

Juan Arata is giving his Room over to Lan Hungh
Performances by Liang Ya-hui & Elizabeth Wurst
Opening starts at 7pm

SSMIDD CURATES Lan HUNGH

When I was about to interview LAN within the given context of Juan's exhibition concept 3 obstacles came into the way. First day when I step by with an acoustic memo box our conversation drove away into philosophical and spiritual aspects of the very existence itself. The other day when I went to see LAN there was already a girl named Claudia at his house looking for transparent artwork for her exhibition project. After a while we were all virtually playing in a puppet house with inconsistent dimensions. Thereby I put the recorder and let them do the talk. Later when she left there was no question. Instead the artist and I were diving into an acoustic improvisation made out of a toy piano being deconstructed little by little, a metal plate with cord, different sets of clefs/keys (in triple sense), a paint-brush, vocal chords, furnishings including the cockle stove and the crunching of the floor in the backyard of the lazy afternoon. Not to forget: LAN pissing into the toilet next door became an integral component of the spontaneous recording. But obstacles mean also we can read them as signs. We already learned 3 things about the artist: 1st) LAN is a profound person. 2nd) LAN is a sought-after figure of the Berlin underground or side-ground or second-front-art-scene however you want to call it. 3rd) LAN is a multidimensional artist at the edge of turning every second of life and its passengers into something peculiar, especial, precious. LAN from Taiwan. LAN speaks at least 4 or 5 languages. LAN plays Xenakis. LAN is an actor, instrument maker, an illustrator – for example. LAN likes chicken.

I remember one installation in Liverpool, where he projected the very fine masterpiece of Stanley Kubrick onto a 1 inch micro-screen. You want to know how the new realD-3D projection technology works? Just ask LAN, he'll be able to explain to you. Since he is so much into performance-art recently "because then people invite me to their shows" I asked him for the upcoming exhibition to place something made out of matter, so that the visitors could confront with his sophisticated handcraft-side. Even if he would leave the room with emptiness "spectators might still be able to sense some of the presence, the meaning, the essence" he replies. But I insisted and so now –OK– maybe he is going to create a slow motion discotheque with slomo-sound and slomo-disco-ball if he can solve the technical problems "because the MMX is such a disco-place". Maybe LAN is going to present the exact opposite –high speed jungle in reverse– or something completely different I think to myself.

To use a paraphrase of Derrida in the end: The morning after party mandatory looks connatural to the early evening of the bygone day. The "dancing point" is only the unseizable border of their difference. That's LAN maybe: "dancing point", "difference". OK, one more: LAN Hungh™ – artist, art-adaptor, alchemist – unfathomable, unpredictable, unique.

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