

Selected Works 1991-1999

Justin Bennett.





Cartographic drawings.

These drawings of fictive cities have been an element of Bennett's work since the mid 1980's.





Resonant System. 1991. Video. Hi-band Umatic. 9 mins 50 secs, colour, stereo sound.

"If sound can resonate, are there not also electromagnetic vibrations with video images? Justin Bennett makes this plausible using a striking interaction between image and sound. The fact that Bennett is generally occupied with sonology, the study of electronic music, is of course more than conincidental. The sparkling simplicity makes Resonant System a clear production which appeals to the imagination and in which particularly the emotional resonance between objects, the video camera, tape, monitor and the viewer is given shape." Erik Quint in World Wide Video Festival catalogue 1992.









Accelerator / Accumulator 2 1992. 3 channel video. 5 channel sound, swinging microphone.

Two asynchronous, seemingly repetitive videotapes show hands striking a metal disc to produce sound. Each is shown on two video monitors, mirroring the images and movements. The sound emerges from loudspeakers arranged in a circle on the floor. A microphone suspended from the ceiling swings like a pendulum over the speakers, picking up the sound and re-injecting it back into the room. The rhythms of the video and the pendulum overlap, creating a shifting, hypnotic field of sound. Outside the room stands a fifth video monitor showing a book of ideas, diagrams, blueprints. The turning pages form another cyclical cross-rhythm to the slow turning of the pendulum.





Sketchbooks.

Working sketches, scores and notes in sketchbooks are constantly used, sometimes exhibited. In 1997 hundreds of these drawings were scanned and linked together into the online archive *The Magic Web*. A selection was published in 2003 in the book *Noise Map*.









Dervish 1992. Super 8 transferred to video. colour, stereo sound, projected text.

In the soundtrack of *Dervish*, a short musical phrase is isolated, stretched and intensified. The process of accumulation of energy is analogous to the structure of ritual musics: increasing physical action and repetition form a plateau of intensity which ceases only when the music has performed its required function. The video uses a similar structure. A repeating segment of film is gradually slowed and magnified, exploring the visual structures of the film and video media. The spinning of the dancer on the monitors is echoed in a text projected onto the floor in a spiral:

" by turning our bodies, we set in motion a machine - an assembly of lines, of wheels, of ideas. its rotation, its rhythms of speed and slowness, its whirling, transport us to another space, where new transformations, new becomings await us."





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LISTEN Luister





Cityscape 1993-1997. Radio broadcasts, installation and CD with A2 poster.

"In *Cityscape*, sounds from contrasting areas and spaces of a city are collected by an array of microphones. These sounds are mixed, treated and broadcast live via a (local) FM radio transmitter to be listened to privately, at home.

The work makes certain spaces, certain aspects of the city both public and private. The listeners are given access to places in the city usually inaccessible- these are mapped into the public space of radio. At the same time, the characteristics of the normally public spaces of the city are mapped into a private space between the speakers of the stereo receiver in the home."

The CD contains a long mix of field recordings made in different cities for this project.

a desiring machine







A Desiring Machine. 1994. Video. Low-band Umatic. 5 mins, colour, stereo sound.

A hypnotic journey that explores the camera as a machine as it engages with the world, merging mages of trees, bodies and maps.





Shelter. 1996 Copper, cardboard, loudspeakers, Audio CD.

Lying inside the copper tent, the listener hears the sounds of burning twigs and distant explosions.

Seen opposite in installation "On the edge of the City" Westergasfabriek, Amsterdam together with the videos *Dervish* and *Mapping*.

HOOFDSTUK 2 JUSTIN BENNETT BLAD 3

Annemarie Aardewerk HOOFDSTUK 2

Justia Bennett ZATERDAG 20 SEPTEMBER 1997

Marinus Baezem 14.00 TOT 16.00 UUR Rané Baomkens JUSTIN BENNETT

Lex ter Braak KUNSTENAAR

rosewater and wine **Raoul Bunschoten** wine and sugar Bas Czerwinski sugar and almonds Calin Dan almonds and spices fordacity Christoph Fink spices and rice rice and pepper Roza El-Hassan pepper and oil Wim Hofman Koo Jeong-a oil and wine Birthe Leemeijer wine and wool Tracy Mackenna wool and hemp Charlemagne Palestine hemp and saffron Mark Pimlett saffron and salts Hans van de Sande salts and rice rice and figs Moniek Toebosch Ginette Verstraete figs and oranges Lucas Verweij oranges and capers capers and olives Keith Wilson Camiel van Winkel olives and fruit fruit and pepper pepper and salt salt and oil oil and cork cork and soda soda and soap soap and alum Alum and fruit of which, 3 spices 2 spices and oranges 2 dried goods for Antwerpen 6 empty from Sluis 3 empty coming from Veere of which, 1 salt and spices 1 salt and apples 1 salt and soda 1 wine and fruit 2 figs 1 dates and almonds

1 sugar 3 molasses.





Justin Bennett (rechts) presenteert zijn radioprogramma voor De Verborgen Stad (Foto Bas Czerwinski)





Secret City. 1997. Local FM radio broadcast.

Made for the exhibition "De Verborgen Stad" de Vleeshal, Middelburg. Merging field recordings and music, texts and interviews, fact and fiction, *Secret City* was a guide to the alleyways and passages of the city. Visitors could borrow a small radio receiver and headphones. On three occasions the automatic, 24 hours-a-day broadcast was produced live, and opened to other contributors, using the Vleeshal itself as a radio studio.





Soundhouse. 1998. PVC tubes, funnels, 2 channel sound

Two interlocking spoken texts are combined with the sounds of breath and liquids flowing through pipes. The texts, based on statements by psychiatric patients, speak of the relationship of technology to communication. The listener hears the piece through the funnels, visually becoming part of the piece.