

And in Conclusion

2021 | 24 channel video and sound installation | 13:49 (loop)



John Sanborn

soundtrack composed and performed by Dorit Chrysler

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We're all here by a quirk of nature, and not forever. A great philosopher once said "Life is like a party and parties weren't meant to last." By which he meant entropy will always triumph.

Humans are an infection inflicted on this planet. Our life cycle is short so we do what we do – we make a mess. We're told how to take care of ourselves but we do what we want. It's clear we're wrecking our planet, but we charge unheedingly ahead.

We either don't listen or just don't care. So, we die.

Age has revealed evolution to be a conjectural cadence I don't understand. The rhythms and pleasures of recursion, segmented as they are into tones and attitudes, have become an idea of time - as opposed to an experience of time.

All my friends are dying. The planet is wounded, and soon will be inhabitable.

Which suggests that we are projecting our own mortality onto the earth. Credibly, this is inevitable and unavoidable. The end of the precarious balance between humanity and nature is like the loss of a mind. The end of humans on earth and the end of my life might be tied together in a dance macabre – a ritual of co-dependency whose climax is a duet of death. How selfish!

We're all "concerned" about climate change, but maybe this is what is supposed to happen. Any cycle needs a finale. All stories end. Death informs life. The planet will survive us all – and the next sentient species might heed the warning from our demise. There is no determined progression of experiences. There are only highs and lows. These elusive sensations have formed into a recognition of finality.

And in Conclusion is an installation that stands away from the wall, with eight 43" monitors positioned back to back on stands. Four face in one direction, four in the opposite direction. Mounted on an oval armature are 16 small monitors. The larger screens present elusive states of mind, a mix of environments, dance, patterns and histrionically themed vignettes. The smaller screens are a jumble of fleeting memories and real-world indictments – collaged as if remembered in the early stages of dementia.



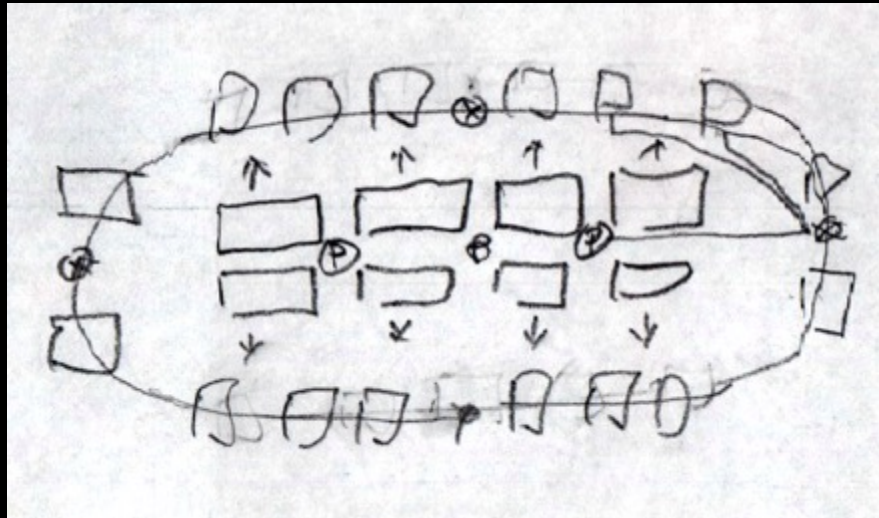








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And In Conclusion overlays two cyclic journeys, taken from my mental map of time.

Using a center core of 8 screens (a pair of four) facing outwards to present a cycle of humanity and its foibles, and a ring of 16 smaller screens to sample a personal cycle of a life lived.

The work was designed so that viewers must walk around the piece, making their own cycle, in order to experience how the cycles relate to each other, as what is facing one way (side A) is different than what is facing the other way (side B).

In fact, it is physically impossible to view the entire work.

[And In Conclusion \(full video mock up\)](#)

Edition of 3 | 1 AP

JS-MM-2002

Technology:

8 43" HD monitors with internal speakers

16 12" digital picture frames

Custom Sync Systems (Pine and GoFanco)

Custom oval armature

8 monitor stands