Philippe Parreno. Voices.

EN A space of resonance
Choreographing language
An infinite image
A resonant organism

The exhibition Voices by Philippe Parreno transforms Haus der Kunst into a resonating organism, generating acoustic and visual encounters where voices guide and shape the exhibition. Their status is uncertain. They may accompany events. They are in dialogue across spaces.

Dancers control the exhibition and guide the visitors. A moving wall dances slowly. A tower antenna relays the soundscape of the exhibition and broadcasts stories from a remote land. Its heat is transmitted from blind lamps, its everyday life is screened. Two films fade in and out between flickering circular lights. Mechanical elements rise and fall, generating soundscapes from environmental data, processed and redistributed by the Brain – a customised super-computer. The hard symmetry of the building dissolves, forming a choreography of data, breaths and voices.

Artist Tino Sehgal, friend and longtime collaborator of Philippe Parreno, has created a work consisting of dancers/singers speaking with the exhibition. Each room is activated one after the other by the dancers whose voices and ∂A - an invented language crafted by Parreno and evolving in real time - trigger responses from the whole environment. A very familiar, yet bodiless voice, periodically slips through the rooms. ∂A transforms the space, channelling messages through the dancers, who act as oracles of a prophecy.

In this cinematic landscape, events manifest, transform, and vanish like sequences in an infinite film. A new and invisible figure takes shape through an ongoing exchange of voices, sounds, and data, composed of images that move, moving images, and shadows. TV news presenter Susanne Daubner lent her voice to it. Her voice answers the dancers' utterances, forming an ongoing exchange where the environment speaks back. The character's human-like sonic behaviour contrasts with its cybernetic core. It strives for growth and formulation, akin to a synthesizer modulating signals into sounds.

The exhibition Voices creates multiple living dialogues: with the visitors, between the rooms, and between Munich and a distant remote terrain in Almeria. What happens here also occurs there, in Spain, where a hybrid ecosystem of art, nature, and technology evolves in real-time. Echoes of voices expand the resonance of the exhibition beyond the building. They endlessly feed and reshape both the distant land and the exhibition, as living presences across distances.

Voices is a landscape in which remoteness is compressed, events are co-generated, interfaces disappear, humans and non-humans connect through new languages and the whole evolves and transforms relentlessly throughout time.

Curated by Andrea Lissoni and Lydia Antoniou with Hanns Lennart Wiesner

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