

Zhou Documents

November 2020

Exhibition plan - "SEE-SAW" and "Change the TV channel, change the bride's decision"

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Recommended Citation

CHEN 陈劭雄, Shao-Xiong, "Exhibition plan - "SEE-SAW" and "Change the TV channel, change the bride's decision"" (2020). *Zhou Documents*. 37.
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CHEN SHAO XIONG

"SEE-SAW" House Target Sea scene using breathing as a tripod in order to video"

Installation 1994

The artist uses "breathing as a tripod" to video sea scenes and a view of the outside of the house where the exhibition "No Room" is being held, moving inside to the very room where the installation is. The breathing action causes the TV picture to move up and down.

The two scenes are separated, one at either end of the "see-saw". A third television set in the centre shows alternating different coloured neon strip lights with the words "SEE" then "SAW". A rifle hanging from the ceiling - at exactly the height of an average person's vision - fires an imaginary shot at this picture, changing it with a bang from "SEE" to "SAW" and back to "SEE". Broken fragments of neon strip light lie around the three televisions symbolising the completed action of firing.

The gun is real, the broken glass is real, but the noise of the shot and the pictures you are watching are not. This brings together two different timescales - now and then. The two televisions to the left and right have broken glass stuck to their screens. This creates a special relationship between picture and screen and offends the viewers' vision.

The feelings that "See-Saw" provokes in the viewer - between his or her emotions, the television screens and the reality of the work - put the viewer in an uncomfortable situation, challenging what he/she thinks he should see and what he/she actually does see.

"Change the TV channel, change the bride's decision"

Installation 1994

Various items of women's cosmetics have been stuck on to the television screen, over the top of the moving programme. The TV channels and programmes are constantly changing and, subsequently, the cosmetics have an ever-changing relationship with the picture below.

Underneath the television set hangs a beautiful, white wedding dress. In front of the dress stands a piece of framed glass with the words "Change the TV channel, change the bride's decision". The viewer can change the channel according to his or her wishes.