TRIAD Project Portfolio

A scene from the Kiasma Theatre stage, the telepresence performance, 5th of June 1998

A three-part interdisciplinary media art project:

TRIAD NetDance Remix
TRIAD HyperDance
TRIAD Installation

Media Artist, Director: Marikki Hakola
Dancers: Molissa Fenley, Akeno (Aki Suzuki)
Genre: Telepresence, Media Art, Web art, Experimental
Production Years: 1998-1999
Master Formats: Beta SP PAL (video), Shockwave (multimedia)
Audio: Stereo
Producer: Kroma Productions Ltd.
In cooperation with the Contemporary Art Museum Kiasma

Link to the 6 min. demovideo of the 70 min. Triad NetDance (1998):
https://vimeo.com/188964693

"TRIAD" is an art work to be seen on the Internet. It looks at the semiotic connections between dance, cinema and hypermedia from viewpoints of three different cultures.

TRIAD Project consists of three parts: **TRIAD NetDance** was a real-time live Internet stream and telepresence performance between Helsinki, Tokyo and New York on 5th of June 1998. TRIAD NetDance took place simultaneously on three stages in three different countries. The dancer, choreographer Molissa Fenley was dancing in New York, at Dance Theater Workshop. The butoh dancer, choreographer Akeno was dancing at the VTV studio in Tokyo. The Otna Eahket band played at the Kiasma theatre in Finland.

The video signals from New York and Tokyo were combined together at the Kiasma Theatre, mixed with the electronic backgrounds and music and streamed in real-time on the Internet. The three locations of this performance formed a virtual stage which could be experienced only virtually on the Internet.

TRIAD HyperDance is an interactive art work on the net, containing a dance work as hypervideo and an interactive choreography. TRIAD HyperDance is based on the video and audio recording of NetDance. With the HyperDance, the work expands into three dimensions and the viewer can freely move from one virtual space to another having a possibility to combine the choreographic and audiovisual elements interactively.

Triad HyperDance was available for audience at the Kiasma server and also at the Concordia University's Ctheory net gallery, founded by Arthur ja Marilouise Kroker. Triad HyperDance got over million spectators through these servers.

TRIAD Installation contains both TRIAD NetDance and TRIAD HyperDance (offline). The TRIAD HyperDance web site. The installation was exhibited at the Kiasma, AWE Exhibition (Artist, Work of Art and Experience) 12.6.- 9.7.2000.

TRIAD HyperDance is in a collection of the Contemporary Art Museum Kiasma, Helsinki. TRIAD Project is part of the Doctoral Dissertation of Marikki Hakola at the Aalto University.

Credits

Concept, Visualization and Direction: Marikki Hakola
Choreography and Dance: Akeno (Japan) and Molissa Fenley (U.S.A.)
Music: Otna Eahket Band /Antti Hytti, Jone Takamäki, Tom Nekljudov, PP Kortelainen
Online Video Editing in Kiasma: Raimo Uunila
Camera in Tokyo: Shoko
Camera in New York : Shelly Silver
Cameras in Helsinki: Veli Granö, Kari Santala
Web Design & Graphics: Tomi Knuutila & Riku Makkonen
Electronic Set Design: Marikki Hakola, Raimo Uunila, Tomi Knuutila
Sound Design: Epa Tamminen
Light Design: Kätsä Lähteenaho
Hostess: Keiko Morishita
Production Secretary: Sanna Saastamoinen
Technical Coordinator: Jarmo Salonen
Co-producer in Tokyo: Tomoe Shizune & Hakutobo
Co-producer in New York: Joseph Di Mattia
Co-producer in Helsinki: Kiasma Theatre
Venues: Kiasma Theatre (Helsinki), VTV Japan (Tokyo), Dance Theater Workshop (New York)
Supported by Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, the Promotion Centre for Audiovisual Culture AVEK, Ministry of Education Finland OKM
Sponsors: Sonera, Xenex
Producers: Sanna-Kaisa Hakkarainen and Marikki Hakola
Production: Kroma Productions Ltd 1998-99

The Original Script by Marikki Hakola, May 13th 1998

TRIAD NetDance

Total duration of the TRIAD NetDance netcasting is 60 minutes. The duration of the TRIAD performance is 48 minutes. The images of dancers in New York and Tokyo will be sent to KIASMA museum by using 6 X ISDN connections. Images are combined with the virtual set video streams by using real time chroma key and luminance key video effects. The editing of the final combination of the moving image is made in the KIASMA theatre in front of the live audinence. The result - TRIAD NetDance - will be distributed to the international audience via Internet.

Introduction (duration10 min.)
An introduction of the team and the work

Intro Animation (duration 1 min.)
Theme - Computer animation

First part: "Memory Tracks" (duration 25 min.)

"Memory Tracks" is a first part of the telepresence performance TRIAD NetDance.
It contains two simultaneously performed solo choreographies by Akeno and Molissa Fenley. Akeno's solo is called "Far from the Lotus" and Molissa Fenley's solo is called "On the Other Ocean". Combined with electronic moving image settings designed by Marikki Hakola, these solos form together the first part of the TRIAD live netcast performance.

In "Memory Tracks" two different traditions of choreographical expression and paths body language meet at the virtual stage of the Internet. Marikki Hakola's visual approach guides dancers from the urban stratum to the organic surfaces of the nature.

First scene - DISTANT WALLS (5 min.)
Abstract images of the urban skyscraper walls in New York and Tokyo

Second scene – RHYTHM (7min.)
Dynamic, rythmical details of the architecture in Soho

Third scene - EROSION (6 min.)
Erosion, aging, details of the sliding doors of the tea room in Yoshino.

Fourth scene - ORGANIC SURFACES (6 min.)
Flows of the streams and reflections of the light on a surface of a pond in Kyoto Gardens.

Second part: "Dream" (duration 5 min.)

"Dream" is a second part of the telepresence performance TRIAD NetDance. It is a live music performance, where the pulse of the city lights melt into the heart of the musical experience created by Otna Eahket band.

Scene - OTNA EAHKET (5 min)
Nightlight images combined with the live image of the Otna Eahket band playing at the KIASMA theater.
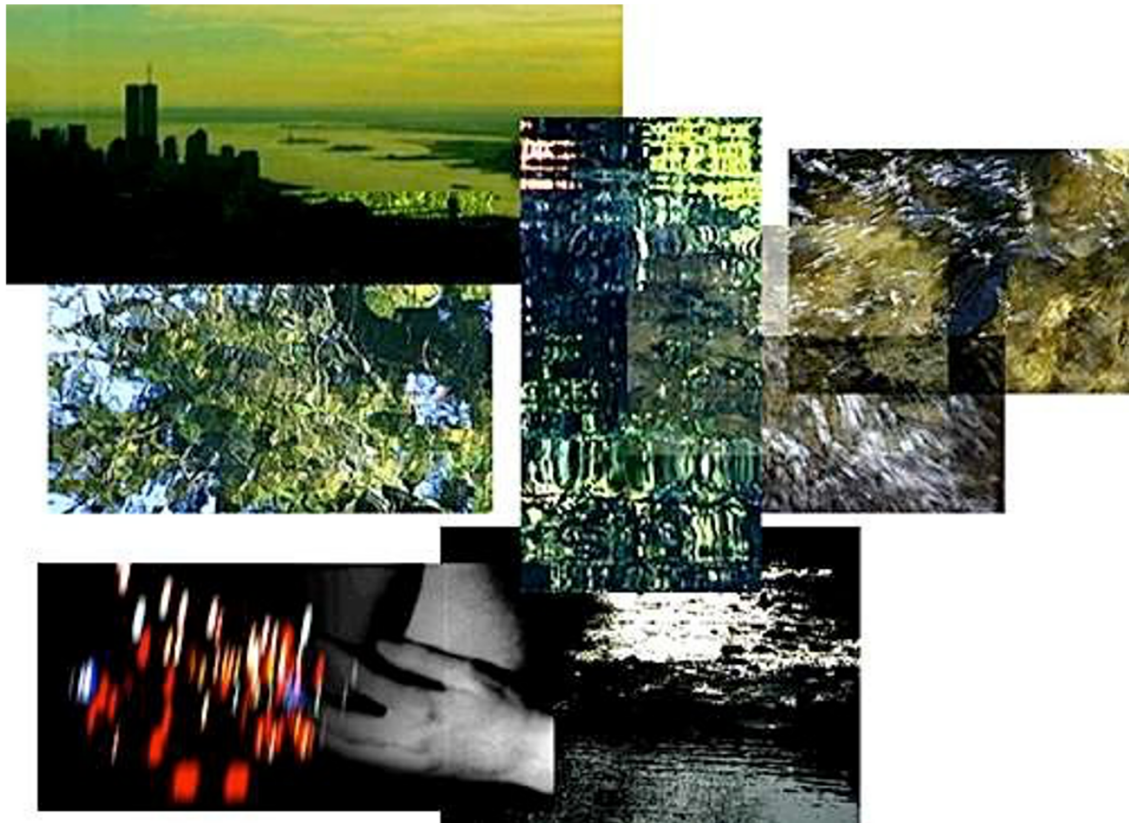
Third part: "Encounters" (duration 13 min.)

"Encounters" is a third part of the telepresence performance TRIAD NetDance. Akeno and Molissa Fenley have created together an interactive choreography called "Current".
Based on 14 different one minute concepts dancers perform the same piece by perceiving each others on the virtual stage of TRIAD at Internet.
Slowly changing, gigantic black & white images of the female body grow up from the darkness, and form a virtual interface of the encounters of the two dancers.

Scene - BODIES (14 min.)
Akeno-themes: Black & white, slowly changing details of the body and skin.
Molissa-themes: Black & white, slowly changing details of the body and skin.

TRIAD theme animation and credits (duration 3 minutes.)
Computer animation followed by the credit information of the performance.
Salute (duration 2 minutes). The team salutes audience.