



unplace

networked art: places-between-places

Credits

Wilfredo Prieto

A Moment of Silence · 2007

(curated by Lynne Cooke and Sara Tucker)

Downloadable programme for PC and Mac.

Work updated by DIA Art Foundation for the unplace exhibition

Work Presentations:

2007 — Commissioned by DIA Art Foundation and curated by Lynne Cooke and Sara Tucker.

Biography

Wilfredo Prieto

Born in 1978 in Sancti-Spiritus, Cuba. He lives and works in Havana, Cuba.

Wilfredo Prieto's oeuvre is characterised by extreme minimalism, sarcasm and self-mockery. He studied at the Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana, and has had residencies at Gasworks, London; Le Grand Cafe, St. Nazaire, France; John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, New York and the Kadist Art Foundation, Paris. His latest solo exhibitions were held at S.M.A.K., Gent, 2014; NMAC Foundation, Cadiz, 2013; Sala de Arte Publico Siqueiros, Mexico, 2012; 11th Havana Biennial, J and Calzada, Havana 2012; Praxis, ARTIUM, Vitoria, 2011; Kunsthalle Lissabon, Lisbon, 2011; Dia Art Foundation, New York 2007. His work has been included in numerous group exhibitions. Prieto received the Cartier Award (Frieze, London, 2008) and the 2000 UNESCO Prize for the Promotion of the Arts (7th Havana Biennial, DUPP, Havana, 2000).

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Lynne Cooke and Sara Tucker (curators)

Lynne Cooke is senior curator, special projects in modern art, at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, and was a curator of Dia Art Foundation from 1991 to 2008.

Sara Tucker is the IT Director at Dia Art Foundation, where she has produced the series of Artists Web Projects since the series began in 1995.

Description

A Moment of Silence provides an uncontrolled virtual experience for 1 minute. After this time, the world returns intact.

For his first web-based project, Wilfredo Prieto invites visitors to take part in a moment of silence via the internet, with no stipulations or expectations apart from the willingness to cede control of one's computer while the minute is observed. Once launched, the ineluctable sixty seconds begin to pass. Your screen becomes black, and attempts to escape the moment with mouse or keyboard interaction go unheeded. Why would anyone agree to surrender control of the device that is so central to daily life? For many people, computers serve as the key repository of information and the primary conduit of communication. Prieto is asking for temporary abdication. A Moment of Silence, also invites contradictory reactions: is this minute meant to instil feelings of respect, grief, protest, solidarity, relief or panic? Try it and see. S.T.

