

Paul Couillard

Appendix

The main body of this essay focuses on developing a theoretical understanding of the performer/audience dynamic I experienced as an audience member of Monika Günther and Ruedi Schill's work. Although it includes details on the artists and their practice, and reflects my conversations with them, it could hardly be considered a review of the two performances hosted by Fado in September 2009. For those interested in a subjective description of the event, this 'Appendix' reproduces the notes I made during the performance.

Real time notes from two performances by Monika Günther & Ruedi Schill at Urbanspace Gallery, 401 Richmond St. W., September 19, 2009

Keywords given by Monika and Ruedi for the performances presented on their 2009 Canadian tour: silent, space, inside, reduced material, movements, gestures, improvisation, slowness, condensation, exposure, intensity, sound with objects, voice, time, nature, reflection, inspiration from animals, tendencies (Personal interview)

1. Silence

Matching black outfits

Black folding chairs

Monika – turtle

Ruedi – hourglasses

move together shifting right and then left

self-contained but harmonic

eyes focused on hands, but mind searching beyond the back of the audience

kiss turtle

bring sands closer

hand levels

white brown green

focus pulled in as they become more sure of our attention

not measuring time, but providing evidence of time's passing,

reminder of difficulty of "watching" time

Ruedi says thank you after putting down hourglasses

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2. Fait-à-la-main

Music [recording made by Ruedi several years earlier; a change from the soundtrack previously used for this piece]

Sitting at table hands folded opposite allowing us the chance to really look at them

<u>Monika</u>		<u>Ruedi</u>
tentative		weighted
birdlike		thick
palms open		as if
wrist		there were
even though slow, jagged		something
turned over		on them
palms out		flat on
pushing away		table
		palms down
looking at		looking for
themselves		external material
reversal		turn in
begin to explore space		on
		themselves
in sleeves		twisted around
	tenuous connection to body	
windshield wiper		
(sweep with one hand)		disconnection of symmetry
hand on face		seeking
fix hair (hand on brow)		thread
trace hairline		that can mesh
		fingers together
cradling		pulsing
fists		pouring out
		(nothing)
spiralling		caressing
gathering/sweeping		rubbing
		each arm
skittering		pressing air
lean forward		push up
into image		out of image
	relaxing facial muscles	
clasping fingers		squeezing
limp (floppy)		folding
wrists		hands