

Deniz Sözen

news from heidi-land/ radio doenergy, 2012

skype-performance documentation

post-colonial skype-performance: news from heidi-land/ radio doenergy

This performance using digital technology and internet (skype) is exploring various aspects of Swiss involvement in colonial history and the current discourse about cultural difference in Switzerland. I impersonate various figures of Swiss popular culture and colonial history by wearing various cardboard-masks: Heidi, the folk singer Mani Matter, the comedian Victor Giaccobo, African sculptures of public collections in Zurich and Basel and last but not least Alpine carnival masks. Video-interviews with „indigenous“ Swiss, one of them of Indian origin, links to youtube clips or the sharing of images and audio material are integral parts of the performance.

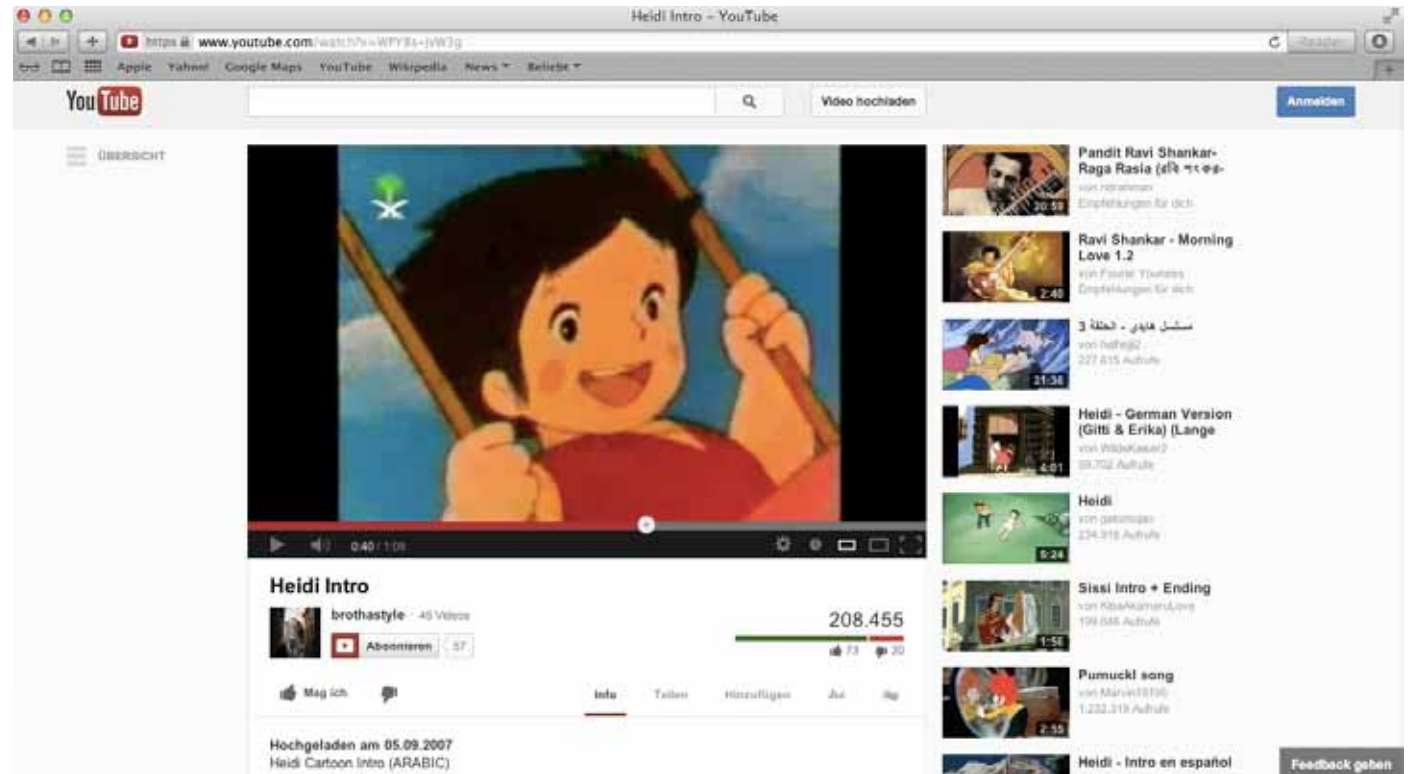
This project is the result of my ongoing concern with post-colonial theory. The original performance is set in the Swiss context and has been conceived for a Viennese public in the framework of “PANik 8: Performance as Post-Colonial Strategy!” organized by Irene Lucas and Ruby Sircar at VbKOE, Vienna. The development of a sequel of various versions of similar performances based on post-colonial narratives with regards to different European contexts will be the next step.







1. Heidi hosting radio doenergy: arabic opening of the TV-series "Heidi"
2. Mani Matter, Swiss folk singer presenting his orientalist song "Drrr Sidi Abdel Assar von El Hama"
3. video-comment by indigenous Swiss informant Rebekka Sutter
4. Swiss actor Victor Giaccobo on his "colonial freak phantasma Rajiv Prasad"
5. video-comment by native Swiss-Indian informant Rohit Jain
6. Nkisi n kondi (Congo/ Foundation Beyeler Basel) on racist Swiss Kasperli song "De Schorsch Gaggo reist uf Afrika zu de Neger"
7. audio-intervention: reading of you-tube-comments containing racist remarks, live censorship of the "N-word" by digital noise production
8. Batcham mask (Cameroon/ Museum Rietberg Zurich) on the exhibition "African Negro Art which took place at MOMA, 1935 and Walker Evans photographs of himself
9. Swiss Alpine masks (Löschtental/ Museum Rietberg Zurich) showing their tongues to the public
10. Heidi hosting radio doenergy: japanese finale of the TV-series "Heidi"



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2. Mani Matter, Swiss folk singer & orientalist song “Drrr Sidi Abdel Assar von El Hama”



The screenshot shows a YouTube video player with the title "De Sidi Abdel Assar, Mani Matter". The video player displays a colorful illustration of a man wearing a blue turban and a red tunic, standing in a landscape with pyramids, palm trees, and camels. The text "De Sidi Abdel Assar" is written in a stylized font across the top of the illustration. Below the video player, the video title "De Sidi Abdel Assar, Mani Matter" is displayed, along with the channel name "bashful7361" and the number of subscribers "1.982". The video description reads: "Hochgeladen am 04.12.2011 Der Klassiker von Mani Matter, gestaltet von einer 2. Sekundarschulklasse in der Schweiz. Alter der Künstlerinnen und Künstler: 13 bis 15 Jahre." To the right of the video player, there is a list of recommended videos, including "Pandit Ravi Shankar - Raga Asa Bhairav", "Ravi & Anoushka Shankar - Raga Anandi", "Noah - Mani Matter", "De Sidi Abdel Assar, Mani Matter", "Baba Uslander singt Mani Matter - Virus auf", "zblaue Bähnli nach Worb", "S' Zündhölzli von Mani Matter", and "Mani Matter - Ein Fernsehporträt von Franz".

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3. video-comment by indigenous Swiss informant Rebekka Sutter



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5. video-comment by native Swiss-Indian informant Rohit Jain



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Nkisi n kondi (Congo/ Foundation Beyeler Basel)



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8. Batcham mask (Cameroon/ Museum Rietberg Zurich) & Walker Evans photographs



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Highlights » Sammlung – Museum Rietberg

www.rietberg.ch/de-ch/sammlung/highlights.aspx#

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UNSERE SAMMLUNG - HIGHLIGHTS

Schliessen



AUFSATZMASKE

Die Kunst des Kameruner Graslands ist unter anderem an ihren wuchtigen Formen mit den aufgeblähten, runden Backen und den grossen Augen erkenntlich. Diese Masken wurden wie eine Krone auf dem Kopf getragen. Bei Gedenkfeiern und bei der Königswahl soll ihnen eine wichtige Rolle zugekommen sein.

Eine äusserst prägnante Reduktion auf die wesentlichen Züge kennzeichnet diese Maske: Nase, Wangen, Augen und ein riesiger Mund bilden zusammen mit der mächtigen, gerillten Stirne den eindrücklichen Kopf. Auffallend ist auch die Verbindung von glatten und strukturierten Partien, die die eigenwilligen Proportionen noch unterstreichen.

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