

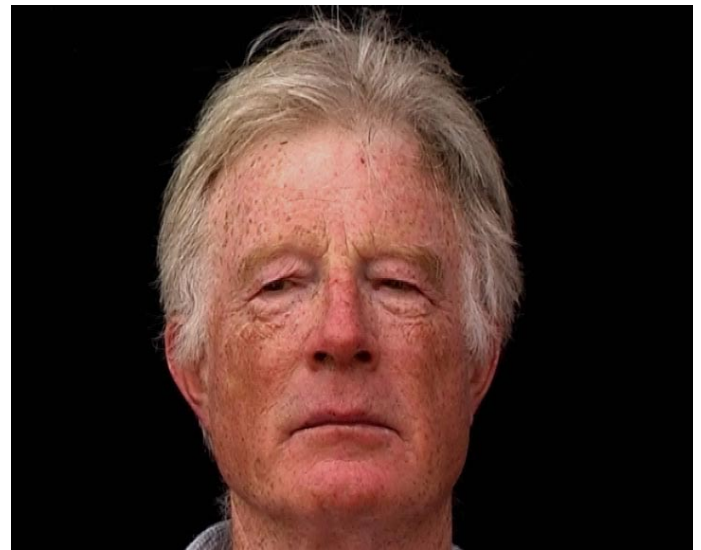
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ANONYMOUS

An interactive video installation by Wolf Nkole Helzle and Masayuki Akamatsu

"Man is therefore also the highest of living of beings, because he is the most dissatisfied, the one who most feels the pressure of his finiteness."

Sri Aurobindo



A total of 256 video portraits of different people attempting to think of nothing, therefore an attempt to let go of that which for most people appears to exclusively constitute the world. The viewer becomes witness to powerful portraits of virtually hypnotic intensity and vulnerability.

The Content

Hundreds of people are currently being recorded by means of a video camera for this project. They sit against a dark background on a chair and look straight ahead. Only the face is filmed, from the front and without sound. The only guideline: for the five-minute duration of the recording, he or she should preferably think of nothing.



The Interaction

The 256 small-format video portraits are displayed on a surface. By means of a display device, visitors to an exhibition can select one of the videos, whereby it is enlarged to fit the entire projection surface and can be viewed in its full length. When the video ends, the overview is again displayed and another one can be selected.

The Projection

As a rule, a projector is used to project the portrait onto a suitable surface, such as, for instance, a movie screen or a white wall in the space. The indicator is fixed to a small stand in front of the projection and is connected to a computer.

Note

In 2008, Wolf Nkole Helzle completed comprehensive self-prescribed training in non-thought. He discovered the extent to which his thoughts (the automatic part) restrict his perception (the tree is a tree = checked off). The state of non-thought opens up new possibilities to us and expands our possibilities of perceiving the world.