

Veronika Spierenburg
new works

Die Entspannung 2022

Film, 16 min., Sound

Camera Gaëtan Varone

Assistant Director Jeannine Oberli

Lighting Esther Mattei

Sound & Mix Barnaby Hall

Editing Karim Patwa

Sound Design Magda Drozd

Location Scouting Manuela Schlumpf, Doris Tóth

Art Sabine Schlatter

Set Design Olivia Wiederkehr

Script Dramaturgy Nicola T. Madison

Script Support Caroline Palla

<https://vimeo.com/699049646>

Password: spierenburg

„Die Entspannung“ - The relaxation – is a short fictional film about the disease Multiple Sclerosis. The camera follows one person after the other, each characterizing an aspect of the disease, and the story will explore different facets of MS through these different protagonists, touching on the origins, the symptoms, the medicine, the science, among other things. The story begins with the impaired sense of touch and a first neurological examination, followed by an artist and a good friend of hers dealing with paintings of myelin layers. Robert Carswell's pathological drawing from 1838, a brief excursion into the medical history of the disease, is examined in a private library by an elderly woman and a curator. In a car we hear a song about a typical symptom of MS: fatigue.



Heartbeat, Drops, Stem Cells 2022

site-specific Installation at Aargauer Kunsthaus
12 Loudspeakers, 18 min.

Sound Designer Jan Godde
Percussionist Pierre Favre

Soundcloud file, click [here](#)

The starting point of this sound piece was the re-search of vibrations of single molecules by the expert in physics and chemistry James Gimzewsky. Stem cells are found in all body tissues and provide tissue repair throughout life. In addition Carlo Ventura researched together with the jazz musician Milford Graves if sound can have an affection on human stem cells? Spierenburg invited the percussionist Pierre Havre to record his melodies. In addition, the sound of the Spierenburg's heart was recorded. The sound was developed over two weeks in the courtyard of the Kunsthaus with the help of the sound designer Jan Godde.



Cemitério das Âncoras 2021

Film, 42 min., Sound

In collaboration with Nuno Barroso

<https://vimeo.com/625375287>

Password: spierenburg

Cemitério das Âncoras is a film and a joint exhibition project by Veronika Spierenburg and Nuno Barroso presented at Galeria Boavista, the exhibition space of Galerias Municipais in Lisbon's Cais do Sodré district. This neighbourhood, located on the River Tejo, is historically linked to the sea and the maritime industry and is still home to a number of shops selling marine supplies. Alongside the new film, the exhibition Cemitério das Âncoras reflects on the imaginary of fishing and the sea by presenting historical visual documents and artefacts on the ground floor of the gallery. This section features a selection of works on loan from museums around the country. These include photographs by Benjamim Pereira and Artur Pastor, as well as sculptural recreations made by the artists in collaboration with local craftsmen. The artists therefore ask: „How can historical photographs and objects be read in our time? How is history told and how can we show transience in relation to the present?“ In an attempt to culturally reframe the history of artisanal fishing, the exhibition simultaneously focuses on the demise and importance of a cultural and ecological memory of Portugal.



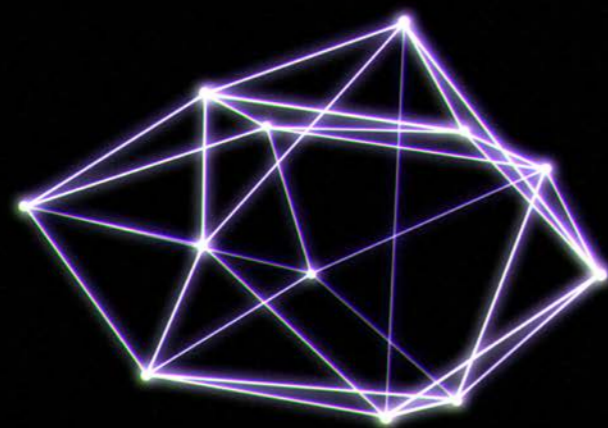
Parallaxis

2020

Film, 21 min., Sound

In collaboration with Kristina Köhler
Dancer Juliette Uzot, Lisa Vilret
Sound Bit-Tuner
3D Animation: Noé Marti

<https://vimeo.com/519011961>
Password: spierenburg



With the project Parallaxis, Kristina Köhler and Veronika Spierenburg worked on the Urania observatory in Zurich with its specific show arrangement between urban and outer space. The video shows two dancers at various junctions in the city, filmed from elevated vantage points - a process through which urban space is condensed into almost abstract image compositions. The dancers act in the midst of these geometric patterns; their movements - sometimes casual and everyday, sometimes striking and distinctive - make the rules of movement inscribed in the urban space visible or even irritate and cross them.

This analogy of looking at the stars and the dance experience of moving bodies in space forms the conceptual centre of the project. On the one hand, Köhler and Spierenburg were interested in how ideas of „dance“ can be artistically processed in an abstracted and structural form, namely: as a specific constellation of movement, music and space, which is to be condensed with the means of visual art. On the other hand, the relationship between astronomy and modern dance also interested them in its historical dimension, which is inscribed in the history of the Zurich Urania House itself (Suzanne Perrottet had his dance studio there). They also wanted to make this little-known connection between Urania House, the observatory and dance history visible with the work.



Mass Files 2020

Website: <https://massfiles.net>

In collaboration with Shadow Brand®
and over 90 sound recordists

Curfews were imposed in various cities around the world from March 2020. Silence spread through the city dwellers – no cars, no people, no air traffic but birdsong. Suddenly, many things felt senseless and many other things made more sense. An unusual calm had set in that we had never experienced before in an urban environment. Nature was left to its own devices, city dwellers were left empty-handed, an apocalyptic mood set in. In order to better understand the situation and that of others, listening became central. The pandemic united the unusual in the city dwellers. Every sound, every noise was brought into focus - the human footsteps were noted, the screams thrown into the void, the single car engine searching for other engines. Each person was thrown back on themselves.

During this time Spierenburg contacted over 90 sound recordists around the world to build an online sound archive. The sound recordists were asked to record urban acoustics for around 30 minutes in their cities. For each sound file, a photograph was added to give the location a visual point of reference. In addition to the project, Spierenburg and ShadowBrand© realized five LP Records within a box set including two publications.

set featuring ten selected tracks taking place between 10
each track is pressed on its own side of vinyl. The box set
ns, containing a text by Magaly Tornay, photographs of each
cordists, and excerpts of correspondence.

dings

APHY

rman, Anthony Ghazel, Maria Conterno, Juha Puuperä & Alberto Iannuzzi,
an, Alessandro Boscolo, Jose Maria Casas, Blas Kisić

opping

Order



Aus-Höhlen

2015/2019

Film, 12 min., Sound

Driver Giorgi Bukhaidze
CameraTato Kotetishvili
Interviews Elene Pasuri

<https://vimeo.com/373166044>

Password: spierenburg

The idea for the film Aus-Höhlen (a pun on the German verb “to hollow out”) was born during a visit to the David Gareja Caves Monastery in Georgia. The view from the caves to the uninhabited land of Azerbaijan developed as a symbol of perceiving at the same time the inner as the outer world. A restorer of cave paintings later introduced Spierenburg to a diverse range of monastery caves throughout Georgia (Vardzia, Vanis Kvabebi, Udabno, Qolagiri, Uplistsikhe, Dagheti).

In 2019, Spierenburg reset the work for a gallery exhibition by adding a voice-line asking with the help of the artist Elene Pasuri women on the streets of Tbilisi three questions: If your body were a house, where would the door be? If your body were a house, where would the window be? If your body were a cave, where would the entrance be?



False Bird of Paradise 2019

Film, 15 min., Sound

Camera Andre Brandao, Martim Passos
Assistant Martha Bucci, Gabriela Bacelar
Sound Bit-Tuner

<https://vimeo.com/369262608>

Password: spierenburg

False Bird of Paradise is developed in Sao Paulo about the architect Vilanova Artigas. Over numerous visits to private houses that Artigas built between the 1960s and '70s Spierenburg gradually gathered a film archive of these structures. The work's title refers to the 'false bird of paradise' genus of plants – the botanic name for which is Heliconia – frequently found at Artigas's buildings. The sound is composed by Swiss musician Bit-Tuner.

In reduced, almost surgical-dissecting imagery, the work exposes recurring elements of Vilanova Artigas' architecture: On the one hand, there are the characteristic supporting forms and structures that organize the space vertically and make the point of contact between the floor and the roof swing; on the other hand, there are the characteristic diagonal structures that make space dynamic. The video makes it clear how systematically Vilanova Artigas' buildings eliminate the separation of interior and exterior space – for example, through the use of windows, doors or viewing terraces. Finally, as Spierenburg's work makes clear, Vilanova Artigas also deals with the tension between architecture and nature in his designs. In these sensual textures of image and sound, reduced subtitles are interwoven – short quotes on texture, material and color of Brazilian fruits.



solitary, fragrant, androgynous

grow in three sexes:
male, female, hermaphrodite

