



ARTISTIC EVALUATION: Visual Art and Crafts

This evaluation is intended to represent an objective aesthetic judgement. **Specialist advisors and officers should avoid making judgements based on their own personal tastes and preferences wherever possible.**

Artist/s:	Achim Lengerer, Hirofumi Suda, Stina Wirfelt.
Venue:	Transmission Gallery
Title of Event/s:	Invisible Square
Type of Event:	Exhibition
Date of Visit/s:	2/12/2009
Overall Rating:	Good
<i>(Please rate the event overall, taking into account your ratings for each section. Please state the key reasons for your overall ratings – ie the particular strengths and weaknesses. If the management of the event affects the overall enjoyment of the event, please comment, but the overall rating should be based on the artistic merit of the event.)</i>	
Name: Rose Frain	Date: 18/12/2009
Scottish Arts Council Officer	Specialist Advisor ✓

This report has been commissioned by the Scottish Arts Council to evaluate the artistic quality of the production named above. It has been prepared by either a specialist Advisor, or an officer of the Scottish Arts Council, as indicated on the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work and to the management of the venue, if the venue is core funded by the Scottish Arts Council.

The report will form evidence for the Artistic Leadership and Public Engagement sections of the Quality Framework and be taken into account in assessing the work of the producing company in relation to future applications for funding to the Scottish Arts Council. It may also be used by the Joint Board to report on the overall performance of its funded organisations.

Evaluators should enter their rating under each section, explaining briefly their reason for the rating with reference to their comments under each section. Ratings should be given in accordance with the following:

- Very poor**- standard falls well below what is acceptable.
- Poor** - not well conceived and executed
- Satisfactory**
- Good** - well conceived and executed
- Very Good** – well conceived and executed to a very good standard
- Excellent** – Inspiring and executed to an exceptionally high standard

1. Artistic Assessment

Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event, with particular reference to the strengths and weaknesses of the following:

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
<p>Vision and imagination of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of ideas, execution of work and installation • if you have seen other work of this artist(s) before, please comment on any relevant comparisons 	<p>Good</p>	<p>Invisible Square is a three person exhibition of work by Achim Lengerer, Hirofumi Suda and Stina Wirfelt.</p> <p>The Handout states: "An overlapping theme between the different practices is the questioning of narratives and abstraction of language."</p> <p>The works shown range from the documentation of certain indicative details of everyday urban surroundings, to the reconstruction of 'absent narratives' and the dynamics of gallery installation space and the production of art. They are three distinctly different practices and their juxtaposition creates a stimulating dynamic between the works and allows for viewer responses.</p> <p>Hirofumi Suda presents small intriguing painting-objects along with video on a monitor, Stina Wirfelt a video projection with audio, and Achim Lengerer a three dimensional installation with artist book, wall texts, projections, audio and three dimensional artefacts: a 'scenario for props, models and asynchronous voices' All 2009. An elegantly curated show.</p>
<p>Curatorial/ programming vision/ selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it fit within the artistic vision of the organisation? • If the event is part of a Festival, please say how it contributes to the overall programme. 	<p>Very Good</p>	<p>Transmission is a pioneering and influential artist-run organisation committed to providing "a place where artists can meet, talk and exhibit along with local and international peers and influences."</p> <p>The exhibition Invisible Square fulfils these aims, comprising works by 'international' artists presenting diverse practices with a loosely identified connection.</p> <p>Hirofumi Suda, who was born in Japan is a recent graduate of Glasgow School of Art MFA. Achim Lengerer researched at the Jan van Eyck Academie Maastricht, and Stina Wirfelt, born in Sweden, studied at Malmo Academy, the University of Illinois and Glasgow MFA. Both Wirfelt and Suda are based in Glasgow, Lengerer in Berlin.</p> <p>The exhibition is an apt contribution to the programme, providing an opportunity for challenging works to be accessed by visitors ranging from art world professional to a more general public. As ever, Transmission is making a valuable contribution to the gallery world of Glasgow. The gallery also communicates more widely, having acquired a national and international reputation.</p>

Criteria	Rating	Comments and key reasons for rating
<p>Success of event against stated aims of exhibition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it relate to information contained in the programme, the website or other printed material? • How well did it communicate the artistic themes? • How did the event originate eg from the exhibiting/ producing organisation, from the artist or from commission? <p>Education events – see ¹below for definition</p>	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It relates well to the information given on the website, listings and in-gallery information, whilst allowing for visitor reactions. • The themes were indicated within and between three very different practices, enabling a successful challenge to expectations. <p>From Transmission.</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Quality of Public Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of space and overall layout/hang? • What interpretation or support materials were available? • Were labels/maps available and how appropriate were they? • Was a Visitor Book available or opportunities for audiences to comment/interact? What were the comments like overall? • What activities were available to enhance the experience of the event eg workshops, artist's talks, discussion groups programmes, on line info? 	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good hang/ use of space, with Hirofumi Suda's along the left wall window space + , Achim Lengerer's occupying the centre gallery space and two walls, and Stina Wirfelt's installed to the right of the entrance. Easily negotiable and distinct. • A4 map of the hang; A4 handout; Wall texts and a handout in the case of Achim Lengerer; Membership details on a handout. • No comments book visible. • Publications available prominently displayed at venue and on website.

¹ Education is a bridge between artform excellence and increased access and participation, and it is people centred. Providing opportunities for learning and progressing in an artform or using an artform to address other, non-artistic, outcomes are equally valid; in either case a high quality strategic approach is required in order to benefit the participants and the organisation. Delivery can be through workshops, post/pre-show discussions, outreach work, etc aimed at any age group.

2. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and the venue, with reference to the checklist below, including additional comments/observations. Please try to view the venue and the services, and interpretative material as though you had never visited it before eg if you did not know the venue's location, how easy would it be to find your way there, and to find your way around once you had arrived?

Criteria	Comment												
<p>Location and suitability of the venue for the event</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it easy to find? Is it on a main transport route? Are the spaces clean? How suitable was it for the exhibition? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, directly from the street and also from within the new arts building *103 Trongate* , + the Google maps address is accurate. Yes. The gallery and the office are clean, but the loo could do with some maintenance. Very suitable . 												
<p>Information/ interpretive material at venue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there programmes, posters and displays about the event? Is there information on the venue's website? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invitation/ poster. handout/ installation map. Yes, Website information 												
<p>Publicity/ pre-publicity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What leaflets, posters, websites, did you see the event listed in? What publicity materials are produced? Is it easy to understand/appropriate to the intended audience? Where can you get the information? Is there Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council Funding²? <p>Please be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event and comment on the company/organisation's website.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed in a range of publications local, national and UK national from The List to Art Monthly. Appropriate to the intended audience. From the venue, its website (etc). SAC is acknowledged on the handouts, the website and on the publicity. The website is commendably minimal, clear and up to date. It has an extensive clickable archive, news, membership details (membership form is also available as hard copy at the venue), links etc. Page navigation is good. The only (small) improvement I suggest is to add the venue street address under the opening times on the Home Page, so that a quick glance will reveal the basic details needed for a visit. 												
<p>Signage and signposting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the entrance clearly marked? Is there clear internal directional signage? Is there Braille signage or signage for audio loops? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes. Both from the street and from inside 103 Trongate. N/A It would be helpful in future to mention the duration times of the audio and visual loops on the labels. <p>N/A</p>												
<p>Access and provision for disabled people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please insert yes/no in the boxes to reflect what you notice about the venue/event <p>Please add in any additional comments below the table</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Yes/No</th> <th></th> <th>Yes/No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BSL interpretation</td> <td>No</td> <td>Audio description</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Captioning</td> <td>No</td> <td>Lift/ramp</td> <td>Yes, from within 103 Trongate.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Yes/No		Yes/No	BSL interpretation	No	Audio description	N/A	Captioning	No	Lift/ramp	Yes, from within 103 Trongate.
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² In press releases, at launches, on all published materials (including leaflets, brochures, programmes, posters, company's website, notices display, exhibition materials, websites and advertising, recordings, publications, video, broadcasts, computer programmes etc.) Where the event is publicised in the programme brochure of another organisation (eg venue, gallery, etc) then SAC acknowledgement should appear against the particular programme entry for this event.

Criteria	Comment				
	Accessible toilets	Yes	Accessible marketing materials eg website or alternative formats eg large print, Plain English	Very large print wall texts and some of the handouts.	
Customer service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was the quality and efficiency of staff (invigilators etc) • If possible, comment on how responsive they were to the needs of disabled customers? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very helpful and welcoming. • The venue is fully accessible and the exhibition is audio and visually accessible. 				

3. Organisation's Comments (optional)

This is the organisation's opportunity to respond to points raised within this assessment. Please do not feel obliged to fill this section in. In the spirit of the Quality Framework, we would ask that any comments are self-evaluating, providing an insight as to why, if there is, a major disagreement of response between the organisation and the evaluation, in a constructive way.

This will not alter the rating given by the assessment, but will allow the organisation the opportunity to give their opinion/feedback. The Scottish Arts Council reserves the right to edit comments if they are deemed to be libellous or defamatory.

As the Scottish Arts Council implements the Quality Framework internally, we intend to publish artistic evaluations on organisations that we support regularly on our website. The final artistic evaluation, including the organisation's response will be published on a quarterly basis on our website.

Please keep your response to max 500 words. If we do not hear from you in 15 days, we will assume that you do not want to respond.