## XXII Generative Art Conference - GA2019



Numbering, where trees move Live Performance Topics: Generative Poetry, Design, Music and Dance. Authors: Enrica Colabella Italy. Poet Generative Design Lab. Argenia association www.generativeart.com Celestino Soddu Italy, *Digital artist* Generative Design Lab, Argenia association www.generativeart.com Nicola Baroni Italy, Musician University of Bologna Kathryn Ricketts Canada, Univ. of Regina, Saskatchewan

Abstract

"..." Our life away from public haunt finds tongue in trees" Shakespeare

*Numbering* is the site where trees move for generating *tongue,* full of all human impressions from the trans-dreamed real Nature world.

With this main aim, Enrica Colabella wrote "*Numbering*, where trees move", a poem for connecting points of view of different disciplines in a collective discovering generative process of art.

The main aim is an a ctual transfiguration in our digital time of the ancient process of discovering a *similarity* between the natural world and the art process.

Loneliness seems to be the eternal main condition, but as often happens it is always possible to open also *just a little crossing* between different disciplines and points of view for gaining collective interactions for impressive possible results. The scenic space will be performed by a braid expression of connection between the digital architecture spaces the sounds of words and music with the body of the dancer.

In these ways, the poetic texts becomes a catalyst for generating connections between digital spaces, dance and music.

Numbering, where trees move / Numerando, dove si muovono gli alberi

When trees move, sounds deeply static brighten. /Quando gli alberi si muovono, i suoni profondamente statici si illuminano.

The movement of trees from their more hidden roots/II movimento degli alberi dalle loro radici più nascoste

Until their highest leaf toward the sky lightness/Fino alla loro foglia più alta verso la luminosità del cielo

Becomes like the first step of an unstable child/ Diventa come il primo passo di un bambino instabile

Left for the first time alone from tender helping hands, / Lasciato per la prima volta solo dall'aiuto di tenere mani

For discovering the wonderful human ability in crossing space.time;/ Per scoprire la

meravigliosa abilità umana nell'attraversare lo spazio-tempo.....

The performance images are generated 3D models of Italian Gardens.

The peculiarity of Italian Gardens is the presence of architecture, trees and vegetation in a complex and constantly evolving mix. In the interactive video, which responds in real time to sound, the 3D models of Italian Gardens move, varying size and posture, but maintaining their specific characters. Interaction with music and w ords dynamically amplifies the interpretative structure of trees and architecture and their visionary character. Within *Numbering* project digital processes are used to increase listening strategies among

performers and to animate logical connections and semiotic implications between image, poetry, music and dance.

On one hand the video images are programmed to respond and expand interactively the sound events happening inside the room; at the same time the overall sound design allows digital connections between the performers, making it possible to unify poetry music and gesture through a system of digital real-time analysis. In this way cello sounds and narrative voice accents and timbres feed an algorithmic mapping system modulating and mixing prerecorded sounds of nature and classic repertoire, in parallel with the data coming from the movements of the dancer on stage. In this way the performers' gestures, accents and intentions flow together to transfigure electronic sound materials fragmenting the sound of sap and leaves of trees intertwined with piano pieces (quoting Debussy, Ravel, Messiaen) symbolically linked to natural themes and musics taken from sound actions of natives of the Amazon in dialogue with the rhythms of nature. The electroacoustic sounds thus become an interregnum where different sound actions mix up to lose individuality and generate new forms, thanks to digital hybridation.

The accelerometers guided by the hands of the dancer trace orientations, energies and impulses, which combined with the vocal accents and cello textures drive a complex flow of data mediating the artistic intentions of the performers with the recorded sounds mixing symbolic, magic and actual nature.

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