

Interior
Ken Feingold
1997

description and concept

A life-size anatomical model of a human torso in which the spine is revealed, set upon a night-table. Opposite, a large projection in which a world of talking organs and puppets enact a delirious masked theater within a shifting virtual landscape, changed by the way that the torso is touched. Along the spine, small sensors are embedded. Stroking the nervous system stirs up the cast while scenes may be entered by keeping one's hands in the same place for some time. Some scenes can only be found if more than one person is touching calmly for some time.

"Interior", explores the subjective experience of delirium and time collapsed to repeated moments. While the work uses some of the technologies of Virtual Reality, it does not attempt to create the illusion of reality or to form a story – it is distant and nervous, edging toward a dislocation of the ordinary. Its hallucinatory scenes create a delirious theater made of appearing and disappearing figures and voices, heterotopias of interiority, symbolic formations of the inexpressible.

exhibition history of the work

"Interior" was originally commissioned by the InterCommunication Center, Tokyo for the ICC Biennale '97, and was exhibited there from November 1997 – January 1998. Following this, it was exhibited at the ZKM Center for Art and Media, Karlsruhe in the exhibition "Surrogate" during November 1998, and at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul during December 1998 and January 1999. This showing at Postmasters will be the USA premiere.

the artist

Ken Feingold is an artist who works with many media. His videos and films, objects, and installations have been exhibited in numerous museums and festivals internationally since 1974. During the 1990's, he has been involved in making interactive installation works, and, for the most part, these have been shown in European exhibitions. The Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; ZKM Media Museum Karlsruhe; Nagoya City Art Museum; and Museum of Modern Art New York, among others, have included his work in their permanent collections. He lives in New York City and is currently working on projects in the UK and in Germany.

technical realization

"Interior" was written in 'C'. It was made to work on an Silicon Graphics O2 computer. The sculpture/interface contains infrared proximity sensors and original circuitry which transmits sensor data to the computer, allowing interaction with the graphics and audio.

credits

title: Interior

artist: Ken Feingold

date: 1997

medium: interactive computer image and sound installation with medical model, room construction,
electronics

concept and realization: Ken Feingold

programming: Ashish Verma, Ken Feingold, Gideon May

electronic engineering consultant: H. Carl Ott

caption for photos: "Interior", Ken Feingold, 1997; interactive computer image and sound installation
(with medical model, room construction, computers and other electronics)