

Museum Folkwang

***Static Movement* – Film installations by Darren Almond,
David Claerbout, Anri Sala
19 May 2012 to 15 July 2012**

Darren Almond

Cultures and landscapes pass quickly by in Darren Almond's installation *In the Between* (2006) while the film camera travels by train from Beijing to Tibet. Train stations and steppe blur into horizontal strips, people only appear schematically and disappear immediately. The film's audio track makes the speed material. Contrasting with the moving camera are static film shots taken in a Tibetan monastery. We see monks praying together, colourful prayer flags blowing in the wind of the high plane. In this confrontation, the political dimension of the train's advancing into the isolated plateau in Tibet become tangible. The filmmaker's trip to the spiritual goal of many Europeans suddenly seem ambivalent, as does the technological progress the Chinese government employed.

David Claerbout

Time appears condensed in an eternal moment in David Claerbout's work *The Algiers' Sections of a Happy Moment* (2008). Slowly the camera turns around a group of people. Young Algerians have taken a break in a basketball game, while one of them feeds a flock of hungry sea gulls. The viewer's gaze switches between the chaotic old town of Algiers close up and the broad sea in the distance. The light produces hard shadows. There are moments where the viewers think they are standing in a narrow alley or on a flat roof – the projection covers the room's walls. Then they are confronted by a greatly enlarged detail. Slowly they notice that none of the shadows move, not even in slow motion. Claerbout photographed a "fruitful moment" from many perspectives simultaneously, which constantly reappear in loop.

Anri Sala

In the film *Tlateloco Clash* (2011), by the Albanian artist Anri Sala a music piece is put together, played on a barrel organ, after a number of interruptions. For an exhibition in Mexico City, the artist cut out the invitations from the perforated tape of a barrel organ. On opening night, each guest brought a piece of the perforated card to a barrel organ in Tlateloco Square in Mexico City. The guests arrived in no special order so that the original piece of music was transformed into a collage of sound. The place where the people came together has a tragic significance in Mexico's history. The Spanish conquistadors slaugh

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tered the people of the Aztec city here and in 1968 protesting students gathered here who were then shot down by soldiers from the surrounding buildings. Towards the end of the film we hear the original song by the punk group *The Clash* – at the end, Anri Sala, cut the film so that the sound fragments of the film are heard in the right order. In a wild switch between daytime and nightlight, we hear a song with a central question: Should I stay or should I go?

Images for download www.museum-folkwang.de

Opening Hours Tue – Sun 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Fri 10 a.m. – 10.30 p.m., Monday closed

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