

Experimental Film and Video Assignments

Prof. Claudia Esslinger/ Spring 23

Project One: Lyrical Juxtapositions:

André Breton's maxim "Beautiful as the chance encounter of a sewing machine and an umbrella on an operating table" is an expression of the belief that simply placing objects in an unexpected context reinvigorates their mysterious qualities." gathered from Jonathan Lethem's essay "the ecstasy of influence: a plagiarism" in Harpers Magazine

Step One: Shoot at least 8 different short video "phrases" using a variety of styles from the pre-production list. Choose the subject based on its *visual appeal* to you and its meaning within a *general thematic concept* (such as grow, reflect, stamp, landslide, spectrum, bridge, (we will decide together whether we will have a common theme or disparate themes.) Record *at least* 8 different sounds that you find and create (2 each of the following: field sounds, foley sounds, tonal sounds, archival sounds.)

Step Two: Choose 5 video clips and 3 audio clips from step one to share with the class in our media bank on Petra. Using no more than 30% of your own clips, edit together a one-minute *sequence* by juxtaposing, layering, comparing, revealing images and sounds to create a unified whole with a sense of beginning and ending. *At this point, your original theme will likely change based on the new clips you use.* You may choose to add text if needed to unify, but it is not required. If you do add text, it should be your writing (or a friend) or something that is clearly appropriated from a public source and brings meaning of its own.)

Technical Goals: Know basics of all types of cameras, audio recorders, supports, editing software.

Aesthetic Goals: create a unified whole of disparate parts and genuinely collaborate with each other.

Examples:

Pipilotti Rist,
Leighton Pierce,
Hiraki Sawa,
Josh Gumiela,
YiDai,
Michael Langan,
Mary Lucier,
Yorgo Alexopolous,,
[Edyta Stepien](#),
Camille Henrot