) este valoric competitivă cu orice altă cultură din spațiul central european cu mențiunea că suferă cronic de o înadvertența majoră: nu reușește nici-cum sa lasa din secoulul al 19-lea cu excepțiile recunoscute, or, citesc prin gazete că sîntem deja în secolul 21. Există, desigur, posibilitatea recuperarii în acest prim deceniu, similar cu tentativa de după anul 1900, cînd

am pomit-o hotăriți în directia semănătonsmului; au venit, totuși, anii '20 cind pentru prima și ultima dată am produs în sincronism european prin direcția avangardel istorice

Revenind la temă și conform unei metodologii subiective, restrîng aria conceptulul de "artă contemporană" la seria de tendinte ale practicii artistice de după 1960 cu referire accentuată la ceea ce se numeste "artă alternativă", de la obiect la instalație și de la happening la performance în combinație cu old media - fotografie, cinematografie, televiziune și videografie, rezultind lucrări artistice hibride de genul video-instalație, video-performance, video-art etc. Pînă la momentul '89 demersul alternativ a funcționat destul de bine prin lucrări și expoziții de referință, subiect tratat exemplar în studiul Magdei Câmecl "Artele plastice în România 1945-1989" și ar fi redundant să reiau tema.

Începînd cu Ex Oriente Lux (1993) prin impulsul și susținerea de către CSAC (azi CIAC) asistăm la o noua etapă ce va fi continuată prin cîteva expoziții de referință precum: 01010101, MEdiA Culpa, Civitas Solis, Civitas Artis și retrospectiva Experiment (1996). Pot fi adaugate expozițiile Art Unlimited srl, INTER(n) şi Complexul Muzeal, curator Judit Angel, Arad, Zona Est - performance, curator Ileana Pintilie, Timișoara, Medium la Sf. Gheorghe în prelungirea proiectului propus de Imre Baasz continuat prin AnnArt și altele. Oricum, se poate afirma ca au fost şapte ani graşi făcîndu-se hotărît doi pași înainte într-un context International favorabil în care - trebuie să ne reamintim - instituții, grupuri și personalitați din spațiul cultural occidental au intreprins demersuri concrete și consistente în sprijinul artei contemporane romanești de tranziție. Diferența stilistica, expozitională și curatorială a acestei etape fața de cea de dinainte de '89 constă în recursul mai pregnant la posibilitățile oferite de vechile tehnologii de înregistrare și comunicare (foto, film, tv. video). Altfel spus, au putut fi sublimate frustrarile tehnologice, financiare și ideologice din timpul comunismului, sublimări evidente în Ex Oriente Lux și expozițiile ulterioare. Eclectismul practicilor artistice prin mijlocirea hibridizării tehnologice a putut să se manifeste plenar, ceea ce nu a fost rau de loc, numai ca, exact în aceeași perioadă "dincolo" era în plina expansiune sistemul digital cu aplicație în domeniul creațiel artistice. Interesant este faptul că tocmai în perioada de maximă efervescență expozițională (1993-1997) nu a existat în România nici o revistă de artă, evenimentele fiind reflectate în rubricile de specialitate ale publicațiilor culturale de către un număr redus dramatic al criticilor de artă.

Una peste alta, aceeași instituție sorosiană a încurajat prin diverse mijloace - financiare, tehnice, logistice - și pătrunderea / extensia a ceea ce se numește new medla sau mai exact, aplicațiile noilor tehnologii digitale la cîmpul creației artistice. Acesta este domenlul problematic din arta contemporană romană. Lipsesc aproape cu desăvîrsire lucrările artistice exclusiv digitale și implicit expozițiile specializate în noile medii de expresie. Pentru a evita confuziile care mereu se produc, precizez că înțeleg prin "exclusiv digitală" acel tip de lucrare artistică realizată cu ajutorul unul soft creat de către un programator pe baza proiectului auctorial stabilit de catre un artist - în cazurt fencite și ransime poate fi vorba de una și aceeași persoană. Dacă pînă nu demult suportul privilegiat a fost discul compact (CD-ROM), de o bună bucata de vreme suportul predominant este cel telematic (INTERNET). Așa se face că prin invitațiile și cataloagele de la expoziții internaționale de arta electronică s-au stabilizat două genuri principale denumite WEBART (net art) și respectiv ART OF CD-ROM. deseori în versiuni compozite și din ce în ce mai rar ca hibrizi în forma de expresie a Instalației Interactive. În toate situațiile descrise, aspectul specific esențial rezultă din capacitatea lucrării digitale de a oferi utilizatorului posibiliatea unel intervenții co-auctoriale denumite interactivitate - de la hypertext citire.

Așadar, ce se întimplă în arta contemporană romană de vreo 4-5 ani? Perspectiva din care a fost compus prezentul eseu se bazează pe acceptarea următoarei competente; sistemul digital tratat ca un nou mijloc de creație artistică. Sub acest aspect afirm cu conștiința nelmpăcată că în ultimil ani poate fi constatată în arta contemporană română un pas înapol în contra direcțlei artei contemporane din lumea largă. Pentru argumentare voi porni de la cîteva întrebări pe cît de punctuale, pe atît de revelatoare: 1. Care sînt paradigmele predominante tradiționale, moderne, alternative, digitale. 2. Care sint suporturile preferate de către tineri artisti romani de azi. 3. Cum sint reprezentate aceste tendinte în projectele expoziționale ale curatorilor. 4. Cum sînt reflectate toate cele de mai sus de către critica de artă în revistele culturale și de specialitate.

Gheorghe Săbău - În contra directiei de astăzi în arta contemporană română

uı izeise

Эľ

directiei

contra

u

Pe masa din stînga - filiera română - am împrăștiat ordonat o sumedenie de invitații de pe internet, în format offset, cataloage de la expoziții și comentarii critice din publicații. De fapt expozițiile sînt cele care sintetizează atît preferințele auctoriale cît și trendul curatorial în cele cîteva spalii din București, Timisoara, lași și din ce în ce mai incitant la Cluj prin triada Sindan - Tranzit - Balkon, Usor siderat, constat ca trend-ul principal este reprezentat de catre următoarele old media cu suporturile aferente: fotografia, instalația-foto, diapozitivul, fotopictura, proiectia de pe bandă video, sculptura-obiect, performance, desenutzele, pictura surneo-expresionistă, uneon instalatia video și din cînd în cînd imagini procesate în contextul unei instalatii. Acest trend romanesc în floare se produce pe un background pastelat-ofilit constituit din lucrări / expoziții care continuă cu obstinație fie linia artei tradiționale în versiune neo-bizantină, fie linia artei moderne de factură neo-expresionistă. Aceste tendințe sînt din cînd în cînd susținute de retrospectivele unor artiși consacrați, fiind comentate cu acribie profesională de către o parte a presei culturale. Reflectarea tendinței alternative de catre critica de specialitate în revistele Observator Cultural, Dilema sau în revistele de artă - din ce în ce mal europene - precum Balkon, Artelier, Arta şi Arhitext Design este pe cît de pertinentă pe atit de obiectiva: este comentat profesional exact ceea ce se vede, adica oglindeste starea de fapt din practica artistică, uneori plusind cu argumente teoretice în sustinerea



&

Numai că

pe masa din dreapta - filiera occidentală - am împrăștiate invitații de toate felurile extrase de pe net, cataloage, programe și proiecte de la expoziții internaționale de artă contemporană. Ceea ce constat este oarecum viceversa, adică aflu despre lucrări artistice digitale pe suporturile noilor tehnologii cu denumiri care puncteaza situația de "acolo". Mai constat că există deja numeroase lucrari de referință, autori sau grupuri deseori citați, studii de specialitate, publicații off-line și on-line, centre de cercetare și catedre universitare preocupate intens de relația dintre artă și sistemul digital, expoziții de prima mărime etc.

&

Şi atunci stau, cuget şi mā întreb: care trend-ul mā-sii este mai bun, cel de la "noi" sau cel de la "ei". Eu zic că al nostru, fiind mai ortoman dar vine unul la mine și îmi zice "bine - bine, dar atunci de ce membrii grupului kinema ikon și în special globbe-pixelul calin man trimit lucrări artistice digitale doar la expoziții de "dincolo" și colac peste pupăză, editează revista intermedia în limba engleză fără traducerea conformă cu noua lege de protejare a limbii române. Se poate răspunde sec "pai, because d-aia" sau se poate pune contra-întrebarea la nivelul evidenței: UNDE să le prezentam? Pentru cei care consideră ca am o viziune negativistă asupra temel îi rog frumos sa-mi emaileze [revoltaire@go.ro] cîteva nume de artiști, grupuri și titluri de lucrari artistice digitale românești care le sînt cunoscute de prin atellere, expoziții sau de pe site-unle baștinase. Pentru a usura compunerea unui tablou corect avansez lista subsemnatului cu urmatoarele nume: Alexandru Patatics și Olimpiu Bandalac (tratament digital asupra lucrarile plastice anterioare), Neil Coltofeanu (FAV), Calin Dan (exclusiv Happy Doomsday) și recent grupu Virtualla. Nici o expoziție dedicata artei digitale doar un simpozion la DNT Ciuj propus de CIAC în decembrie 1997, cu titlul Stuctures & Strategies in Developing Multimedia on-line & off-line. În ceea ce privește critica de artă digitală (I) aceasta se reduce la cîteva texte, mai mult decît pertinente semnate de către Mihai Grecea (Vinen), Irina Cios (Observator Cultural) și Adela Văetlși (Arhitext Design). Mai verific o dată toate numerele celor trei reviste de arta și nu gasesc nimic, nici macar în numerele dedicate fenomenului new media (doar traduceri și prezentări generale fără referinte carpatine).

&

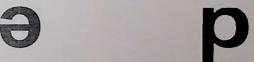
Apropo de site-uri: și pentru a mai evita o confuzie se impune o apreclere pozitiva în legătură cu starea naţională a unor cîmpuri cu pixeli din vecinatatea cîmpului artei digitale. Constat un remarcabil salt calitativ și cantitativ în domeniul comunicarii (e-mail, liste, chat-uri, jocuri) și în domeniul informaţiel (pagini web, site-uri culturale, e-book) aspecte reflectate din ce în ce mai pregnant în cîteva publicaţii româneşti on-line cu ascendent literar: aol.ro, noasis.ro, revistarespiro.com, revistanorii.com, electra.lfrance.com, asalt.seanet.ro etc. Este vorba deocamdata de lucrări literare transpuse în sistemul telematic și nu de opere originale create cu ajutorul generării de texte poetice sau narative. Oricum, rămîne un demers laudabil și un bun exemplu pentru artiștii plastici care ar putea parcurge o primă etapă, tratind digital lucrări plastice anterioare dupa care - prinzînd gustul - vor putea trece la etapa creaţiei originale, recurgind direct la mijloacele digitale.

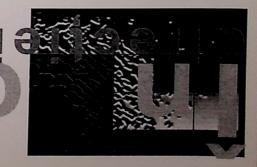
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În sfîrşit, întreg demersul meu se vrea un semnal de alarmă pentru a nu pierde momentul prieinic al racordarii la nolle tehnologii digitale de creație artistică. Nu-mi dă pace gindul că peste vreo zece ani noua generație de artiști care va să vie, descoperind el valențele mijloacelor cu pricina vor reproduce într-o veselie stilistica anilor anteriori, fericiți ca au descoperit cum se pune coada la pixel.





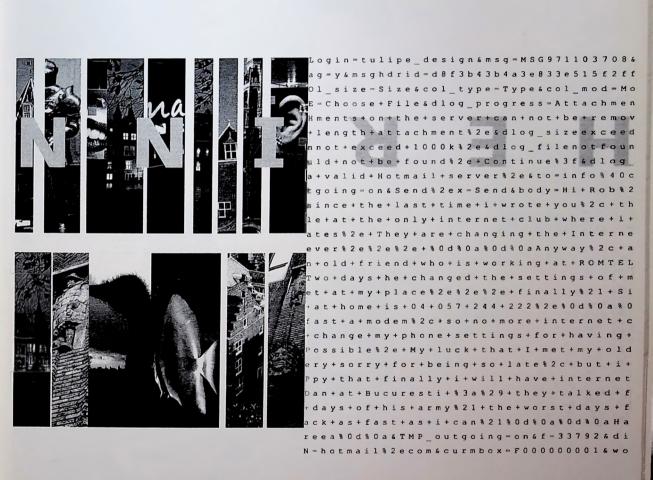






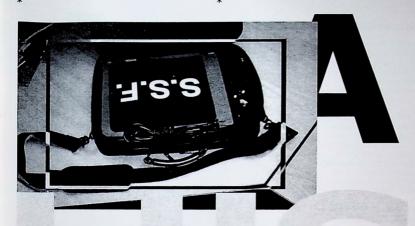


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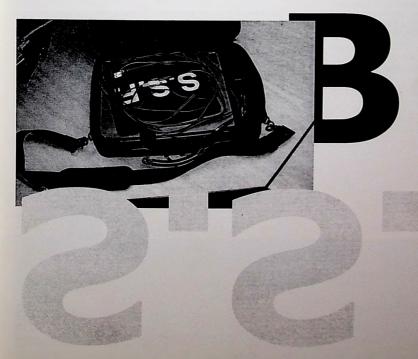


Let's pretend you are an employer... and you see here two of your company's laptops. One was given to character A and the second to character B... same brand and type, different user.

Based on this two images, please fill in some A's and B's where you think they fit best.

Ordered
Disordered
Rational
Irrational
Careful
Careless
Reliable
Unreliable

And finally, I will gladly giver the laptop to



Caius Grozav > Patterns

T

If I will give you an electric wire, and I will ask you to break it bear hands, without any tool,

You will probably

Bend it

At the smallest radius possible

In the same place

For as long as it takes

to break it ...

Now, if I will ask you how to make an electric wire last for as long as possible you will probably answer

Do not bend it!

And if you must

Do it at the largest radius possible

Never in the same place, as random as possible...

Do you feel like reconsidering you're A's and B's?

Hint 2: It is a Simon & Garfunkel song









A

Caius Grozav > Patterns

T

HOW DID I TRICK YOU?

First, I appealed to your/our patterns (like "things that everybody knows")... and your own brain did the rest...

DO YOU THINK IT'S AN ACCIDENT... IT DOESN'T HAPPEN EVERY DAY?

Hints; you can think about your car insurance, driver tests, banking history, exams... etc. or, on the other hand, about your "ability"/"habit" of "labeling" in a blink... you just evaluated me (because it was my laptop)... should I be grateful?

HOW DID I CORRECT IT?

I forced you to think... and your thinking destroyed the patterns... it is like you knew the right answer, but your mind was to lazy to search for it...

Now, please don't grow too tough on your poor brain he is bombarded daily with much more information that he can normally process.

Just think about the first nations, a long time ago their enforced input was naturally low, and their minds thirstilly browsed the environment for additional information... clouds, trees, animals... everything... they can preview weather (in their habitat) without satellite imaging... meteorological data, or even laws of physics...

Since there where no dramatic changes in the basic, natural ability of our brains to absorb information in the last millennium (we are Homo Sapiens for ... years), what happens now, when the booklet instructing me how to use my cell phone has "only" 187 pages.

Allow me to say we are living "interesting times" our enforced Information input is way higher than our absorption abilities... and we must cope with it...

Selection, use of patterns, dropping information, forgetting ... are just simple ways in which our brains are protecting themselves.

DANGER hereI if we can not solve this absorption problem, we risk to dive our brain into a self protective InhIbItion state, dropping absorption level lower than the natural one... instead of upgrading - he will work finding powerful reasons not too... just think of people resisting new technologies... how elaborate and smart their motivations are...

Do you think I just discovered this Errorl It was discovered earlier, and used on you for years...

Exempli Gratzia:

Atomic bomb = the most powerful hit... (on our scale prestige/aggression). I just bought a pair of ATOMIC skis... what is ATOMIC about them? they are made of atoms like any material thing... and what more? They are also CARVE it is obvious their lateral cut differs with almost 2 degrees from my old Holtzner ones... (Holtz means wood in German)... revolutionary improvement!... but what about my new pawls they are HEAD 15 CARVE... and 100% straight!?

You'll say this is insignificant stuff OK. I am on contract with Atoma Test Center (ATC) they are testing today, in Toronto, latches for cars... can you explain the meaning of it.../ links between...

Turbo was initially a concept, a way of improving performance of an aircraft piston engine, developed during the Second World War basically, use the energy of exhaust gases to compress air intake and compensate air density decrease with altitude for fighter aircraft... then it was used to improve race-cars' performance... and it resulted in Turbo-Pascal, Turbo-C...

MORE EXAMPLES NEEDED? - Refer to Appendix A (Tales of the "Cultural Shock")

We are developing into Homo-Cyberneticus... and we hope our web, and our search engines, and databases, will help us cope with the overwhelming input... and provide precisely targeted output... I'll be glad if you would consider this paragraph as possible guidelines for web design...

The name of the virtual (visual) sound track is: "Patterns" by Simon & Garfunkel

Just discovered: Garfunkel is a spelling error (in MSWord)... same as Caius it helps me keep "sunny side up"... and Atoma is a spelling error too...

WHAT ABOUT A SOLUTION?

Well, psychiatrists use to say that as long as you have the consciousness of your disease you are curable... in other words, as long as you are aware you are pretending being Napoleon is OK... tragedy starts when you start strongly believing YOU ARE NAPOLEON...

THE END

caius.grozav@senecac.on.ca // Toronto, October 2001



A

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APENDIX A Tales of the "Cultural Shock"

Motto: "non scriptam mediantem di que vidi" - (I wrote not even half of what I saw)
Marco Polo

I am stating hereby, this scenes actually happened, without my intention to offend involved characters, nor their explicit intention to offend

German-Austrian Border 1990

I don't like highways... you act as a ball on a track and just end by seeing nothing of a country... So, on a regional mountain road, at a insignificant border crossing between Germany and Austria, I was stopped by a character looking more like a member of the Hunters Chonus than anything else (huge person, big mustache, green uniform, classic infle...) I was driving an old Opel Manta, with a type of platehe probably never ever saw before... and when he asked for my papers, he saw a Romanian passport for the first time In his career. He invited me in his small office, and told me I have to fill in a form... my German is inherited from a Austrian grand-mother and a kinder-garden... so, mainly oral... his form was four pages long ... and I was driving for ten hours that day... you can imagine my level of enthusiasm in front of the paper work... Suddenly, I felt his father like touch on my shoulder asking "Are you illerarate son".

Then you may go he said

Shady Grove, Delaware 1992

Shady Grove, Delaware 1992

I was busy driving for the first time in my life, a brand new Saturn on an American highway (the owner was proud of his car)... all my answers are honest and straight (given the circumstances)

>>you have a cruse control facility on this vehicle, aren't you familiar with it?

I am I had the same thing on a tractor I used to drag gliders on the field back home.

>>you do not seem comfortable driving automatic is it not available in Romania?

Oh yes, it is but they are sold with priority to handicapped persons.

Perferique Boulevard, Paris 1995

I was warned I have to pay for the highway in France... so I changed some money at a banking machine in Germany...

(paper to paper no coins)

Just entering Paris, a barer, and a basket... waiting for coins... no human around... so, I was supposed to go * a la gare* for some change... while cars behind where swearing at me... when I was back with the coins, police was there too.

They checked the car, trunk, my papers... then interviewed me for two hour finally I asked them straight: 'you saw my papers... I am going to attend a conference at Saclay (your nuclear reactor near Paris), paperwork is OK! - what is your problem?"

>>You are suspect, because you are stating you are for the first time in France, your passport and visas a reconfirming this... but still, for two hours, you are speaking French to us...

Ministry of Transportation, Toronto 1999

After 20 years of driving whiteout any problem in Europe, I received the same treatment like a teenager... a nice Sikh person, with an impressive turban, is processing my papers for the test... while waiting, I took some time reading the "writings on the wail" and the computers around me... I noticed the computer based test does not allow you to return and reconsider... I designed hundreds of similar tests and I hate this feature... when I was asked to take the test, I asked for a paper-based version... The nice Sikh asked, what language... I said English... He asked Where are you from?... I answered Romania "Aaaahaa... Eastern - Europe... you know nothing about computers! ha..."

CIBC, Toronto - 1999

of Commerca)... my first money order ever... they where glad to take my money in and made me "their valued customer"... and then "the nice financial advisor" just gave me brochures about "Why CIBC?", no word about what to do, how, what's this or that... the only important thighs in these prints are the microscopic foot notes...

Take care - they are sharp about recording your mistakes... though...

So, a human teller asks the amount \$....
Then she asks - Canadian?

and my answer

Bayview Village branch of CIBC (Canadian Imperial Bank

I want you to laugh FIRST... then think!

"no, landed emigrant"



т

Caius Grozav > Patterns

Additional resources:

IMAGOLOGY (LEAF'97)

IMAGOLOGY (LEAR 37)

George Sabau: - IMAGOLOGY is a branch of the history of mentalities which deals with the perception of some people about other people and vice versa.

George Sabau: - IMAGOLOGY is a branch of the history of mentalities which deals with the perception of some people about other people and vice versa. This perception is decreased in the least of the WEST people and vice versa. This perception is decreased through stereotypes. extending we can talk about how the inhabitants of the WEST persented industrial and vice versa. This percention is deformed through stereotype and cliches, so the inhabitants of the WEST see the european EAST as an ideal tentry for salari, the western multimedia-man gets there armed with a and clichés, so the innabitants of the WEST See the employer and clichés, so the innabitants of the WEST See the employer and all the stereotypes he already knows; he stops at railway-station bucharest-north where he needs to see panasonic winchester and ammunition consisting or an use selectory and a looks for the house of nadia comanec, then he turns to the nearest asylumhospital with the "aurolaci" homeles children/, ne waits to ceausasses a state of the castle of dracula he hits towards the carpathians where he meets happy gypsies in tilted chariots marked with EXCHANGE

Peter Hügel: IMAGO is the final result of metamorphosis, there are different types of metamorphosis, so it is possible that the essential characteristics of the Peter Huget: IMAGO is the final result of metanogram phase may have its own characteristics, totally different from all the others and sometimes even the IMAGO IMAGO appear already in the first phase, or every prices may have been supported by the first phase and sometimes even the IMAG changes, that's what people think about insects, people are also interested to know if and how insects see themselves and the surrounding world, that's why changes, that's what people think about insects, people are also interested to know in allow insects see themselves and the surrounding world, that's why they pin them in collections. These are very practical even if they are of little help for comprehension they at least are decorative and, more important, those entities won't go on moving around so uncontrolled.

ADDENDUM

Das Wanderbuch (Wandering Book)

The guild Wandering Books of the 19th century, Transilvania, Austrian Empire at the time...

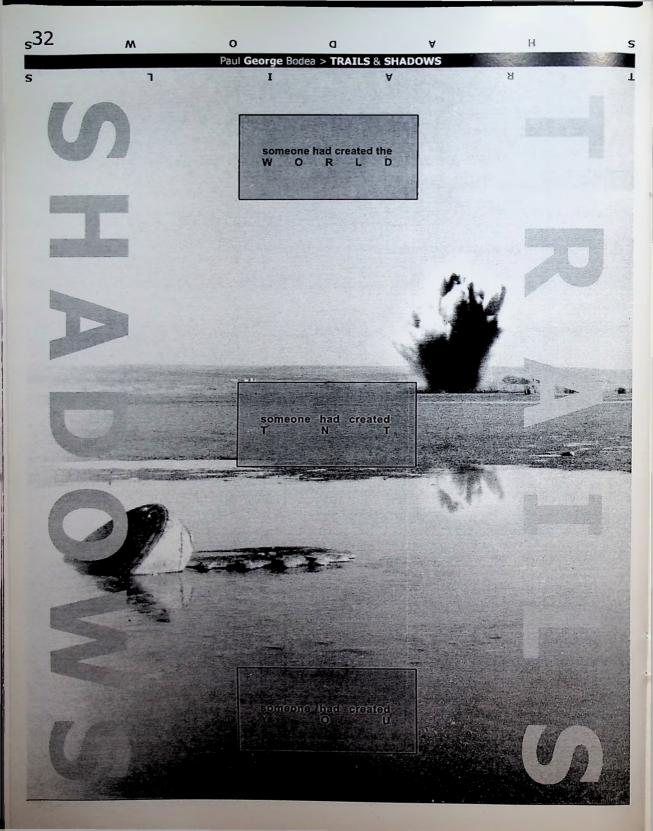
You where supposed to start as an apprentice to learn the craft ... then an exam to prove it ... then a managerial position in your workshop to learn to manage the business, and then walk away like in "the myth of eternal return", give up all your gains and wander... go in a remote place, and start allower again. and regain your status!

A wandering book was provided to record and document the tribulations. I am just providing an "as good as possible translation" of the (German) instructions. in the booklet

(courtesy of calin man, KI, Museum Arad, Romania)

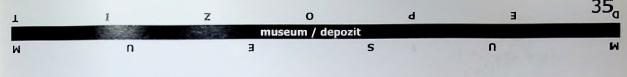
In conformity with the highest ordnance from the high royal administration nr. 21080 this wandering book, enclosing 48 pages, and its good being taken care of, its wandering owner hath to bethink, as well as of the following: the named person is to avoid meaningless, loitering perambulation, and especially begging, to direct his trips only towards places where patrons or masters from his craft or guild are to be found, in places where he will not find work, he won't stop for more than 48 hours without the due authorities' consent, and in each place where he meets patrons or masters from his craft or guild, even if he continues his trip without actually working, the guild chief or his assistant or, where there aren't guilds, a patron or master is to make the following notes in this wandering book, whether he had, or not, the opportunity of finding work and whether, and on what reason, he refused the work offered, without superior permission, the wanders isn't entitled to leave the K & K territory, on the contrary, he is obliged to occupate his wandering time with iseful work and to obtain from the master he worked for a certificate referring to the time he worked and his conduct, which is to be certified by local authorities, this will be used only by him in any situation. finally assuming a false name, using a wandering book other than his own or falsifying the book, erasing or deleting or any other falsification in the wandering book is considered, according to the ordinance of the High Royal administration in 2355 to be public fraud and to be punished accordingly by the law.







В





O apariție inedită în peisajul cultural arădean din perioada interbelică o reprezintă revista de avangardă

PERISZKOP.

Este vorba doar de patru numere apărute în anul 1925 cu scopul de a recepta și difuza ideile _ producțiile avangardei istorice dupa cum reiese din cuprinsul (Tartalom) care poate fi înțeles fără traducere. Redactorul principal al publicatiei a fost Szántó Gyorgy (1893-1961) autor a 32 de romane între care Stradivari (1930) și Anii mei în beznă (1935). A facut studii de arhitectură la Budapesta iar din 1922 deschide mai multe expoziții personale de pictura și grafică de factură avangardistă, între care la Palatul Culturii din Arad (1925). În perioada 1922-1947, s-a stabilit la Arad, unde cu vederea aproape complet pierdută, din cauza unei rani suferite în razboi, se dedică scrisului, inclusiv redactării revistei Periszkop. (cf. Judit Angel)

g.s.

TARTALOM:

FESTMENYEK:

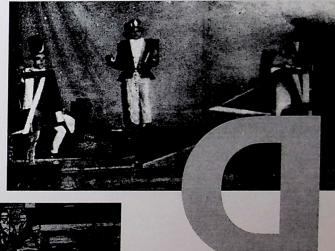
lbanyi, Gencherove, Larionev, Heary Rousscae, Picasso

SZOBROK:

Erivácny Zoitán, Constantin Brancusi, Haller.

GRAFIKA:

scenă din piesa de teatru în trei acte La coeur á gaz (1923) de Tristan Tzara, pusă în scenă de către Y. Siderski la Théâtre Michel din Paris, costume: Sonia Delaunay, scenografia: Granovsky, directorul Teatrului Evreiesc din Moscova (foto: Man Ray)





Tristan Tzara _ Jean Cocteau _ Man Ray _ Ezra Pound _ Copland _ Theo van Doesburg _ Arp _ Hans Richter _ Lissitzky _ Moholy Nagy _ etc._ © Wilde World Photo

Paris 1921:

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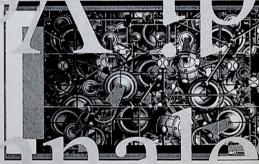
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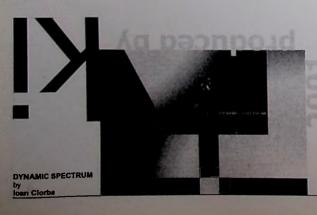
context network - romanian pavilion 49th international exhibition of art venice 2001



the artists, members of the context network are: bogdan achimescu (pi) alexandru antik (ro) olimpiu bandalac (ro) sandor bartha (hu) matei bejenaru (ro) mircea cantor (fr) calin dan (nl) teodor graur (ro) kiss pal szabolcs (hu) calin man (ro) dan mihaltianu (de) nicolae onucsan (ro) rostopasca (ro) gustav uto (ro) raluca velisar (ro) sorin vreme (ro)



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