

traumlage

performance, audio and video installation

21 to 22 September 2001 — in a garden, Bottmingen, CH — Helle Nächte, group exhibition — curated by Andrea Saemann and Annina Zimmermann — Participants: inhabitants of Bottmingen — Duration of video and audio loop: 18 min

Background — Köppl/Začek are invited to project the video battery onto the exterior wall of a house. They decide on a new work instead.

Setting — An affluent neighbourhood of single-family homes in Bottmingen, a suburb of Basel. Gardens surrounded by high hedges. A spacious garden. Trees, bushes, lawn, terrace sitting area.

Materials and Preparation — A camera, a microphone and a DAT recorder. In the garden, propped on square beams, a monitor tilted slightly backwards. Above the monitor, a video and CD player. A roof of corrugated metal over all of this. In each of two 220-cm and 130-cm roofing slat constructions, a built-in speaker. Monitor and speaker constructions are placed far apart from one another.

Procedure — X and Y ask residents of the houses in the area about their relationship to home, garden, to the hedges, the neighbours, and to travel in foreign countries. Image and sound are recorded separately. The people are filmed at night, in their garden, holding a lamp of their choice in their hand, telling of things nearby and far away. X and Y circle the person with the camera, changing height, distance, and speed. The camera is made to rotate around its own axis. A collection of interviews and one of video images result. Each are edited to 18 minutes.

Variation: 26 April to 31 May 2003, Kunsthalle Arbon, CH, 10th anniversary of the Kunsthalle Arbon, curated by Dorothee Messmer (Installation with 2 peepholes, 4 cm in diameter. The speaker is mounted in one of them; behind the other one is the monitor, on which the video can be seen.)

