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Het Nieuwe Instituut presents Comfort and Vision by Salim Bayri 5 March

Video still: Kevin Siwoff, Your Men, 2021

The One Minutes Series of March/April is ‘Comfort and Vision’ and is curated by Salim Bayri. In one-minute videos, 21 artists and filmmakers collectively explore how the feeling of comfort affects what you see. The selected videos were sent in from Brazil, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and United Kingdom. Three works were produced in a workshop at Sandberg Instituut by Salim Bayri and artist and designer Juliette Lizotte.

Het Nieuwe Instituut will present the online premiere Friday 5 March at 8pm CEST. Salim Bayri, Juliette Lizotte, Julia van Mourik (director of The One Minutes Foundation) and the participating artists will be (virtually) present. Open discussion with the public is encouraged.

One feels comfortable at home when everything in it becomes invisible. When nothing feels out of place or strange. Things are where you leave them, water will come out of the tap transparent and you can walk to your bed with your eyes closed. Comfort is where the least unpredictable things happen. Does that make our senses lazy?

2020, the year when humanity spent maybe the most time at home, made us mold differently to our idea of comfort: inseparable couples now can’t
even look at each other and the ugly painting your mom gave you now feels sweeter than ever. This upset notion of comfort changes the perception of what’s strange, familiar, irritating or soothing. How does this new definitions of comfort affect what we see?

“Home is not where you are born; home is where all your attempts to escape cease.” Naguib Mahfouz

‘Comfort and Vision’ will tour museums and cultural spaces around the world subscribed to The One Minutes Series in March and April. After the premiere, the series will be archived by Het Nieuwe Instituut and will be available online, just like all of our recent series.

Salim Bayri is a visual artist born and raised in Casablanca, based in Amsterdam. While making sand sculptures, Bayri hangs out in obsolete online chatrooms where strangeness, blasphemy, and pulling each other's leg are common practice. As a polyglot, he is able to enter many of the different rooms where diasporas gather. His alter ego ‘Sad Ali’, short for Sad Alien, reflects this approach. Sad Ali is a silent character with a translucent body – he explores but is not a participant. Floating between scenes he is granted a fluidity that cannot be pinned down.

In his studio, Bayri is developing a ‘Hadra Collider’. A conceptual device he coined in reference to the CERN particle accelerator to imagine a search for the particle X in language. It works by accelerating tongues and making words hit each other to help answer questions of racism, social injustice and cultural violence.

Participating artists:
Klaas Koetje
Lee Mc Donald
Yuri Yefanov
Thi Hoai Le
Kevin Siwoff
Sara Milio
Sophie Bates
Snow Sheng Jie
Makis Kyriakopoulos
Katharina Sook Wilting
Lisa Smithson
Paula Garcia Sans
Mariusz Wirski
Alix Stria
Anna Bierler
Jack Wormell
The One Minutes is developing a peer-to-peer model of talent development. In 2021/2022, we will focus on talent development for art students with workshops, master classes and interactive online screenings where an international diverse audience can participate in the discussions started by artists, in collaboration with Maastricht Institute of Arts, Het Nieuwe Instituut and Sandberg Instituut with the support of Pictoright Fund.

The One Minutes Foundation produces and distributes one-minute videos from an artistic point of view, offering an international stage for people to create, engage and connect. Every two months, The One Minutes Foundation puts out a new series of 60-second films that investigate how we perceive and engage with moving image. Museums and cultural organisations around the world subscribe to the series.

Please send in your videos for ‘The Fields of Algorithms’ by Larry Achiampong and David Blandy before 1 April and participate in the project! http://theoneminutes.org/participate