



AKSIOMA
Institute for Contemporary Art,
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PRESS RELEASE

Aksioma – Institute for Contemporary Art, Ljubljana, presents:

Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec
Solid Sound
Installation

www.aksioma.org/solidsound

Aksioma | Project Space
Komenskega 18, Ljubljana
9 - 25 January 2013

Exhibition opening: Wednesday, 9 January 2013 at 7 pm



Image available for free download:
<http://www.aksioma.org/press/solidsound.zip>



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Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec

Solid Sound

Life in Vacuum. Living on the Moon for generations, humanity will adapt to life without atmosphere and oxygen. Human beings will mutate in such a way that they will be able to live in vacuum. Their organs will change and breathing will no longer be necessary. Since there is no sound in vacuum, they will live in total silence. They will not speak to each other, and instead communicate in a way that is unimaginable to us now.

The phenomena of sound traveling through air, which used to be so important for communication, the formation of language and identity of the Self, the Other and the environment on the Earth, will be absent on the Moon.

Sound on the Moon will instead be captured in the vibrations of solid objects and things, and the limits of these vibrating things will hence be the limits of sound propagation.

If Moon humans will want to experience the sensation of sound as we hear it on Earth, they will have to use recorded or transmitted sound to vibrate their skulls. They will use small vibrating transducers, which they will bite like a lollipop in order to enable the sound vibrations to propagate from the transducer through teeth and skull into their inner ear. Their mouth will turn into a hearing organ and their head will become a vibrating loudspeaker, through which they will be able to hear. This device will be called *Teethphones*TM.

For them, listening to any recorded sound from a distant past will form a mental link to their earthly ancestors - a link to a lost dimension of life which formed them so significantly.

Their relation to the recorded sounds from Earth and human voice will not be unlike the relation we have towards the Moon in present times. For them, these sounds will exist far away in space and time, and yet, they will appear so close, more than close - as they will appear only inside one's head as sound vibrations of one's skull.

This relation to sound will create an intimate and nostalgic thread between the Moon humans and the breath of life as we know it today, serving them as a recorded memory as well as a vehicle for mythical interpretations of their Earthly origins.

The installation is a commissioned work for *Moon Life Concept Store* - an exhibition of prototypes and ideas for future life on the Moon - initiated by Alicia Framis. Supported by Mondriaan Foundation.

Tao G. Vrhovec Sambolec (SI/NL) is an artist and musician working with invisible ephemeral phenomena and the notion of space. His artistic practice is a poetic exploration of relationships between transitory and temporal flows like sound and weather phenomena and architectural and social spaces they inhabit. In his installations, he makes architecture sensitive to its immediate ephemeral surroundings and enhances the temporal dimension of architecture by creating situations where the outside and inside, the unpredictable and constructed, the permanent and temporal, time and space converse. His works encompass interdisciplinary and mixed media installations, sound interventions and electro acoustic music. In 2010 his work *Virtual Mirror - Rain* got awarded Hybrid Arts Honorary Mention at Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria.

www.taogvs.org



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