

SHIFTING INTIMACIES

TOUR READY INFORMATION: 6-May-08

OVERVIEW: *Shifting Intimacies* is a new immersive interactive/media artwork by Keith Armstrong and Guy Webster (AU/Transmute Collective) and Charlotte Vincent (GB/Vincent Dance Theatre) that invites the participant to meditate upon and witness the human body disintegrating and transforming, whilst in motion. It differentiates itself from other interactive installations by its strong emotive appeal influenced by performance practices, a rich use of multi-sensory design elements and an intimate, immersive experience designed for one participant at a time.

'It was like an interior journey as I was all alone thinking about my life and my thoughts.' Participant, *Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), London, 2006*

Each participant enters the large, darkened space containing two circles of projected film imagery presented within an immersive sound environment. One image floats on a disc of white sand, the other on a circle of white dust. This immersive work invites differing states of meditation, exploration, stillness and play, creating states of shifting balance that produce a heightened awareness of the body. Each person has 10 minutes alone with the work and their 'journey' is strongly influenced by the architecture of the space and the interactive script design. Their movement through the space continually affects speed, quality, balance and flow within the work. At the end of the experience they are invited to climb a lit platform and cast dust back onto the images below.

'It made me feel lots of feelings and sensations. It seemed like birth, from the earth's womb.' Participant ICA, London, 2006

GENERAL SPACE REQUIREMENTS: (See sample space diagram)

- Large darkened room or black box theatre, variable dimensions, possible, but as large as 15 x 10 x 5.5m is ideal
- Floor covered with a thin layer of white dust (cooking flour)
- One circular down-projection onto a raised circular, wooden platform covered in a thin layer of white sand
- One circular down-projection onto the dust covered floor
- Raised platform/viewing area (1.8m height, with steps)
- Seven powered loudspeakers (on stands or hung)
- Sensors/actuators mounted on posts around the room and in the roof
- Low level, wash lighting for safety/documentation, with dimmers

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