



Installation shot 'Limits of a Known Territory', NC-arte, 6 Jun. - 5 Sept. 2015

Troika

Limits of a Known Territory

6 June - 5 September 2015

Limits of a Known Territory is a site-specific installation by Troika shown for the first time at NC-arte in Bogotá, where more than 200 square meters of the foundation space have been transmuted into a crepuscular, seemingly abandoned environment, flooded with water. The gallery echoes with the variable sound of eleven streams of water dripping from the ceiling, behaving in different and unfamiliar ways: some are frozen in time, others running slower, faster or in reverse. The visitor can navigate the space walking over stepping-stones scattered across the floor.

The subjective and intangible experience of time is made physical by the controlled choreography of the varying speeds and illogical directionality of the water streams. These assume in the empty space of the gallery the somewhat architectural value of liquid pillars while imbuing the space with a visual sense of rhythm.

Drawing upon Troika's interest in the connections between randomness and the exercise of control, *Limits of a Known Territory* becomes the simulation of a parallel reality or the stage for a glitchy futuristic reminiscence of what might once have been a casual occurrence.

The same metaphor of the tension in manipulating the inherently uncontrollable pervades *Cartography of control* (2014), consisting of the marks left by the manipulation of a powerful electric charge burning its way through the paper. *Path of Least Resistance* (2013) is a series of drawings which use the same technique. The series of delicate fractal patterns reveal an always unpredictable path: a line to be followed by the influence of the electric current - a sort of playful game which is ultimately a reflection on the limits between intentional sign and erratic mark.

Troika's works often present a double, deceptive nature, a constant loop between what they seem to be and what they are: a forsaken space is, on a closer look, an hyper-choreographed reality, yet dominated by a subjective and unruly sense of chronology; a delicate drawing is the outcome of a dangerous and violent process. The epitome of this is *Squaring the Circle* (2003). Inspired by Edwin Abbott's satirical novel *Flatland* (1884) where the inhabitants of a two-dimensional world cannot recognize or perceive a three-dimensional object, the sculptures become a mutation of different forms which are perceived depending on the position of the observer. One more time, the experience of seeing and knowing lies at the heart of the work, as both the shape of the square and the circle are contained in one object. Similarly, *Suspension of Disbelief* (2013) exists in the twilight zone between what is intangible and what is physical. It consists of a pillar of light met by a lens that refracts the rays traveling through its focal point. The refracted rays form an immaterial shape reminiscent of a half arch, exploring the tension between what we perceive as real and what is seemingly impossible, and questioning the (alleged) insurmountable discrepancy between intuitive belief and agnostic reason.

About Troika

Eva Rucki (b. 1976, Germany), Conny Freyer (b. 1976, Germany) and Sebastien Noel (b. 1977, France) have worked together as an artist trio since 2003. Their work manipulates our perception of the world and ask the question why we know what we know, and whether this knowledge is certain. Troika explores ideas around man made structures, control, repetitive actions and systems and how these coincide, conflict, or unite with the unpredictable, the unknowable, and irrational.

Troika's work has been shown in numerous exhibitions at institutions such as: the Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie, Karlsruhe, Germany (2013), the Victoria & Albert Museum London (2009), The Art Institute of Chicago (2009), the MoMA New York (2008), Tate Britain (2007), and their work is represented in the permanent collections of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, British Council, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. In 2014 Troika was selected to present their work ['Dark Matter' at Unlimited, Art Basel](#).. Upcoming, current and past solo exhibitions include ['Cartography of Control'](#), a solo show at Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles (10 January - 7 February 2015), ['Limits of a known territory'](#), a solo exhibition at NC Arte, Bogotá, Colombia (April - June 2015), ['Persistent Illusions'](#), a solo show at the Daelim Museum, Seoul, Korea (10 April 2014 – 12 Oct 2014), ['The far Side of Reason'](#), OMR, Mexico City, Mexico (April – June 2013).

Eva Rucki, Conny Freyer and Sebastien Noel live and work in London.

NC-arte

free entrance

Monday to Friday, 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm

www.nc-arte.org

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