we make money not art

Travelling Without Moving at OBORO

14 November 2007 | Sascha | art | installation | other reports

The *centre d artistes* **OBORO** in Montréal is currently showing a brilliant little exhibition on the subject of **Travelling Without Moving**.

Curated by **Susanne Jaschko**, the former head of **Transmediale** Berlin, the show approaches the subject from many different angles, with each work commenting on a certain aspect of our changed perception of the world, due to technologies of mediation which "increased the speed of travel and the range of distances that could be reached in real time" but aguably also "disconnect the traveller from his surroundings" and for many also result in a certain inability to penetrate through the surface of a foreign city or culture. Maybe "travelling without moving, and perhaps without being moved".

As mentioned, all six artworks approach this notion differently but share a very minimalist approach to the subject, no massive sensor or social networks set up, rather pointing out little aspects of a related notion in digital culture.

Flatland

Brazilian artists Angela Detanico and Rafael Lain for instance create their work Flatland from a single line of pixels which they took from a video they show while travelling down the **Mekong river**. All you see is lines of colors, yet you hear the original sound of the recording which together creates a surreally abstract rendering of what one would expect to be a scenic landscape.

In contrast **Radioqualia** a.k.a. Adam Hyde and Honor Hager from New Zealand point their attention into deep space. Their audio-installation **Radio Astronomy** "considers radio telescopes to be radio receivers, which are listening to radio signals being transmitted from planets and stars. Thinking of radio in this way radically enlarges the concept...many of the sounds emitted by these objects are fascinating from both an aesthetic and conceptual perspective, prompting comparisons with avant-garde music and electronic sound art. Yet very few people have heard these sounds, considering space to be silent, rather than the rich acoustic environment it turns out to be."
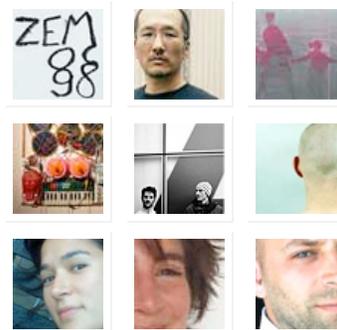The installation will allow you to listen to the live (at least as live as light-speed can be) emissions from Jupiter, Quasars or other objects in space – whatever the connected radio-telescopes are pointing at. Radio Astronomy takes into account that our "understanding of space has been derived by listening to space through radio telescopes", radiation that has essentially travelled to us for sometimes millions of years.

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AN ANGRY WALK

A WESTWARD WALK OF
15 KILOMETRES IN 4 HOURS

FROM GREAT EASTERN STREET
TO NORTH END ROAD

AFTER HER BOYFRIEND
SHOWS UP AT THE BAR

LONDON 2001

Walking Long And Hard

Walking Long And Hard by **Heman Chong** from Singapore is kind of scattered across the gallery space and provides for a haiku-esque experience with his short, yet powerful texts. In the spirit of **Richard Long**'s walking performances, they recall fragments of memories from emotionally charged walks in different cities around the world which resonate with you on different levels, depending on whether you know the city or have had a similar experience, maybe in a different spot on the planet.

Jérome Joy's **nocinema.org** does not try to tap into one's memory but travels to various webcams around the world and blows their visual feeds up two screens and a big projection to create an "automatic net-based documentary/fiction". Being a composer himself, he collaborated with numerous artists like Magali Babin, DinahBird, Christophe Charles, Yannick Dauby, Luc Kerléo, Alain Michon, Jocelyn Robert and Chantal Dumas to create a somewhat suggestive soundtrack for the piece.
Sometimes it works well, sometimes the sound is a bit off, but this also, together with the often bizarrely underexposed or overcompressed images create landscapes in their own right, often with a very **Non-place**-atmosphere to them, deserted parking lots and the likes. The installation allows for visually travelling both around the world (never knowing where the videostream comes from), yet also within one's narrative imagination due to the cues it gives our experience with filmic works of fiction.

nocinema.org

Our (that's **Sascha Pohflepp** and **Jakob Schillinger**) work **Fixr** wants to pose the question whether an event has happened *less* when there is no photographic record of it, ideally shared on one's Flickr photostream. To research into this matter, we set up **www.fixr.org** in 2005 which claims to "close the gaps in the digital record of your life" that appeared when you forgot your camera and saw that one perfect sunset – " just submit a detailed description of the moment you missed to us and we'll do our very best to provide you with an image to fit your needs".
Over time a collection of moments accumulated which range from childhood memories from the 1970s to often incredibly detailed situations and countless impressions of friends and lovers. Although there are many situations of travel involved, those stories allow the reader to rather travel in someone else's memory, turning into images while you read them. In the exhibition, a selection of the moments is on the wall and there's also a computer to share a moment. The same moments can also be found on **Flickr**.

From the Cellar

Robotic perception kit

PLEIX' talk at the ENSAD in Paris

Shigeki Hayashi

Family
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Friends
Pasta&Vinegar , **Textually** , **Neural** , **Elastico** , **Pingmag**
We love
Rhizome , **Interactive Architecture** , **aminima** , **Infosthetics** , **Edgar Gonzalez, networked_performance**

my del.icio.us

Italians Fight for the Right to Love Black Cats

In Italy cats are popularly associated with evil. In an effort to disassociate the felines from superstition and stop an estimated 60,000 annual cat killings, Italy is to hold its first national Black Cat Day.

Dutch police arrest teenager who stole £2,500 worth of virtual furniture

Authorities said in what was the first case of its kind the 17-year-old was arrested after playing Habbo Hotel - an international game and online

The Universal Digest Machine and *Fixr* in the background

Finally, the **The Universal Digest Machine** by **Marius Watz** is also a web-related work that does the travelling (read: surfing) for you. Like Google's little helpers, it crawls the web and constantly analyzes the content of the pages it visits, compulsively sorting the content by frequency of words and other technicalities. However, it doesn't feed it into a database for future use but prints it on a piece of paper and increasingly litters the floor of the gallery with its findings, creating an absurd paper travel diary of its journey through an abstract landscape.

Exhibition runs through December 8th, see **more images** on Flickr.

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community with an estimated seven million members.

Scientists clone first monkey embryos

Scientists have created the world's first cloned monkey embryos and extracted stem cells from them, a development that brings the cloning of humans a step closer.

Deconstructing Installation Art: online book

"provides a critical analysis that compares and contrasts 'deconstructive' strategies in contemporary fine art installation with similar directions in new media art."

YouTube - Play The Magic Torch at Ars Electronica 2006

By pointing the "Magic" Torch at the wall, we see how hundreds of small stars, flowers, butterflies and unusual shapes follow its ray of light.
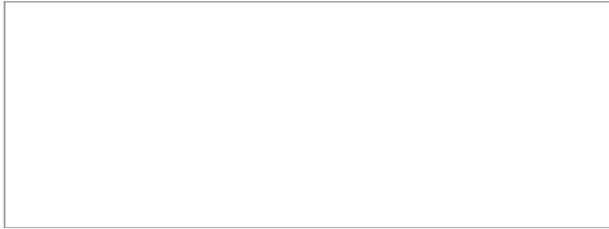
Artdaily.org - The First Art Newspaper on the Net

How to redefine virtual space? How to get the viewer involved in these new spaces? These were some of the questions the artists of this group show were dealing with. The results as well as the media are quite individual and different. Interactivity is as

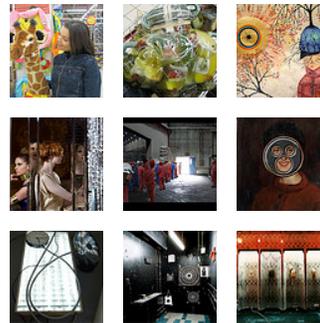I am **regine** on **del.icio.us**
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