

Viviane C. Bertrand 2004-2008

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PERFORMANCE

CHANTING BY HEART OR LA MÉMOIRE DES CHANTS

Primorska University
Koper, Slovenia, 13 october 2008

National Museum, Narodni Muzej Labin
Labin, Croatia, 10 october 2008

LES ÉCRITS DE L'EAU

Amerikahaus
Munich, Germany, 7 may 2008

Premieretage
Innsbruck, Austria, 24 November 2006

Institut für Romanistik, Innsbruck University, with the Canada Centre
Innsbruck, Austria, April 2005



POETRY READING UNFOLDING e.e. CUMMINGS

Paper Museum

Leningen Germany, 22 June 2007

Lunch and Learn

Palais fédéral, Bern, Switzerland, 7 March 2007

Bürgerhaus Pullach

Munich, Germany, 29 November 2006

Folate Iridescenti

Villa Doria, Napoli, organised by Università Partenope di Napoli, Italy, 3 March 2006

Nothburga Gallery

Innsbruck, Austria, 29 February 2006

Canadian Speaker program in Germany

German tour 29 January to 3 February 2006

German American Institute Tübingen,
German American Center Stuttgart,
Bavarian American Center Amerikahaus Munich,
Kunstverein Erlangen.

Ouvrages, Entfaltung Presented at

Gallery M., Vienna, Austria, March 2005

6th Women's International Art Conference, Graz, Austria, May 2005

Ritschl Gallery, Graz, Austria, May 2005

La chanson s'épanouit

Presentation on the evening held in honour of Prof. Ursula Moser by the Canadian Study Centre
Innsbruck, Austria, October 2004

Die Nichts Presented at

Landes Museum Ferdinandeum in the context of Rainer Scheistl's retrospective



Tübingen Buckerfest, Tübingen, Germany, 16 June 2007



Les écrits de l'eau

*un poème de Suzanne Jacob,
interprété par Viviane Bertrand
tambour et voix,*

traduction allemande Doris Eibl

« Une femme s'était détachée de nous jusqu'à
l'homme,
une femme s'était menée à ses périls jusqu'à lui.
Se cramponnant aux rhizomes,
remontant les écrits jusqu'à l'ultime braise,
elle s'arrimait pour finir aux jets de feu
qui déroutent l'orbite
et lancent l'œuf à travers le chaos sur une autre trajectoire. »

Suzanne Jacob



Les écrits de l'eau, encre sur papier 45 cmx15 m

LES ÉCRITS DE L'EAU

Die Arbeit, die ich Ihnen vorstellen werde, ist aus der Lektüre eines Gedichts der Québecer Autorin Suzanne Jacob hervorgegangen. Dieses Gedicht trägt den Titel *Les écrits de l'eau*.

Suzanne Jacob sagt über ihren Gedichtband: "Ich musste mich dort verlieren, um herauszufinden, dass die Quelle des Sprechens, wie jene der Menschheit, das aktive Magma der Sprachen ist...Die Schriften des Wassers erzählen diesen immer wieder aufs Neue aktivierten Ursprung."Ich habe diesen Text in Raum und Zeit übersetzt – auf lange Papierbögen die ich auseinander falte, auf der Suche nach Bedeutung und Sinn... verloren, wiedergefunden, vergessen, wiedererfunden.

Auf diese Weise versuche ich einen offenen und fruchtbaren Kontext zu schaffen, damit jeder die Freude entdecke, am Spiel des künstlerischen Schaffens teilzunehmen und die Freiheit wiederzufinden, seine eigene Geschichte zu entwerfen. In sich. Ein Kinderspiel...

Ich lade sie also ein, mit mir den Fluss der Worte zurückzuverfolgen bis zu jenem Augenblick der Präsenz, der Gegenwärtigkeit, in dem das Sein auf die Welt kommt – jetzt, hier selbst – flussaufwärts, gegen die Strömung eines tausendjährigen Sturzbaches, von Irrfahrten und Leiden.

Wir treffen uns im Ursprungsland.

Viviane Bertrand

EXHIBITIONS

Journey through Mountains and Water

Amerikahaus, Munich, Germany, May-July 2008

Montagnes Eaux

Paper Museum Lenningen, Lenningen, Germany, 18-23 June 2007

Kunst im Gang

Theology faculty Innsbruck University, Innsbruck, Austria, 24 nov. - 15 dec. 2006

Recent work

Gallery M, Vienna, Austria, April 2005

Spur und Echo, In collaboration with Michael Bahn

Gallery Nothburga, Innsbruck, Austria, May 2005



Amerikahaus, Munich, Germany, 2008



Kunst im Gang, Innsbruck, Austria, 2006



Amerikahaus, Munich, Germany, 2008



Amerikahaus, Munich, Germany, 2008



Paper Museum Lenningen, Lenningen, Germany, June 2007



In memoriam Vlado, Dragonia, Slovenia, 2008

Journey through Mountains and Waters

On the way back to wholeness

In classical Chinese painting the nature depicted is more than man's environment; it is the portrait of a being connected to the fundamental flow of the universe. Born in close contact with nature, the art of Viviane Bertrand reflects the antic Chinese wisdom united to a new model of reality called "the implicate order" as proposed by the researches of professor of Theoretical Physics, David Bohm. The implicate order is a way to understand unbroken wholeness in movement, for in the implicate order the totality of existence is enfolded within each region of space and time. Here the art work combines the ink painting of natural elements with paper folding, to propose anew a forgotten vision of the world.



From the series *The Five Sacred mountains*,
Printemps, ink on paper, 55x410 cm



WORKSHOPS, courses and lecture

Guest lecturer

in the course of Aleksandra Schuller, Lecturer in Performance Studies, Cultural Studies Department, Faculty of Humanities Koper, University of Primorska. Slovenia October 2008.

Folding workshop

Realschule Lenningen, 20 June 2007

Winter Solstice at St Pauli Youth center

Organised by Cubic, Innsbruck, Austria, 16 december 2006

The maple tree

Canada for kids, summer camp at the Dai, Tübingen, Germany, September 2006

Art workshop for kids

Amerikahaus, Munich, Germany, 2 February 2006

Chinese ink painting class

Perosa Argentina, Italy, June 2004, October 2005, May 2006

Sistrans, Austria, August 2006, February 2006, July 2004

Dardagny, Switzerland, April 2006

Soller, Mallorca, Spain, January 2004, January-February 2005

SEMINARS

Emergency Break, Find a way!

Methods on non-formal education against violence. A Daphne program of the European Community, hosted by Cubic, Weinach/Tirol, Austria 22-28 February 2007

Slovenian Youth Organisation, Isola, Slovenija, 22–28 September 2007

Origami di Luce

Un laboratorio di creazione

*Spiegamento di storie con luce, colori,
pennellate, parole e poesie*



con *Viviane Bertrand*

A partire da esercizi di attenzione specifici, tecniche pittoriche e visive diverse, si va alla scoperta di quegli elementi interiori personali che sono alla base della propria creatività: l'energia, la percezione, le emozioni, l'immagine ...

Viviane Cristiane Bertrand ha studiato Belle Arti e Arte Drammatica a Montréal e ha recitato in teatro in Canada e negli Stati Uniti sino al 1985. Dopo aver trascorso dei periodi di soggiorno in Cina, India e Thailandia, ha vissuto in Giappone tra il 1988 e il 1989, dove ha studiato pittura a china, calligrafia e tecniche. Dal 1990 al 1995 ha abitato nel Devon, in Inghilterra, all'interno di una comunità laica di ispirazione buddhista. Risiede attualmente in Piemonte, in un villaggio delle Alpi. Ha realizzato mostre in Austria, Inghilterra, Italia, Slovenia, Spagna e Svizzera. Insegna pittura cinese e propone stage di creazione in Europa.

Come pesci nell'acqua, la voce dell'immaginazione

Un laboratorio con Viviane Bertrand



Il suono del tamburo parla, canta, aprendosi una strada dentro di noi, risalendo il fiume dei nostri sensi: immagini, voci, ricordi, tracce di altre vite insieme con la nostra, depositate nel mare delle storie. Un filo a poco a poco emerge, il nostro orecchio ascolta, la voce canta, affiorando dalle labbra, le dita si muovono sul tamburo, le immagini prendono forma nella mente come pesci nell'acqua.

Risalire alla sorgente delle storie. Immergersi nella traccia mnestica che si è impressa in noi afferrandola. Ricomporre la catena di immagini spezzate, che brillano improvvisamente come frammenti di specchi rivelando in un dettaglio la memoria di un'*origine*. Ritrovare le tracce di una storia infranta, lentamente, fino a scoprire che si tratta di un'altra vastità di noi.

L'immaginazione in esilio, espropriata, imprigionata nella giostra coatta del circo delle merci, dei simulacri, strappata a se stessa e alla sua destinazione propria, l'anima, ripercorre la sua via. Ricondurla per mano, sulla punta delle dita, al suono della musica, senza che divenga una canzone da organetto, fino a ricongiungerla con se stessa, salendo sul suo dorso, nelle acque dell'origine.

Guido Brivio

The art of the real

As I look back, at my work through the years - and so much comings and goings - it appears to have developed as an expression of a growing spiritual awareness. The practice of creation has become a way to understand how we construct our so called "Reality".

Now days, I unfold paper objects in playful response to the poetry of E.E. Cummings, Rumi, or the French Canadian author Suzanne Jacob, and not only... Doing so, I am in fact exploring and offering different ways to focus on our own faculty to create images conveying meaning and beauty. My art aims at opening and show the wide range of the possible. What is it that makes it real? The possibility of being present, creative, in the moment is open to every one of us, if only... These presentations are but a little celebration of "it", what I would like to call:

The Art of Real – Art for Being's Sake

"the person standing in contemplation between the mountain and the river, at one with nature, is the beating heart, the enlightened eye of the landscape"

Francois Cheng



Biographical notes:

Born in Canada in the *Hautes-Laurentides*, Viviane Cristiane Bertrand studies visual and dramatic arts in Montreal. She travels the Americas, and performs in experimental theatre until '85. Then, exchanging her tepee for a job as cook on a sailing boat, she leaves the Quebec province in '86. Sailing through the West Indies islands and across the Atlantic, she travels extensively in China, India, Thailand. Going around and around so many sacred mountains, stuppas and dharma halls, following her ever lasting interest for spirituality and its expression in art, she lives, studies and practiced Zen in Japan in '88/'89. From '90 to '95 lives in the Sharpham community in South Devon, England. The years'96/'97 she passed in the island of Mallorca in Spain. She currently lives in a hermitage in the Italian Alps. Her art work has been shown in England, Spain, Austria, Italy, Germany Switzerland, Slovenia, Croatia and she is currently leading workshops on creativity and performance, and Chinese ink painting classes in Europe.



“La Baita”, Piemonte, Italia

REFERENCES

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Canada center, Innsbruck, Austria.
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Exhibition program, Socialist party office,
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LINKS

Viviane Cristiane Bertrand o la necessità della naturalezza
<http://www.uibk.ac.at/theol/gangkunst.html/bertrand.html>
website http://digilander.libero.it/viviane_bertrand

Viviane Bertrand – reference

In her latest work, *La mémoire des chants/Singing by heart*, Viviane Bertrand is inviting us to witness/interact with her creative action/process. *La mémoire* is a journey where we follow the performer's inner/vocal/instrumental structure. It is a journey of the soul, the heart. Whatever we name it. It is life itself. Unique, personal and yet generally human. Viviane's chanting and music create a junction, where we all meet, witness and performer. I can sense her story, the tale of individual's life experience, but so archetypal that I recognise something very known, familiar, something (re)lived... not only by myself, but also by many other human beings. A very open, gentle, powerful and precious work.

Dr. Aleksandra Schuller, Lecturer in Performance Studies, Cultural Studies Department, Faculty of Humanities, Koper, Slovenia.

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Le doux, le pénétrant, Yi King, hexagram 57.
Ink on paper, 42x220 cm



Passage du loup, Albournu, 2008
ink on paper 85x220 cm

Wie Seidenmohn

Bücherfest: Viviane Bertrand ließ Papier tanzen

TÜBINGEN (dhe). Sie ist eine Künstlerin, die beinahe im Immateriellen wirkt. Die Kanadierin Viviane Bertrand ließ bei ihrer Bücherfest-Performance im oberen Saal der Mensa Prinz Karl Gedichte des amerikanischen Lyrikers E.E. Cummings geradezu tanzen zwischen der zugleich zarten und strengen Formensprache ihrer Papierobjekte. Zirka 60 Zuhörer/innen und ein schwarzer Hund sahen ihr am späten Samstagabend gebannt dabei zu.

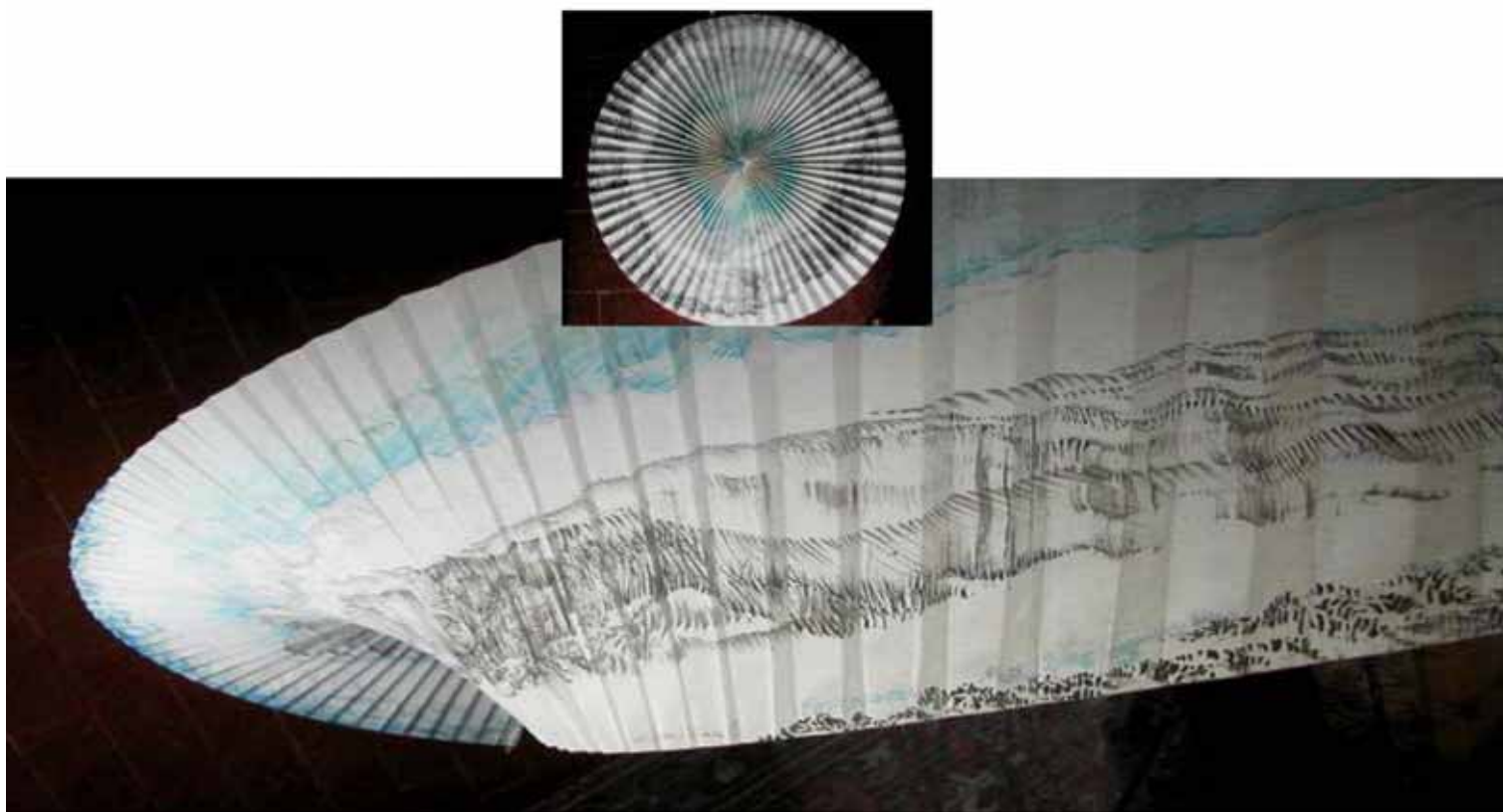
Ein erstes Wunder ist schon, wie ihr wohl diese zartesten Farbschattierungen gelingen – wie von Rosen, Seidenmohn und Azur. Manchmal sind sie verborgen im Innern eines gefalteten Papierfächers, eines Objekts in Lautenform oder eines kleinen, quadratisch gefalteten Gebildes, das sich geheimnisvoll in die Länge ziehen lässt, wobei es seine Form immer von neuem reproduziert. Und wie kann sie garantieren, dass sich die Papierobjekte wieder öffnen zu den gewünschten Effekten, die gehauchten Farboffenbarungen gleichen? Manche erinnern an chinesische Rollbilder, nur tragen sie keine Schrift und kein erkennba-

res, benennbares, gegenständliches Bild. Zusammengerollt haben manche sogar eine kleine asymmetrische Auskrümmung.

Ein blütenähnliches Gebilde scheint in ihren Händen zu tanzen, zeigt Rosenhauch und Azur. „It's spring“, weiß im Duktus freudiger Überraschung eines der Gedichte dazu. Sie sagt es beinahe triumphierend, mit einem Lächeln. Es ist die Zeit, wenn „all the mountains are dancing, are dancing“.

Ein rein naturweißes Papierobjekt lässt eher an eine Welle denken, als an ein Rollbild, dessen Technik es sich doch mitverdankt. Weiß es asketisch ohne Farbe auskommt, zeichnet das Licht Muster auf ihm. Die Faltungen geben ihm Struktur und Strenge. Wie es in ihren Händen schwingt, nur für Augenblicke, scheint es ein Eigenleben im Raum zu besitzen. Ein fröhliches Eigenleben: „We doctors know a hopeless case, / but there's a hell of a good universe/next door. / Let's go.“

Das Deutsch-Amerikanische Institut Tübingen und die kanadische Botschaft in Berlin haben Viviane Bertrand nach Tübingen eingeladen. Sie lebt derzeit zurückgezogen in den italienischen Alpen.



À partir de *l'art de la fugue*, Brume, encre sur papier, 48x280 cm