

MEDIA RELEASE

GERTRUDE

contemporary art spaces

Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces in partnership with Experimenta presents:

YOUNG-HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES *THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION*

EXHIBITION OPENING: Friday 4th September, 2009, 6-8pm
EXHIBITION DATES: 4 September - 3 October, 2009

Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces in partnership with Experimenta is pleased to present the first major exhibition in Melbourne of work by internationally acclaimed artists YOUNG-HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES.

Comprising of Korean artist Young-Hae Chang, and American poet Marc Voge, these artists employ the web animation tool, Flash, to tell syncopated, rhythmically arranged and structurally scrambled narratives either online, or often across multiple screens.

Setting the animated texts to their own jazzy musical compositions, the duo create fast-paced text movies in which words appear in rapid succession either in the web browser window, or filling the projected screen. Employing the most simple of web based technologies, the black text on white background in the classic web specific Monaco font, the texts are consistently very human, with a dry paranoid humour interlinking the diverse and fantastical narratives. With subjects ranging from cunninglingus in North Korea, to urban alienation and the futility of art, to the insignificance of human life.

Presented in Australia for the first time this three-screen synched video work - *The Cultural Revolution* tells three stories in unison experimenting with the necessity for narrative linearity and progression. Comprising three stories that when viewed together interweave to induce an ominous sense of tension, paranoia and suspicion reminiscent of the cold war, or totalitarian governments. However these works also present a very human, very fantastic narrative flow, with the tale escaping from first person to third and back. As the stories in this work become unhinged, they delve into a day-dreaming space of breathless tale telling and sexual and political bravado.

Toying with the impersonal distance of the Internet's 'voice', YOUNG-HAE CHANG HEAVY INDUSTRIES confounds the viewers' impulse to interpret the work biographically, or draw meaning from stylistic connotations. Instead, these works are narrative stripped back to bare syncopation; they present a non-linear, spatially integrating mode of story telling, that is so compelling, it is impossible not to become totally immersed in the fabulous, frenetic worlds they describe.

For further information or images, please contact Emily Cormack

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