Tremulations

This exhibition presents echoes and reflections. The cinematic interventions by Jacqui Davies are interpretations of Emanuel Swedenborg's "Nine Rules of Tremulation" and contain traces and "flashbacks" from an exhibition of artworks and archival material that she curated with Daniel Birnbaum for Swedenborg House, London, in 2023. Sixteen voices recite literary passages inspired by the Swedish visionary's writings, so full of mirror-images and simulacra.

Video

- 1. **Signals** A broken light in Pedion tou Areos park, Athens, appears to signal that all things tremulate.
- 2. **Techno Tesla** One signal is tremulated through another. Found footage of an experiment with playing techno music through Tesla coil.
- 3. **Man with flower in his mouth** Television is image transmitted by sound. *The Man with the Flower in his Mouth,* a play written by Pirandello was the first broadcast by the BBC on 14 July 1930.
- 4. **Sound shattering glass** Found footage of experiments demonstrating shattering glass with sound, as referenced by Swedenborg in the fourth rule.
- 5. **Vortex** Found footage of an experiment to create vortex rings, a concept Swedenborg later used to explain the paradox of infinity creating the finite world.
- 6. **Mirror and water** Footage of the water from the ferry between Pireaus and the island of Hydra. Swedenborg mentions the ways in which tremulations are affected the density of atmospheres and their occurrence in water.
- 7. **Murmuration** A murmuration of starlings in flight appears to demonstrate the rule that one tremulation does not interfere with another.
- 8. Enter the Dragon The famous hall of mirrors fight scene corresponds with Swedenborg's ideas of reflections and echoes in the eighth rule, also reflected in Marcel Duchamp's *Anemic Cinema* (1926).
- 9. Dream machine / Swedenborg House Within a visualisation of a theta wave (produced during REM sleep), this work appears to dream of a previous exhibition *Tremulations* by Jacqui Davies and Daniel Birnbaum at Swedenborg House, London, 2023.

Literature

Etel Adnan The Spring Flowers Own, 1990

Charles Baudelaire Correspondances, 1857

Emanuel Swedenborg Borges selected poems 1923–1967

Elizabeth Barrett Browning How Do I Love Thee? (Sonnet 43), 1850

Olga Tokarczuk

Prowadź swój pług przez kości umarłych, 2009

August Strindberg Inferno, 1897

Selma Lagerlöf Brev 1890–1899

鈴木 大拙 貞太郎 (Suzuki Daisetsu Teitarō)

Swedenborg: Buddha of the North, 1996

William Blake

The Marriage of Heaven and Hell, 1793

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Faust. Der Tragödie zweiter Teil, 1832. 5. Akt, Bergschluchten, Chorus Mysticus

A. S. Byatt Angels and Insects, 1993

Gerard de Nerval Aurélia, 1855

W. B. Yeats Swedenborg, Mediums and the Desolate Places, 1914

H. D. (Hilda Doolittle) Vale Ave, 1957

Gunnar Ekelöf Färjesång, 1941 En Mölna-elegi, 1960



Illustration by Emanuel Swedenborg

