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2007 was a very successful year for me and my work, and I wish myself and you a similar year in 2008.

In addition, fate has brought us a wonderful new home with an ingenious place to work: our studio house in the Swabian Alb. With its fine rooms, an indescribable landscape, and the serenity, it is an amazing challenge to us and our further development.

(www.atelierhaus-auf-der-alb.de)



This is one of the reasons I have decided to send out a newsletter from time to time - we are simply no longer physically close to the local scene.

CHARACTERS

Last summer, Masayuki Akamatsu came from Japan to stay with us for a few days and we had a good and intense time together steering our new collaborative project into the final stage. This relatively elaborate interactive media installation had its debut in Berlin in November, and in December it was nominated right off the bat for the Japan Media Arts Award. A video of the work will be shown in Tokyo in February.

(<http://plaza.bunka.go.jp/english/festival/2007/recommend/>).

Part 1 = Action

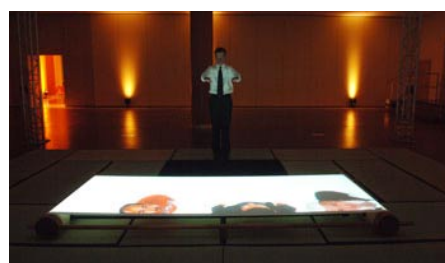
Visitors will be photographed in five positions from above in a



tower five feet tall.

Part 2 = Interaction

Portraits of the visitors that have been photographed will



be projected onto a paper surface where they write ever new words in that they animatedly move along with the respective points. There are more than 1,500 different words, such as to eat, to sleep, to surf. Visitors can control the projection using an infrared camera. More information is available at www.helzle.com/deutsch/installation_characters.htm

THE ENDLESS VARIATIONS OF A CONTINUUM

The hour-and-a-half-long Visual Music Concert with the Berlin-based musician Gert Anklam (saxophone, sheng) was performed a second time in November 2007 at the Heilig-Kreuz-Kirche (Church of the Holy Cross) in Berlin. Guest musician Beate Gatscha enhanced the performance on hang and percussion. By the way: the church is a really fine venue with an ongoing program.



(www.helzle.com/deutsch/vimuVAR.htm)

In my next newsletter I will go into more detail about the new visual music productions with Lauren Newton and Koho Mori-Newton (THRee), as well as with Axel Hanfreich and Jogi Nestel (Ja & Nein [Yes & No]).