(No) We, I, Myself and Them?

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Additional Information:

- The image is a still image from the video.
- AWARDED with Prix VIDEOFORMES 2018 / Conseil Départemental du Puy-de-Dôme. The artistic artefact is disseminated at academic conferences and at international contemporary (digital) media art exhibitions and film festivals.

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Infos (No) We, I, Myself and Them?

(No) We, I, Myself and Them? is a digital video scroll – an intercultural remediation, genre mix and remake of an ancient Chinese hand scroll of a cityscape and poses questions about the relationship between the individual and society. The original painting *Along the River During the Qingming Festival* by the Song dynasty artist Zhang Zeduan captures the daily life of people and the landscape of an old Chinese capital. The painting is considered to be one of the most renowned works among all Chinese paintings and has been re-interpreted by a number of court artists of subsequent dynasties each following the overall composition and the theme of the original but differing in details and technique. For the World Expo 2010 presented at the China Pavilion the original painting was again remade into a 3D animated digital version titled *River of Wisdom*.

(No) We, I, Myself and Them? adopts and reinterprets this old master piece again into a contemporary manner by using contemporary and historical documentary video footage recorded at Tianamen Square in Beijing. The work particularly makes reference to tourists who are today mostly populating the square and to military parades and the Tianamen Square protests in 1989. It investigates public space and provides some comments about the relationship between individual and society in the traditional Confucian Eastern society now affected by global influences, but can also act as a general comment on conflicts in other societies.

The ambient ‘video scroll’ presents excerpts from the poem “massacre” of the Chinese author Liao Yiwu commenting on Tiananmen Square incidents in 1989, which led to his imprisonment as a reflection on the conflicting relationship between the individual and society struggling between tradition and cultural progress.

The traditional Eastern concept of multi-perspective and the endless hand scroll are explored through digital filmmaking, video compositing and virtual camera, depths and particle systems and mixed with life recorded video footage.
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FRENCH:
C'est un rouleau de vidéo numérique – une remédiation interculturelle, un mélange de genres et une nouvelle version d'un rouleau de papier de mains chinois ancien d'un cityscape et pose des questions à propos du rapport entre l'individu et la société.

Un manuscrit vidéo numérique - remédiation interculturelle, mix digenere e remake di un rotolo di mano cinese antica di un paesaggio urbano e ponedomande circa il rapporto tra l'individuo e la società lottando tra tradizione e progresso culturale utilizzando documentari storici e film registrati sulla piazza Tianamen di Pechino.

Screenings / Publication (until 2018)

2017 GENERATE! Festival für elektronische Künste (#3), Shedhalle Tübingen
Forum für zeitgenössische Künste e.V. 20.10.-11.11.2017
2018 MADATALC SPAIN Madrid at Centro Conde Duque, Media Lab Prado and NH Collection Eurobuilding, January 10-30, 2018:
2018 VIDEOFORMES 2018 International Festival, Clermont-Ferrand / France (14-17.03.)
2018 VIDEOFORMES 2018 - Labo 1880, Clermont-Ferrand / France (20-31.03.)
2018 ADF 2018 | 14th Athens Digital Arts Festival Greece (24-27.05.2018)
2018 Images Contre Nature, Marseille France (July 2018)
2018 ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival Münster|Berlin (27.- 30.09. 2018)
2018 Instants Video Marseille (7-20.11.2018)
2018 ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival Berlin (6.-8.12. 2018)

AWARDED with
Prix VIDEOPRINTES 2018 / Conseil Départemental du Puy-de-Dôme
ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival Münster|Berlin 2018, Winner NRW Competition