



Image taken in SABC TV studios. Blue screen inlay of the artist.

Typewritten notes
for performance
and video
1974-1975

A man at a table facing a video camera positioned
±45 degrees above him

On the table are three pre-set tape recorders with
6 second loops and a Polaroid camera(open development type)
with flash

All this in frame

A picture is taken of the video camera

At that point the performer says PAST. This is recorded
on the first loop. It is then immediately played back
for the duration of the event.

The Polaroid film is removed from the camera and allowed
to develop in view of the video camera

The video camera will take time to recover from the flash

On recovery the sequence is repeated, but the word PRESENT
is said, and recorded on the second loop. This second loop remains
playing for the duration of the event

On recovery from the second flash the sequence is repeated
for a third time with the word PAST used

Care is to be taken not to allow tape recorders to
inadvertently record from each other. Recording must
take place in the open space available each time.

The event ends once the video camera has recovered, and
all the polaroid films have developed.

In late 1974, early 1975 David Lister was a trainee TV director at the
South Africa Broadcasting Corporation. He had recently completed his
studies at the London Film School. He and Payne used to sneak into
the video studios after hours to play with the equipment. Above is an
example of a script for one of the video assisted performances.

The time that it takes to make the past the present with the future

A room large enough to facilitate slide projection
in opposing directions from the centre (in complete darkness)

Two slide projectors back to back on a table in the
centre of the room

A man faces a woman over the table

Each slide projector (carousel type) contains 27 slides
in the one a sequence of the sun setting, in the other
of the sun rising

As the two slide projectors are switched on the man
says GOODMORNING to the woman at the same time that
she says GOODNIGHT to him (loudly)

Slide changes take place every 30 seconds

Each member wears 8 articles of clothing

They swop corresponding clothing at 3 slide intervals

The end will see the man wearing the womans clothing
and visa versa

At that point when the last two slides remain they
simultaneously switch the projectors off and the man
says GOODNIGHT and the woman GOODMORNING.

Seating is arbitrary

First performance - Aquarius Arts Festival, University
of Cape Town 1974 (December)

TIME TRACKS

- If presupposes the condition of If.
- Everyone is a sundial

past present present future past future
present past future present future past
present present future future past past

= the present is the condition of nothing
it is therefore impossible to perceive
cognition takes place in the past
the present is gestural reflex instantaneous
and not spontaneous

perception of infinite space & time & being present
(scientific explanation- $E=Mc^2$)

Loop Tapes PAST PRESENT FUTURE.
& Video - flash .

Two slide projectors , back to back
simultaneous projection - on the one side 28 slides of
the sun setting , the other 28 of the sun rising
two people one man one woman face each other and swop
clothes as the sun rises and sets oneither side of the
room.

good m
good h

Def. do not state what is known

THE TIME THAT IT TAKES TO MAKE THE PRESENT THE PAST,
IS THE FUTURE.

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