

GASP LIGHT NEW YEARS EVE 2016

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InLight

Petri Saarikko

Artist Statement

Somatic human form has evolved little since the discovery of storable energy. Yet the invention of artificial light as a medium for transmitting configurable information has provoked biorhythmic social psyche to a hysterically awake state.

Optically stimulating cues on personal mobile screens substitute face-to-face communication as the most desirable form of interaction. The prevailing desire to remain always-on and relentlessly in-touch takes its shape through configured artificial light; loosely amputated cues of glowing characters and socially configured symbols. We have become captive to mutating forms of enlightenment.

Being 'in lightened' by the flows of mobile information has vanquished the corporeal contemplation at the crux of present state. Our bodies are being mutated by the programmed injections of artificial light, causing imbalances of melatonin levels, resulting carcinogenic mutations, and mental anxiety. The spectrum of artificial light impact on the biosphere misbalances the aural and mental state of flora and fauna beyond human imagination.

Life is created in the dark. Primordial sense of freedom lies in the natural darkness. To defend the very idea of privacy and the unknown is to cultivate darkness by defending it from artificial blindness. Humans are the origin of light pollution. We are the light speed expanding commodity, standing on the edge of artificially configured futility. We choose to acknowledge the possibility for change⁽¹⁾.

Petri Saarikko, 2016

(1) "The production apparatus is therefore, on the one hand, a gigantic machine for psychic and physical mobilisation, for sucking the energy of humans that have become superfluous, and, on the other hand, a sorting machine that allocates the survival to compliant subjectivities and rejects all "problem individuals," all those who embody another use of life and, in this way, resist the machine. On the one hand, ghosts are brought to life, and on the other, the living are left to die. This the properly political function of the contemporary production apparatus."
The Invisible Committee (The Coming Insurrection, semiotext(e), MIT Press, 2009)

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