

Living Software @ Zsenne Art Lab Brussels November 2015 by Stav Yeini

Experience and impressions after two opening nights

Excess of information, in forms of music and sounds, videos, texts and books, objects, fabrics, clothes, images, drawings, paintings, electronics, lights, apple drink and people, specially in relation to minimalistic visual art exhibition conventions. That makes everything the same value kind of, reminding me of Tristan Garcia's flat ontology where all the things in the world appear in same level, nothing is more, nothing is less. Desert of things. The no longer sequential desert. Though there are sequences of music and actions and situations with video projectors for example, there's feeling that this or that sequence is not so important or more important than that and this sequence could be as well. So there are sequences but it's not choreography about sequences, it's rather kind of choreography of timeless dream-like time-space.

Or is it some kind of a spell that Stav is putting on us by her music and work on space? What are the affects? I saw and remembered more dreams than usually the next nights after hanging out in the Living Software.

The situation reminds me of or is combining an exhibition, a concert, a performance and a hang-out place mixing public and private zones of gallery space and a living room. It's easy to enter but like a mystery that's not easily emptied out or solved. The situation demands active choices from audience members of how to be and what to do in the space, how to relate to all the information and other people, who become just one part of that information. There are no clear answers or proposals given ready except the constant, original and beautiful music, soft mattresses and apple drink. Otherwise I'm kind of forced to go into myself, who am I and how am I in this situation, how this situation is changing and affecting me. Is this cosmic intimacy or cosmic loneliness or both? Are we lonely together here sharing this space and moment?

After all it also feels like a luxurious leisure time, like christmas holiday in parents place with dim lights, music, books, electronics and quite relaxed people. Lying on mattress and reading Beowulf that I found on the floor, with hot apple juice and chocolate. Time where there's no pressure to do anything that I don't want to do.

I feel like going there again to see how the LS and the experience of it changes during different nights with different people and by hanging out more see how it changes me.

Thursday eve @ Zsenne

The music combined with ocean sounds is so beautiful I just wanna lye down and let it come over. Smiling, almost crying. I feel like I don't want to watch too much what's happening, just listening and lying there. Jan is making videos, multiplied projections in projections of some living softwares.

Then Einad comes, though I'm not sure if it's he in the beginning. He has good, laughing energy. He asks about how to frame the event when inviting people. How could it be framed? I'm not sure if it needs to be framed more at the moment.. I like also the undefined space and possibilities and restrictions of that, like work in progress, and ready and perfect in the same time, whatever happens.

Today it happened that visitors started to almost take over, or at least engage in a stronger way than before. Jan making videos and projecting them. Einad asking questions and playing with loop machine. I felt like doing some dancing/bodywork/Chiqong/kundalini meanwhile.

Saturday, the last evening

In the beginning we did some warm up, kundalini and chiqong with Stav and Jan and when the first audience members came, they joined the circle also.

It was more performance like setting compared to other nights when I was there, and also shorter, more alike what happened in the earlier showing in Kaaitheater. More towards conventions of performance compared to other evenings because of more sharply framed structure and how it was performed but also because of the mode audience set themselves and stayed there. They took more clearly audience position by sitting or lying in one place rather than exploring the space more freely.

Bit ritual like evening, audience sitting and hanging around on floor. Bit like mushroom trip, with lot of layers and colours, visually and auditively. Stav is also approaching audience more directly, including them more closely by touching them with smoke and later with clothes. I feel that the gallery setting works better for this than a dance studio.

More audience than before. Champagne and chatting afterwards. Sitting in circle on carpets.