

bemannte drehung

performance

25 December 1996, — message salon, Ankerstrasse, Zurich, CH — curated by Esther Eppstein
— Duration: 40 min.

Background — Christmas.

Setting — A gallery. Two display windows. Two ducks cavorting in one window. In the other, a monitor with the screen pointed towards the space within.

Materials and Preparation — A typewriter fixed to a table. A chair with leather straps. These have been bolted into a stable unit with wooden struts. A surveillance camera mounted on three aluminium rods, approximately 1.60 m high, over the left side of the chair. The entire unit can be rotated. A monitor wired to the camera. Doubled roofing slats of various lengths. Clamps. A crash helmet. Prism glasses. Angel wings.

Procedure — X is wearing angel wings and prism glasses. He helps Y climb into the unit and straps him in. Y is wearing a crash helmet. He composes a travel report on the typewriter. X tips the unit with Y inside it 90° to the right. X clamps a doubled roofing slat under the surface of the table and tips the unit forwards. It is braced by the doubled slat. X clamps another doubled slat and rotates the unit, which is now braced by the slat he has just attached. The procedure is repeated seven times, until Y and the entire construction is almost upside down. During the rotation, Y types his report continuously on the typewriter, the function of which is impeded by the change in the direction of gravity. In the image on the monitor, the space and the audience rotate around Y.

Results — X has to use his entire body as leverage and clamp the slats very tightly so that Y doesn't break his neck.

Additional performances: 23 May 1997, Parzelle für Junge Kunst, Binningen, CH — 14 February 1997, Les Blancs des Cieux, Lausanne, CH.

