

Performance Lab Berlin: "Gate Theory"

Premiere 21.04.2007, Gelber Raum, Berlin

Concept/ Choreography: Shannon Sullivan

Performers: Heidrun Jahn, Joey Juschka, Barbara Kowa, Lea Lanz, Renate Moringello

"Gate Theory" was made to be felt, not seen. It is based on the neurological phenomenon that different types of stimulus are processed on different neurological pathways and in a specific order of priority.

Each audience member receives a blindfold and ear plugs. The performance consists of a series of improvised compositions, each containing a specific type of stimulus: temperature, pressure, two-point differentiation, vibration, kinesthesia, etc. The guest is then guided to move through the room where smells, rhythmical breathing and sound are incorporated. Only at the very last moment are the audience members allowed a glimpse of the performers.

Audience Comments:

"The performance managed to speak to primal instincts or feelings such as trust and protection, and those feelings have stayed with me! ... the experience to give yourself over to an unknown person and to feel no fear touches areas which lie much deeper than superficial body contact ... I didn't know who this person was: how old s/he is, whether s/he's tall or short, beautiful or ugly, not even whether it was a man or a woman..."



- Bodo, *Gate Theory* guest, April 2007



"... a very generous atmosphere, modest and kind. I was kept curious about what was coming next, and enjoyed the intimacy..."

- Maya Lipsker, *Gate Theory* guest, April 2007

"Your performance left a lasting impression on me. It felt especially good to perceive things "differently" with my senses, to go deep inside myself. That was a very beautiful journey, which I would gladly undertake many more times."

- André Schneider, *Gate Theory* guest, April 2007



Performance Lab Berlin:

Shannon Sullivan & Joey Juschka

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