

Composing third space

or

I can't do it alone

An interactive **participative networked installation** : A construction of tableaux vivants, of **images more or less alive**.

živa slika - tega ne zmorem sam!

Two distanced images are filmed by two persons with a webcam in two separate spaces. Via a computer network and a special interface the filmed images will each become half of an unified image projected on a wall in the public space. The **two people in the separated spaces will share a responsibility for a projected image on a third space**.

Using their bodies and/or props available on the spot they will co-create a series of tableaux vivants. Because the public can see them doing this they also become performers.

... / (1) a time to explain - starting with a fixed image: a composition / (2) a time of action - the moving image captured in stills by someone of the public - ending with a fixed image / (3) a time to select among the screen-captures / ...

Props :

Umbrella 2

2 ladies scarfs light fabric, colorful

2 buns of knitting wool (not white)

2 paper-bags, big enough to put on your head (make a mask out of it) (neutral color)

1 scotch

scissors

2 rolls of toilet paper

2 clothes-hangers

2 wooden sticks

2 or 4 balls

2 or 4 cardboard boxes (2 normal size and if we could find real big ones - refrigerator style, would be very nice)

2 tablecloths or other tissues

2 towels

2 chairs

2 plants, may be flowers or a twig with leaves

2, 4 fruits

2 stones

2 salads (fresh, whole)

2 other vegetables

2 small bottles with water

colorful children's toys - cars?

small puppets: warriors, animals, dragons, princesses

1 autumn leaves garland

1 let's party luftschlange

1 princess-crown

18 (in one pack) Töpfschwämme (2 sets)

pocket lights

This time I made a very elaborate instruction file. Because I don't speak Slovenian, I couldn't as usual react intuitively to the public, but had to depend on others (BridA) interpreting my concept. Here is what I wrote for them :

Best would be to work with 4 people, two for each webcam. (can be only two also) These four people have to decide with me on a composition. Then two will go to one setup and two to the other setup. Each couple organizes the action as they intend, can, think it will be nice. In the meantime someone (a fifth person) from the public will take a screenshot (push cmd + arrow-up + 3 all together) every time they see an interesting combination in the projection.

While explaining the set-up I normally show some of the different possibilities:

- movement can be done by camera, by the objects, by the body
- they can work with the content, and or abstract - making abstract or figurative “paintings”
- they can also work in a performative way : formulating a 5 min long action / challenge and concentrating on that
- it can be interesting to include the space in the image, for instance playing with proportions but they can also make closeups
- they should be all the time checking the screen to be in contact with the other image
- when I see they start to play without paying attention I stop the session and we go for phase 3

Tricky things :

- avoid story telling - it's more about painting and abstract cinema
- check if the screen-capturing is done ok (if not, nothing to choose in the end, always a disappointment for the performing participants)
- avoid comments from the public during phase 1 and 2
- it's very difficult for the “performer” to do something and to concentrate on the image they are making with the other, but they should always stay aware of the fact they are collaborating

We need my computer with server, two other computers, independent webcams, a hub, a video projector and H45 câbles long enough to go from the server to the other spaces. We also need two tables for the props and one for the video projector and computer.

It might be usefull to have an extra light source and two more tables.

