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IOW IANALBIPOOTV MMIF WITH MFTW IBN COTFLGOHAHA ISB

INTERACTIVE, INTERNET-BASED INSTALLATION

“The empty babble of the net dialogues, within which public opinion is created by abrasion of the programs received, suffocates every effort at creatively participating in this process of communication. Way over the heads of this lonely mass of humans, welded together, the progressive discourses of science and technology flow in an ever increasing flood of information, but this information does not serve to advance the dialogue (and the allocation of meaning), but only feeds the amphitheatre programming the masses.”

Vilém Flusser coined this thesis in the “Kommunikologie” – and Péter Frucht seemingly presents proof of this statement with his installation iow. Frucht catches some of the incessant babble and typing going on around the world in chatrooms, every minute of the day, into one single space and concentrates it into a difficult-to-bear maelstrom of language. In order to do this, Frucht taps into live-chats on the internet, extracts parts and graphically displays them in a 3D-space. These texts are organised algorithmically and then further alienated by exchanging letters.

Another level of distortion is the sound, which is dependent on the interaction with the visitor: the live-chat texts are mixed, different languages are jumbled together and reemerge as one unintelligible, dehumanised flow of rhythms and melodies, presented by a text-to-speech program.

Here the internet is not celebrated as a global medium for communication, to the contrary: what becomes obvious are the restrictions to the media-defined human modi of interaction and communication. The visitor experiences these confinements also through the limitations on his view on the 3D-space and the cumbersome navigation.

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