

## HITO STEYERL

HITO STEYERL (German, born 1966) is among the keenest observers of our thoroughly globalized, digitized condition. Her practice describes with uncommon precision the fluidity and murability of images how they are produced, interpreted, translated, packaged, transported, and consumed by a multitude of users. Most often, Steyerlis art takes the form of video essays that comprise exhaustive research, montage, composite imagery, first-person voiceovers, and interviews. Like its literary counterpart, the video essay is a more-or-less nonfiction, analytical and interpretive account from a personal point of view, and it is no wonder that Steyed works most comformbly here. While her subjects vary widely, her work is consistently based on the premise that we are always implicated, conscionsly and unconsciously in the stories that we tell. Steyerl's videos arent strictly autobiographical but the artist is notably present in them. Hers is a documentary form that is emphatically transparent about iss subjectivity and, more importantly, its uncertainty. If there has historically been an uneasy relationship between critical theory and film, reconciled primarily through mon-tege- which creares meaning in the interval between juxtaposed images, rendering them as a kind of writing-Steyerl's particular brand of documentarism, one that simultaneously presents and questions facts, makes us forget it. ${ }^{\text {? }}$

A riot grril who uses critical theory as her weapon and global economic and political structures as her target. Steyerl has published essays in which she makes a case for degraded digital images, sings the praises of spam, and takes political artists to task for avoiding the politics in which they are most
clearly implicated, that of the art wo rld. Her doctoral work in philosophy at the Academy of Eine Arts, Vienna resulted in an essay collecrion, The Color of Truth: Documentarism in the Artistic Field (2008), which addresses documentary strategies in contemporary art. She studied cinemarography in Tokyo at the Academy of Visual Arts and attended the University of Television and Film in Munich, Germany, where she was taught by film historian Helmut Fatber, whom she counts famong her grearest infuences. Steyerl mainfains distinct boundaries between her witten and visual work-she has, for example, never written about her own films - but these undertaking deeply inform each other.

This focus exhibition features six works. Wogether they provide a solid basis for understanding Sreyerls ranging practice, which is defined by a succession of narrative investigations that stand alone, but often coalesce into series of chapters unfoding across several works and over time. The presentation begins in galleny 182 with Adomos Gry (2012), a black-and-white high-definition video shot in one location, the lecture hall (Hörsal 6) where the philosopher Theodor W. Adomo (1903-1969) taught his courses at the Institure of Social Research at the University of Frankfurt. Installed in a large, gray, box-like construction inserted within the white cube of the galleny, the single-channel video is projected onto a seulptural configuration of four leaning, overlapping screens, painted in shades of white to gray. Outside the sereening space, a graphic timeline spanning from 1900 to 970 semes to introduce the video's four main themest significant moments in the Ife of Adorno, who serves here as a symbol of the complex relationship between theory


Still from November, 2004. The Art Institute of Chicago, Wilson L. Mead Fund. © Hito Steyerl.
and practice; artists' historical relationships to monochrome abstraction; political protests involving nudity; and student protests, which were at their height during the particular moment in the late 1960 s that the video addresses.

The video begins with a shot of the lecture hall-which is thought to have been painted a particular shade of gray at the philosopher's insistence-and an off-camera exchange, in German with English subtitles, between Steyerl and one of Adorno's former students about his recollections of the room's color. The following scene shows a conservator, hired by the artist, trying to excavate the alleged gray paint under many layers of white. As the conservator digs deeper into the wall, a second storyline appears in the intertitle: "On April 22, 1969, three female students walk up to T.W. Adorno. They bare their breasts and start dancing around him." What follows is a sequence of off-camera interviews with four speakers: the former student, Gerd Roscher, who, as a student, witnessed the incident known as the "Busenattentat" ("breast attack"); philosopher Nina Power, who unpacks some fallacies in the myths surrounding the event; philosopher Peter Osborne, who discusses the theoretical bases for Adorno's choice of the color gray; and an
anonymous protester who carried a protective shield painted to resemble Adorno's Negative Dialectics (1966) during the "Book Bloc" in the 2010 student protests in London. Here, Steyerl's aesthetic choice of the off-camera interview both evokes the viewer's presence and foregrounds the lecture hall as the main character. With the "breast attack," it would seem that Adorno's students used his theories against him. In an interview published in Der Spiegel following the incident, Adorno stated, "Even though I had established a theoretical model, I could not have foreseen that people would try to implement it with Molotov cocktails.". ${ }^{3}$ The segment with Power begins to unravel the false dichotomy between the stern, prudish male theorist and free-spirited, sexualized women activists. As she points out, it is not as though Adorno lacked experience with breasts and feared them; rather, these "belligerent" or "militant" breasts didn't "fit into the categories of what we think breasts are normally for." ${ }^{3}$

From Steyerl's attempts to understand the reasoning behind the gray room-and to locate the actual paint-arises the complex intersection of theory and practice. Osborne surmises that Adorno's choice of gray paint may have been inspired by G. W. F. Hegel's statement, "When philosophy paints its grey
in grey, then has a shape of life grown old." Steyerl is also interested here in the ways in which modern artists have explored abstraction through the monochrome, as evidenced in the introductory timeline-which chronicles artists from Kazimir Malevich to Sean Scully and their statements on color. In his essay on the use of gray in the work of Jasper Johns, James Rondeau wrote, "Gray exists in Johns's work not just as color, but also as an idea, condition, and material-a thing in and of itself." ${ }^{" 5}$ And so, too, it is here: a condition, a material-when Steyerl's hired conservators are unable to find any physical evidence of Adorno's gray, she responds, "In this case, let's try plan B. If we cannot find any grey, you'll have to make it." The conservators' metal tools scraping against the white paint surface eventually yields a kind of grisaille, though one created expressly for the purpose of being filmed and photographed. Adorno's Grey, like much of Steyerl's work, draws attention to the conditions of its own making: revealing camera and lighting equipment in shots, including sound tests, retakes, and even conversation between the artist and those onscreen to whom she gives explicit direction. In the same way that no attempt is made to resolve either the motivation behind, or the true effect on Adorno, of the "breast attack," the existence of Adorno's gray remains suspended in uncertainty.

A loosely connected trilogy beginning with November (2004), followed by Lovely Andrea (2007) and Abstract (2012), is installed in chronological sequence on separate screens in gallery 184 . The works are unified by their reference to the figure of Andrea WolfSteyerl's girlhood friend and the star of her first film. Wolf later became an activist for Kurdish independence, working under the adopted name Sehît Ronahî. Branded a terrorist by the German government, she was ultimately killed by Turkish forces in 1998. The title November refers to the period after "October," which is both the month that Wolf was captured and killed, and a refer-
ence to the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, which for insurgents everywhere represents a time when collective agitation was widely believed to have brought about progressive political change. Thus, for Steyerl, "November" signifies now-the present as aftermath, a time marked by a lack of clearly defined heroes or enemies, by ambiguous goals, and by mere images of liberation that are themselves destabilized through frenetic circulation across various contexts. It is not Wolf as person (i.e., the friend, the actress, the woman, the fighter), but rather as image, that is at the heart of November.

Footage from the campy, feminist martial-arts film that Steyerl and Wolf made as teenagers finds the young women playfully mimicking emancipatory postures. Juxtaposed with Wolf's later involvement fighting on behalf of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), these youthful activities appear prescient. But the arc the film follows is anything but heroic. November tracks Wolf over time, across borders, and through diverse media. As Steyerl's voiceover says, "Andrea became herself a traveling image, wandering over the globe, an image passed on from hand to hand, copied and reproduced by printing presses, video recorders, and the Internet." In addition to Steyerl's twenty-year-old film footage, shot on scavenged reels, there is an interview with Wolf/Ronahî recorded in a camp on the Kurdish border. Previously broadcast over satellite television and recorded to VHS, the interview is played back on a television monitor, only to be recorded again for inclusion here. Finally, cheaply made posters commemorating Ronahî as a martyr appear not only at political protests, but also in an art-house movie theater hanging next to skin-flick pinups. These used, abused, and degraded images, which move and proliferate quickly, are shown to be more than faint copies of a once-vivid original. Indeed, they circulate far and wide in a way their subject could not; and through them we see her say and do things that she never intended.


Still from Lovely Andrea, 2007. The Art Institute of Chicago, Contemporary Art Discretionary Fund and Wilson L. Mead Fund. © Hito Steyerl.

Despite its title, Lovely Andrea is the film least connected to Wolf. Instead it centers on Steyerl's own narrative, in which she returns to Tokyo, where, as a film student in 1987, she posed for a bondage photograph under the pseudonym Andrea. The film follows Steyerl's rather comical quest, twenty years after the fact, to locate the image amidst thousands of such images produced in Japanese publications. The artist montages behind-the-scenes footage of Tokyo's S\&M scene with clips from the cartoon and cinematic versions of Spider-Man, and a soundtrack featuring Donna Summer's "She Works Hard for the Money" and "Oh Bondage, Up Yours!" by the punk band X-Ray Spex. As in all of Steyerl's work, her own story is just one of a number of narrative threads, and the video raises larger questions about the circulation of images, networked systems of sexuality and violence, fact and fiction, and freedom and domination. Again, the photographic image is a central character around which all the human activity-that of the artist, her translator (herself a bondage performer), the camera crew, and a cohort of male photographersrevolves. The video also tracks geopolitical changes occurring over the lifetime of the image: a 1987 clip of Ronald Reagan intoning "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" signals
the year of its birth; others connote the Internet culture that gives safe harbor to the photographer who took Steyerl's photo and allows him to disseminate thousands of like images around the globe instantly.

Some seven years after the making of November, when news began to emerge about mass graves discovered in Kurdistan, Steyerl traveled there in search of information about Wolf's murder. Abstract involves a secondperson account of a Kurdish militant fighter who escaped when Turkish forces killed 39 people, including Wolf. The two-channel projection begins with the intertitles "shot" and "countershot"-terms that describe a film technique in which one character is shown looking at another character offscreen, and then the second character is shown looking back. It continues, "The grammar of cinema follows the grammar of battle." The piece unfolds with a shot/ countershot conversation between the two screens, and Abstract extends this alternation by shuttling the viewer between images of the site in Kurdistan where the battle occurred and views of the artist in Berlin, seen against the nondescript headquarters of the company that produced the missiles deployed in the attack. On the mini-cinema screen of her cell
phone, which Steyerl holds in front of her eyes, images of the gravesite contents appear. While the subtitled interview describes the particular abuses visited upon Wolf's corpse by Turkish soldiers, what tells the story are the scarred and damaged objects in the gravesiteshell casings, water jugs, coats, pants, piles of beltscarves, and a salient bone fragment.

Presented separately in gallery 186, In Free Fall (2010) is also a tripartite series of chapters, but in one continuous, single-channel cycle. The central character here is a Boeing 707. The many lives of this aircraft and others like it reveal a complex system of social relations encompassed by processes of production, consumption, destruction, and reuse. The opening sequence, "After the Crash," finds the plane in a wreckage yard in the Mojave Desert overseen by retired pilot Mike Potter, who makes his living by storing, recycling, and demolishing obsolete aircraft. In "Before the Crash," the intertitle references Russian materialist writer Sergei Tret'iakov (1892-1937) whose Biography of the Object called for a shift from literary conventions privileging the singular heroic human subject in favor of a narrative approach based on the object as it moves through a collective system of people. Actor Imri Kahn portrays an airplane historian who expounds on the storied past of this particular Boeing, model 4 X-JYI, which began in 1956 as part of a commercial fleet owned by TWA and served as an Israeli military plane in the 1970 before making its way to Potter's junkyard, where it was blown up in the 1994 action film Speed, then scrapped for sale to China-where the recycled aluminum probably was used in the production of bootleg DVDs. Made in the aftermath of the worldwide economic crisis that began in 2008, In Free Fall relates the global to the extremely local-in the final chapter, "Crash," Steyerl's cameraman, Kevan Jenson, tells how the economic downturn, as well as increasing digitization, nearly devastated his business and forced him to sell his aluminum dream home.

The final and most recent work in the exhibition, Guards (2012), pointedly addresses the very institution in which the work is being presented. Shot on location at the Art Institute, it was inspired by comments made by Professor Lawrence Rothfield, faculty director of the Cultural Policy Center at the University of Chicago. Rothfield told the Guardian that cultural institutions, "should not assume that the brutal policing job required to prevent looters and professional art thieves from carrying away items is just one for the national police or for other forces not under their direct control." He added, "Even in the US and other very stable countries, disasters can occur that open the door to looting." ${ }^{6}$

Guards presupposes that this controversial call to arms overlooks the fact that many security guards already come from active military or law enforcement backgrounds and are prepared with special operations training. While certainly the stakes are high when dealing with cultural heritage, here in the United States the risks appear relatively low at the present time. A more pressing concern may be that the economic politics of the art world, about which Steyerl writes trenchantly, allow its multibillion dollar economic market to be held aloft by a labor force of free interns, overworked freelancers, and low-paid security guards. ${ }^{7}$ This uneven economy dovetails with the reality that there are many who enter into military service in dire need of the financial supports it offers, and that those charged with protecting artifacts of cultural heritage art may, in their new capacity, be entering an art museum for the first time.

Shot entirely in the Art Institute's contemporary collection galleries, Guards features interviews with security officers employed at several different institutions. Gliding dolly shots follow the officers as they "make the rounds" through the galleries describing harrowing encounters in active duty and protection strategies for the artworks they pass along the way. The high-definition


Still from In Free Fall, 2010. © Hito Steyerl, courtesy Wilfried Lentz Rotterdam.
single-channel video is displayed vertically at approximately the same height as a stationed officer. It is located in gallery 295, where, at the time of shooting, Bruce Nauman's video Art Make-Up (1967-68) was on view-the darkened space inspiring officer Ron Hicks to reenact a stakeout. As the video unfolds, the works of art on the walls are increasingly replaced by composite screens showing news footage of violent incidents in which some of the officers had been involved-the "real" world breaks into the museum.

Steyerl uses the aesthetic and theoretical tools of the documentary form to propose real alternatives to the challenges posed by our contemporary condition. If we expect to contend with the speed, intensity, and vastness of the image economy that surrounds us, we will likely need to relinquish the hierarchical bias that compels us to seek control over the boundless. If we can't beat it, her work suggests, let's simply join the morass of images as one of them. In Steyerl's view there is already achievement in simply opening up to limitless possibilities. Rather than trying to "make sense" of it all, we can transcend the demand for resolution altogether and do the best we can with the degraded image. In 1929 Tret'iakov wrote, "We urgently need books
about our economic resources, about objects made by people, and about people that make objects. Our politics grow out of economics, and there is not a single second in a person's day uninvolved in economics or politics." ${ }^{8}$ Eighty-three years later, Steyerl's art most astutely answers that call.

LISA DORIN
ASSOCIATE CURATOR
DEPARTMENT OF CONTEMPORARY ART

1. Hito Steyerl, "Documentary Uncertainty," A Prior 15 (2007), pp. 2-3.
2. Gertrud Koch, "Mimesis and Bilderverbot," Screen 34, no. 3 (Autumn 1993), pp. 211-22.
3. Theodor Adorno interviewed in Der Spiegeh May 5, 1969, 23:9, pp. 204-209, reprinted in Gerhard Richter and Theodor W. Adorno, "Who's Afraid of the Ivory Tower? A Conversation with Theodor W. Adorno," in "Rereading Adorno," special issue, Monatshefie 94, no. 1 (Spring 2002), pp. 10-23.
4. For more on the "breast attack," see Lisa Yun Lee, "The Bared-Breasts Incident" in Feminist Interpretations of Theodor Adorno, ed. Renée Herberle (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2006).
5. James Rondeau,"Jasper Johns: Gray," in James Rondeau and Douglas Druick, Jasper Johns: Gray (Art Institute of Chicago/ Yale University Press, 2007), p. 28.
6. Lawrence Rothfield, quoted in John Hooper, "Arm Museum Guards to Prevent Looting Says Professor," guardian.co.uk © Guardian News and Media Limited 2011.
7. See Hito Steyerl, "Politics of Art: Contemporary Art and the Transition to Post-Democracy" in The Wretched of The Screen (e-flux, Inc./Sternberg Press, 2012), pp. 92-ioI
8. Sergei Tret'iakov, "The Biography of the Object" in Literatura fakta, ed. Nikolai Chuzhak (Federatsiia, 1929), pp. 66-70.

## HITO STEYERL

Born Munich, Germany, 1966
Studied at the Academy of Visual Arts, Tokyo, 1990; studied at the University of Television and Film Munich (HFF), 2003; Ph.D., Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, 2003

Lives and works in Berlin

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS AND SCREENINGS

 2012Hito Steyerl, Adorno's Grey, Wilfried Lentz Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Hito Steyerl: The Kiss,
Overgaden, Copenhagen Art Festival, Denmark

Hito Steyerl, e-flux, New York 2011

Hito Steyerl: Journal No.IAn Artist's Impression, Studiengalerie 1.357, Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Hito Steyerl: Journal No. IAn Artist's Impression and In Free Fall, Wilfried Lentz
Rotterdam, the Netherlands 2010

In Free Fall, Collective, Edinburgh; Picture This, Bristol; and Chisenhale Gallery, London

Ricochet \#3, Museum Villa Stuck, Munich (cat.)

Henie Onstad Art Center,
Oslo, Norway (cat.)
2009
Hito Steyerh, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein (NBK), Berlin (cat.)

Der Bau, Linz Kulturhauptstadt, Austria

P74 Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2008
Red Alert, Kunsthalle
Winterthur, Switzerland
Hito Steyerh Moderna
Museer, Stockholm, Sweden 2007

In Dependence, $300 \mathrm{~m}^{3}$ Art Space, Göteborg, Sweden

SELECTED GROUP
EXHIBITIONS, FILM
FESTIVALS, AND
SCREENINGS
2012
Outside Effect, ist Tbilisi Triennial (Center of Contemporary Art Tbilisi), Georgia

Prompts and Triggers, Surplus Authors, Witte de With,
Rotterdam, the Netherlands
A Peculiar Form of Fiction,
Site Gallery, Sheffield, England
Materiality, Alternativa 2012, Wyspa Institute of Art, Gdansk, Poland

Screen Festival, MACBA, Barcelona

Remote Controh ICA, London
Mengele's Skull: The Advent of a Forensic Aesthetics, Portikus, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (cat.)

Episode 1: A Film Is a Statement, Arikal2, Center for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow, Scotland 2011

Big Picture II (Zeitzonen),
Kunstsammlung im Ständehaus, Düsseldorf, Germany

One World Berlin Filmfestival für Menschenrechte und
Medien, Arsenal Institut für
Film und Videokunst, Berlin
Les marques aveugles, Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Switzerland

The Global Contemporary:
Kunstwelten nach 1989, ZKM, Museum für Neue Kunst, Karlsruhe, Germany

Seeing Is Believing, KW
Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin

Espressofilm: Kurzfilm einen Sommer lang, Vienna

All That Fits: The Aesthetics of Journalism, Quad Gallery, Derby, England (cat.)
Serious Games: Krieg-
Medien-Kunst, Institut Mathildenhöhe, Darmstadt, Germany

International Film Festival
Rotterdam, the Netherlands
Schöne Aussichten: Wiedereröffnung der Neuen Galerie, Neue
Galerie, Kassel, Germany
2010
CPH:DOX, Copenhagen
International Documentary
Film Festival, Denmark
Un lugar fuera de la historia, Museo Tamayo de Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City

Vectors of the Possible, BAK, Utrecht, the Netherlands

Shockworkers of the Mobile
Image, First Ural Industrial
Biennial of Contemporary
Art, NCCA, Ekaterinburg,
Russia (cat.)
Taipei Biennial 2010, Taiwan
Maninbo (10000 Lives), 8th
Gwangju Biennale, South
Korea (cat.)
Alles anders:/Everything different?, Kunsthalle Wien Project Space, Vienna

Antiphotojournalism, La Virreina Centre de l'Imatge,
Barcelona; Foam Photography Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Auto-Kino!, Temporäre
Kunsthalle Berlin
Everyday Ideologies, Kunstmuseum Madgeburg, Germany 2009

O muro de Berlim-Espelho da história da Alemanha,
Museu Nacional de Arte Contemporânea-Museu do Chiado, Lisbon, Portugal

Fallmauerfall 6I-89-09, Ephraim-Palais Stadtmuseum, Berlin

The Red House, Center for Culture and Debate, Sofia, Bulgaria

Under Control, Krannert Art
Museum, University of Illinois
at Urbana-Champaign (cat.)
The Storyteller, Salina Art Center, Salina, Kansas,
Independent Curators Inter-
national; Sheila C. Johnson
Design Center at Parsons The
New School for Design, New

York; Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (film-only version)

The View from Elsewhere, Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, Sydney; Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA), Queensland, Australia

Les Visages de l'industrie, Eternal Tour Festival, Musée des beaux-arts du Locle, Le Locle, Switzerland

Highlights from Cologne KunstFilmBiennale, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin 2008

Dispersion, ICA, London
VideoZone 4, International
Video Art Biennial, the
Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv

Zones of Conflict, Pratt Manhattan Gallery, New York
The Greenroom: Reconsidering the Documentary and Contemporary Art, CCS Bard Hessel Museum, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York (cat.)

Pure Expression, Pancevo
Biennale of Art, Gallery of Contemporary Art, Kulturni Centar Pancevo, Serbia

Der Blinde Fleck, Neue Gesellschaft für Bildende Kunst e.V. (NGBK), Berlin

7th Shanghai Biennale
U-Turn Quadrennial for Contemporary Art, Copenhagen,
Denmark
Tiefenrausch: Kunst und Führungen in den Linzer Unterwelten, Offenes Kulturhaus (OK), Linz, Austria (cat.)
Vertrautes Terrain, Zentrum für Kunst und Medientechnologie (ZKM), Karlsruhe, Germany
2007
KunstFilmBiennale, Cologne The Long Distance RunnerThe Production Unit Archive, Den Frie Centre of Contemporary Art, Copenhagen,
Denmark

Edition II: Feminist Legacies and Potentials in Contemporary Art Practice, If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want to Be Part of Your Revolution, MUHKA, Antwerp
documenta 12, Kassel,
Germany
2006
VideoZone 3, International Video Art Biennial, the Center for Contemporary Art, Tel Aviv (cat.)

Bienal Internacional de Arte Contemporáneo de Sevilla, Fundación BIACS, Seville, Spain
Whitechapel Art Gallery, London
We All Laughed at Christopher Columbus, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam

Ethnic Marketing: Tracing the Limits of Art World Internationalism, Artspace Vanak Street 13 and Azad Gallery, Tehran, Iran (cat.)
40 Jahre Videokunst: Digital Heritage, Zentrum fur Kunst und Medientechnologie
(ZKM), Karlsruhe, Germany (cat.)
A Picture of War Is Not War,
Wilkinson Gallery, London
2005
Modell: Verpaßte Gelegen-heit-Symptome der Überforderung, Brandenburgischer Kunstverein Potsdam e.V., Germany
Contour 2005: 2nd Biennial for Video Art, Contour Mechelen vzw, Mechelen, Belgium

Urban Realities: Focus on Istanbul, Berliner Festspiele,
Martin-Gropius-Bau, Germany
Berlin åben by, Kunsthal-
len Nikolaj, Copenhagen,
Denmark
Das Neue Europa: Kultur des Vermischens und Politik der Repräsentation, Generali Foundation, Vienna

Ethnic Marketing: Art, Globalization, and Intercultural Supply and Demand, Centre d'art contemporain de Genève,
Switzerland
Flanders International Film
Festival-Ghent, SMAK,
Ghent, Belgium
Manifesta 5, Donostia-San Sebastián, Spain

Es ist schwer das Reale zu berühren, Kunstverein München, Germany

3rd Berlin Biennale, Germany
Museo del Arte Contempora-
neo de la Reina Sofia, Madrid
2003
ABCity, Trafó House of
Contemporary Art, Budapest, Hungary
Show Your Wound, Goethe Institute, Tel Aviv

Contemporary Film and Video, Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden
Bildmuseet, Umeå, Sweden
Dokumentarismen: Filme und Videos, Museum Moderner
Kunst Stiftung Ludwig (MUMOK), Vienna

Geschichten, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, Austria
Transversal: Cultural Work and Critique of Globalisation, Kunsthalle Exnergasse/WUK, Vienna
Current Media Art from
Germany, Toronto Images
Festival, Canada
2001
Dokumentarfilmfestivals,
Munich
Du bist die Welt, Wiener
Festwochen, Vienna
2000
Heimat Kunst, Haus der
Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
Continental Shifts, Ludwig
Forum für Internationale
Kunst, Aachen, Germany

Translocation, Vienna
1998

International Kurzfilmtage
Oberhausen, Germany

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at Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Germany." Frieze 127 (Nov./Dec. 2009), p. 135.
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Matter Lives, Matter LovesThe Affective Labour of the Image in Hito Steyerl's In Free Fall." APEngine (Oct. 8, 2010). http://www.apengine.org.

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The Art of Hito Steyerl."
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"Documetaphors." Continental Drift (June 30, 2007). http://
brianholmes.wordpress.com.
Fox, Dan. "Manifesta $\varsigma$ European Biennial of Contemporary Art." Frieze 85 (Sept. 2004), Pp. 112-13.
Franke, Alwin. "Surface
Manifestations." Overgaden
Exhibition Folder Hito Steyerl, The Kiss, Aug. 24-Oct. 21, 2012.

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Alert." Camera Austria 103-04
(Nov. 2008), pp. 102-03.
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"Hito Steyerl at Chisenhale Gallery." Because London (Nov. 23, 2010). http:// becauselondon.com.
"Hito Steyerl, In Free Fall." New Art London (Nov. 23, 2010). http://newartlondon.blogspot. com.
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Artforum 47, 7 (Mar. 2009),
p. 239.

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Dispersion: London." Guardian
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Hito Steyerl." Guardian
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WORKS IN THE EXHIBITION
Unless otherwise noted, all works courtesy of the artist and Wilfried Lentz Rotterdam.

## November, 2004

Color video, sound (projection); 25 min . loop. The Art Institute of Chicago, Contemporary Art Discretionary Fund and Wilson L. Mead Fund, 2012.123

Lovely Andrea, 2007
Color video, sound (projection); 30 min . loop. The Art Institute of Chicago, Wilson L. Mead Fund, 2012.124

## In Free Fall, 2010

High-definition color video, sound (projection); 32 min . loop

## Abstract, 2012

Two-channel high-definition color video, sound (projection); 7 min . loop

## Adornos's Grey, 2012

High-definition black-and-white video, sound (projection); 14:20 min. loop

## Guards, 2012

High-definition color video, sound (projection); 20 min . loop

OPENING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1
6:00 p.m.
Conversation with the artist
Price Auditorium

7:00 p.m.
Reception
Ryan Education Center, Studio A

5:00-8:00 p.m.
Exhibition viewing
Galleries 182-84, 186, and 295
GALLERY TALKS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
12:00 p.m.
Associate curator Lisa Dorin
Griffin Court

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11
12:00 p.m.
Curatorial assistant Tracy Parker
Griffin Court

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front and back cover: Adorno's Grey,
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