

CORIN SWORN

'IN REFLECTION, SHIMMER'

25 November – 16 December 2023

'In Reflection, Shimmer' is the final instalment of Corin Sworn's project 'Moving in Relation', a series of events exploring social relations with 'smart' technologies: AI-enabled, consumer-grade products that attempt to learn and produce data from interactions with humans.

Each instalment of 'Moving in Relation' has sought new ways of engaging and understanding technological systems and algorithmic thought. Over the course of an extended period of research Sworn brought together various collaborators in movement, sound, poetry and academia to establish ways of approaching and living with networked technology and machine learning devices. Attempting to apprehend these now ubiquitous devices on human terms, Sworn explores AI behaviours in emotive and playful ways, observing our intimate and attentive relationships with automatic tools.

'In Reflection, Shimmer' is an installation comprising video, atmospheric sound, vocal audio and sculptural collage. Both sound and image are dispersed across the exhibition space, creating a broad sensorial address. The video, 'A Fuzzy Set' (2023) presents a history of motion capture that aligns organic movement, such as gesture, to machinic ordering systems. Dancers are shown, testing the functional limits of video in AI enabled CCTV security systems that identify potential 'life' through movement. Inventions by Charles Rees Wilson, Frank and Lillian Gilbreth, and Marie Van Brittan Brown are presented as precursors of contemporary motion capture, in each case this moves the devices away from

the inventor's initial intention. A Fuzzy Set' examines divergent forms of motion capture, challenging 20th century notions of efficiency as 'the one best way'.

Across the installation Sworn highlights forms of human tending required to maintain and support the functionality of automatic AI tools. Actions of stroking, swiping, updating, and a constant feeding of data to assist the learning and development of AI algorithms. These acts of transient amelioration are underscored in the use of temporary scaffolding poles for exhibiting works.

Across 'Moving in Relation' Sworn has produced situations to ask how humans and machines interpret each other. Collaged images, using snapshots of incidental life, trees and puddles, have been made using image generation tools. These composite images offer a skewed, impoverished reflection of the world, and produce disorienting effects as archetypes are reinterpreted by machinic knowledge. Sworn has at times reapplied human gesture, drawing on the image surface in ways that may be considered decorative, fraught and even tender.

In 'A Fuzzy Set' Sworn asks "what does the new non-ocular see?" The installation follows trajectories of energy as it arises metabolically and disperses into signals, data and clouds of mist.



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List of Works

Romeo 1

Plastic moulded decoy owl, powder coated steel, shattered safety glass, bath salts

Luminous Synthetic Fissure

Photographic print, magnets, galvanised steel, adjustable steel prop

Where the Deciduous are Leafed in Winter

Photographic print, magnets, galvanised steel, adjustable steel prop

Inverted Sky

Photographic print, magnets, galvanised steel, adjustable steel prop

Romeo 2

Plastic moulded decoy owl, powder coated steel, shattered safety glass, bath salts

In Reflection

Photographic print, magnets, galvanised steel, adjustable steel prop

A Fuzzy Set

Single channel HD videowith distributed sound
22 minutes

Camera: Ambroise Leclerc, Corin Sworn

Sound Design: Luke Fowler

Movement: Molly Danter, Caitlin Taylor, Isabel Umali

Dramaturgy: Jeremy Reid

Sound: Luke Fowler, Darren Hayman, Phil Julian, Duncan Marquiss, Jeremy Reid,

Simon Weins, Feronia Wennborg

Consultation: Louise Amooore,

Timothy Lem-Smith

Sick Flavours

Photographic print, magnets, galvanised steel, adjustable steel prop

All works 2023. Courtesy of the artist.

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