LEARNING THEATRE 23.03.20

We should <u>not</u> ask how <u>virtual</u> classrooms can <u>substitute</u> teaching in <u>regular</u> class-rooms, but rather in which way they provide a <u>different</u> learning <u>experience</u>, a new <u>outlook</u>.

During our first virtual class-session we used *Zoom* (which became a preferred option at KHiO after a short week of testing). We maintained our regular course-structure. When everyone had turned up, and we did our jobs, the students and teacher spontaneously *tried out* the options provided by the *software*: one of the MA-students for instance tried out changing his *background*, soon everyone joined in, and used the messaging device for comments. The teacher *recorded* the session.

One of our students—Erlend Grev-skott—demonstrated online some basic principles of *floral composition*. His idea was mainly to share something *cheerful* (given the context of the pandemia). But *viewed* on video, it became quite evident that there were references to *painting* and to *video-art* works referred to painting, such as Bill Viola's. By the **reactions** he got—on his **initiative**—it paradoxically became easier to **mediate** a reference in APA6th (which is part of an MA-assignment) than if he had done his *floral performance* in class.

The two other students who did their media-presentations in our Fridaysession were Karianne Caspara Haagensen and Kristiina Veinberg. The first of the two—Karianne—gave an exposé on a collection of children's books (they are familiar objects in the private home environments featuring in video-conferences). Kristiina presented 3 YouTube videos, to feature her interest in animation. We pondered on the qualities of video (YouTube) displayed on video (Zoom).



movement in between first and third

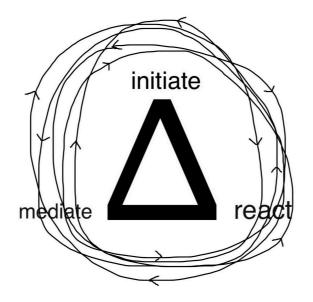
first camera

movement in between third and second

first camera

second
camera

movement in between





My job at school is to involve writing in artistic practice: emphasising design (where I teach most of the time). The way writing becomes looped and folded into art-practice has some similarities to drawing and photo. These are regularly involved in what we call reflection. A way of incorporating threeing in reflection is to work in teams of three: 1) one directing the reflection [time, resources, organisation]; 3) one documenting thee process. And then swapping roles.

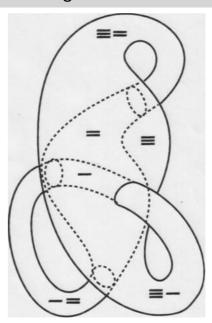
At KHiO our LMS (Learning Management System) is *Canvas*: some of us already used it as a virtual classroom before the Corona/Covid-19 pandemia. Video conference: *poor*.

In a regular Zoom-session there are typically 3 camera-functions at work:

1) the multi-view live camera; 2) the one that records the session; and 3) the camera showing video-contents through the easy to use file-share function in Zoom. The session moves between the 3-camera functions, inasmuch as a learning outcome is generated during, after and before the next session. During our first session Friday 20th March 2020—9-12 am—everyone reacted as we discovered video within (& of) video.

The first time I became introduced to "threeing" was in *Kassel*, at dOCU-MENTA13 in 2012. The approach was spatial—an open pavilion in the *Karlsaue* was devoted this project by Paul Ryan—and the concept *choreographic*. I became acquainted with the MIT-artist/architect Luis Berrios Negron, who had done the *carpets* (Andean weft from Peru). We later did a student project together in an aban-doned space in Copenhagen University. He had been an MA student with Paul Ryan, he referred me to Radical Software. 'Local TV'-ideas.

In actual practice, extending the video conference we looped three video-resources: 1) Zoom; 2) YouTube and 3) Vimeo [w/the recording of the session]. The latter was routinely posted on Canvas, where we keep a log of our sessions, and keep track of where we are in the study- & course-plan. How does this affect the situational architecture of learning? How would we do them in space and time [as Paul Ryan did with Luis's rugs in the Karlasaue]?



- 1. You have initiated an operation A.
- 2. You face an obstacle B.
- 3. You establish a path A' around B.
- 4. You receive a reaction from B: B'.
- 5. You imagine the situation (1-4).
- 6. You learn from what happens.

From the examples given above, the *virtual resources* evidently involve brands & businesses: for instance, *Zoom, YouTube* and *Vimeo*. Presently, however, they have moved from the *economic* rationale of making money, to the *ecologic* rationale of *adapting life* under the conditions of a pandemia. A *commodity*. Which means that the learning outcomes are likely to differ from those derived under "normal conditions". Both in terms of their *intensity* and their *substance*.

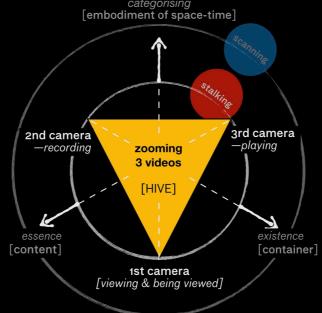
The diagram to the *right* is derived and adapted from CoBrA painter and *Situationist* Asger Jorn's *triolectics*. The question I ask, along this vein, is: if the *3 cameras* that we are using were 'primary colours', what would their 'complementary colours' be? Primary colours: *red*, *blue* and *yellow*. Complementary colours: *green*, *orange* and *violet*. The idea is that if you *scan* your environment for the complementary ones, you will be able to *stalk* these with *mixes* of primary colours. These are the same ideas explored with threeing (*first page*).

We might presently be faced with an opportunity to spur a change in the usership of digital media. Turning it to our life-spaces and a readiness for empathy between them. The multifaced and looped TV—that people were dreaming about in the early 70s (Radical Software)—we now have: we can develop to expand our practical sense of the local (instead of a sense that everything is narrowly global).



Working in groups of **3**—w/a *director*, a producer and a documentarist and then changing/shifting/swapping roles, yields a specific experience with the *folding* dynamics of *three*ing. Moreover it is possible to incorporate in Zoom-conferences with groups of 3. It offers an opportunity to learn about a) enfolding new repertoires into Zooming, can transposed unto **b)** unfolding new repertoires in off-line life-spaces. The step-wise protocol flanking this window is an example of this principle: the one is a virtual resource the other is the actual resource: uptime!







Video-conferencing exaggerates thee following: the ways our senses and the ways of our hands differ—they reach their ends by following odd paths. They never completely add up: they often join in found, negotiated and unknown paths (specifically).

- A—Sharon is based in Oslo: she wants to help Alexander in Bergen.
- B—She is isolated in Oslo on account of the Corona pandemia.
- A'—She finds a person X in Oslo, who is from Bergen, whom she can help.
- B'—In return someone in Bergen, who knows X, can help Alexander.

They have a video-meeting and **organise** the **exchange**.

Sharon and Alexander have acquired new relations where they live.

Of course, the actual resources are those that can mobilised for deliveries in our actual—at this time domestic—life-spaces. These are the precincts of the 'less good idea', in South African Artist William Kentridge's words, quoting a Tswana proverb: "When the good doctor can't cure you, find the less good doctor." The shortest distance between two points, A and B, may well be a straight line, but it might not be the one taking you there: this specific path is likely to be twisty/meandering.

Under a "state of exception'—which was declared by the Norwegian Government March 18th 2020—the economic focus shifts from the market to the infrastructure. That is, the common plattform of technocultural arrangements needed for survival. What is commonly known as utilities—like water, electricity & heating—is expanded to include other areas, that are jeopardised by the current train of events: in the present case, our health-care. Which means that all other needs are second to this single one.

Under the state of exception people are given to strategies of search-and-find to connect 'odd ends', in ways that we do not otherwise have to think about. This can bring people both to innovative and destructive behaviour. What we know, however, is that what we presently learn will stick: learning achieved under conditions of stress is particularly robust, resilient and specific.

