

Little Song Films

Newsletter Number 6 January 2007

Intro

We've now got a date for our first live event which will be held in Bristol on January 27th. There's a link on the website's home page to a poster which gives more details (disregard if reading this after the event). Apart from work by Little Song Productions there will be some screenings of some of the pieces on the website. Audhild Dahlström will be our featured artist and we should be screening some new work by her.

As usual details of recently added films are on page 2, followed by an interview with Lau Thiam Kok.

Coming soon

Before the end of the month there should be some new work by Tessa Garland and Remy Marlot on the site.

Images - usually we show full-sized images that have already appeared on the website pages. This time there is a preview of the images that will be used for the next site update.

Recent Films Added

Film Poems Section

Myshkin - Warp & Woof

But the mingled, mingling threads of life are woven by warp and woof; calms crossed by storms, a storm for every calm.

This quotation from Hermann Melville's Moby Dick is the starting point for a short poetic meditation on the sea, dark tones and twinkling lights.

Malin Rosenqvist - Whisperings (Viskningar)

A beautiful short animated film by this Swedish illustrator and animator which won 1st prize at the Vienna Film Academy Festival in 2005. It took a year to make and was drawn by hand on paper. The sound was produced by a Danish sound designer called Lea Korsgaard.

Zeitgeist - The Black Glove

A very short piece about the ephemeral nature of performance.

Music Section

Roger Thorp - Shelter

Film shot principally in Berlin on a trip through Europe - the song came out of the same journey.

Narrative Section

Robert Antonichuk - Blue Moon Emotions

A film, which is a manipulation of a storyboard by this Canadian writer. It is about two people searching for the love that cannot be. The message is within the woman and the man searches for the meaning behind her actions.

Video-Art Section

Peter Smith - Sceaduwe

Sceaduwe is the old english word for shadows. This black and white film investigates the interplay between dark and light.

Lau Thiam Kok in dialogue with Rob Vasey

I first met you at a Submerge event in Bristol when you were still at Plymouth College of Art & Design. Had you finished your degree then or did you go on to do more?

I was at University of Plymouth, Institute of Digital and Technology Arts (i-DAT), doing my MSc then I finished it in 2004.

We straightaway loved the piece you showed us then which is TI872. When did you first get the idea to make that?

Thank you. I had the idea of TI872 when I was doing my final year in my BA back home. It was more than 10 years ago - 1998. And then TI872 had been remade twice since. The version that I showed you which is the final version is the third version of TI872.

Can you tell me a bit about your family home and what has happened to it now?



I grew up there since I was a boy, about 5- 7 years old. The house was too old to abide after more than twenty years of serving so had been demolished in 2004. But my family built a new house at the same site where the old one was built. So, it is still TI872, just with a new look (I have not seen how it looks like yet).

I understand that you're working on a new piece at the moment which has some similarities to TI872 - can you give us an idea of what it will be like?

The new piece is called, Kirby. It is a combination of my poetry and moving images this time. I use long shots throughout the piece to create the solitude and homesickness at night and in lights, on houses and on the moon. Kirby is an abbreviation of 'Kirby Place'. Kirby Place was the place I spent lots of time in when I was doing my MSc.



The story of Kirby takes place in between Kirby Place and the place I am staying. And Kirby Place is the place that I cannot return, and it had been changed and modified for other academic purposes. But fundamentally, it was a place that I still can 'reduce' into a 'dust' in my memory like TI872.

<http://www.lauthiamkok.net/images/portfolio/anime/kirby/kirby.html>

I remember that when I first met you, you were thinking about how to get a job - did you find it difficult to make that transition from student to the job market?

It was difficult because I was still a student and holding a student visa so I was rejected a lot on that reason.

Would you like to go back to Malaysia at some point?

I will definitely go back to Malaysia to see my family and friends, and the old familiar places. I cannot do so now because I am waiting the passport office to issue me a new passport.

What exactly is your role in your work for Peter Fend? Do you have to travel to Berlin for it?

I am an art asistant to Peter Fend. I make images in sequence with Flash and make it into DVD so that he can use it for TV displays or big screen display. He is based in Berlin but not me. I am not able to go there due to the delay of issuing my passport from the passport office.

You often quote Gaston Bachelard, who I'd never heard of before. I take it his work is important to you - can you tell me a bit about him?



Yes, his work is important to part of my practice or part of what I think about the relationship between space (house for instance) and memories. He was a French philosopher and poet who was born on 27th June 1884 and died on October 16th 1962. He rose to some of the most prestigious positions in the French academy despite his humble origins. His most important work is in poetics and the philosophy of science. "The Poetics of Space" is a very important book for those who study architecture. And for those who are keen on the poetic of relationship between space and humans.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaston_Bachelard





