

Vittorio Santoro

Visionaires & Voyeurs, II

2009, Video projection, HD Video transferred to Blu-ray,
16:9, colour, sound (stereo), 8'43", loop

Irish Museum of Modern Art: Process Room

20.09.11 – 02.10.11



The video work *Visionaries & Voyeurs, II*, (2009) shows a woman walking back and forth in a stage-like environment reciting a long monologue. The monologue has an overall length of approximately nine minutes, and consists of various utterances surrounding ideas of transcendence, power, violence, confrontation, relationships, personal display, social conventions, perception.....

The monologue unfolds slowly, with pauses and silent intervals, as if she would only utter parts of it, others remaining hidden in her mind. Her dress, hair-do and make-up alternately evoke a flight attendant or the protagonist of a 60s feature film. Some time into the monologue, woman B, dressed similarly but barefoot, enters the scene carrying a glass with ice cubes. Three concurrent voices then become audible, respectively from a woman, a man and a boy. After just a few moments of "stage presence" woman B walks out of sight again. Thereupon, woman A returns to her monologue.

During the whole monologue, the woman's voice seems to "slide" from one utterance into the other, and her presence is accompanied and reinforced by the zigzagging camera. The camera moves the same way throughout the video's duration, following a very distinct, impassable and therefore different trajectory than the figure on the stage-like environment. As well as the camera traveling, the location seems to resist a proper definition: is it an outdoor location, a theatre stage or a movie setting.

The woman speaks carefully chosen sentences and then executes meticulous actions. She seems to perform for herself as well for an imaginary audience. The monologue may be sparse, eloquent or at times hermetic, but it provokes the audience to ask themselves how the speech works and what it demands from them.

Upcoming or recent exhibitions by Santoro include:

Aujourd'hui, Demain / Today, Yesterday, Fondation Ricard, Paris (2012); *Le vingt-quatre heures*, Galerie Campagne Première, Berlin (2011); *Que tout le monde vive comme si personne « ne savait » : some script works*, Rosascape, Paris (2011); *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, Yvon Lambert, New York (2011); *Man Leaving Harbour on a Ship (in a Room)*, La BF15, Espace d'art contemporain, Lyon (2010) and *Press Art – Annette and Peter Nobel Collection*, Kunstmuseum St. Gallen and Museum der Moderne, Salzburg (2010).

Further information can be found at www.imma.ie / www.vittoriosantoro.info

The **PROCESS ROOM** facilitates access to the ongoing practice of artists currently resident at IMMA. The Artists' Residency Programme is located in the studios adjacent to the main museum building where several studios are allocated to both national and international artists. The Process Room is used on a rotating basis by the artists on the ARP.

For more information about the Artists' Residency Programme please contact Janice Hough, ARP Co-ordinator
Tel + 353.1.612 9905 or janice.hough@imma.ie Website www.imma.ie