

“Pink Waters” -CM Adams

Background:

“Pink Waters” is the audio portion of a multimedia art installation created in collaboration with the Berlin based, Finnish artist, Isabella Chydenius. The work itself deals with the paradoxical nature of night for queer individuals. Night is both a time of freedom and danger, it allows the greatest amount of expression for sexual minorities and assorted queer folk, but it’s also the time of day most prone to violence. This paradoxical sense of expression is what informs the installation and its aesthetic sensibilities. The installation itself consists of several components, two videos on walls constantly being played, one of a woman dancing alone, free unimposed by anything, depicted through a series of colored portraits in a 3d space; the other video is of a crashing set of pink waves. On the ground is a collage of broken glass and resin. The audio portion is for mono sound output, but given an ideal setting and budget, the audio portion would be for 4 or more speakers positioned around the room. Throughout the installation, the videos and audio play on repeat, slightly changing the feeling of the piece as they gradually change position relative to each other. The full multimedia work is titled “just let me dance”; it was curated by Backhaus Projects in Berlin and was featured from 17-24 November 2022.

Description:

The audio itself depicts a landscape that draws from the visual components of the installation. The work balances the bassy nature of the club and its freedom, depicted through the dance, with the all encompassing mass of water shown in pink. The sound world plays into the duality of the water; it is hypnotic and relaxing, but it also shows its potential danger through sinister undertones. This itself is an abstract overview of nightlife. The broken glass also rears its head into the depictive soundscape through the general dark tone of the material. While making this work, I strove to write material that was complimentary of the visual components while interesting in its own right; the audio must be depictive while still listenable. The club environment for queer individuals is loud, powerful, and at times cacophonous, but the freedom of it is a unique experience not found in most places.