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Les liens invisibles **Dominique Petitgand**



there are lots of things
that are
that you cannot define like that
as though there were invisible links

Les liens invisibles is a sound installation that reveals itself in several stages.

that attached you to them
and it's really a part of you

It forms two synchronous but remote planes - first noises, then a voice - and must be listened to as we walk, building up according to our spatial and mental progress.

close
yes very close
oh no
it's close ah it's
it's the same kind of connection

In the first room, four speakers are standing on the floor in a scattered configuration. They form a first sound screen that consists of a series of noises circulating from one speaker to another, interspersed with silences. Each of these sounds is an action produced with objects that seem to be made of glass. Their apparitions, articulations and movements follow a logic that eludes us. At times, a sound wave fills the entire space.

ah yes but it's something else still
ah yes it's weird
it's weird to express it's not obvious

In the second, adjoining space, a fifth speaker is placed at ear height. It emits a voice that has remained hidden from us until then. The way we discover it depends on our movement and the way we listen. It is by approaching and accessing this second space that we can hear - more or less strongly and distinctly according to the distance - short sentences, also interspersed with silences and broadcast in exact synchronicity with the sounds of the first room - sounds that are now perceived in the distance, accompanied by their reverberation.

I don't know why it's silly
I don't know
it's more a part of you
but as though something grabbed your
hand and took it from you
a part removed

It is this synchronicity that has made it possible to hide the voice: each sentence has a corresponding noise, and each noise is linked to a sentence - noise and speech like the two sides of a medal, joined together in editing and then separated and spatially removed from each other in the installation.

that is with me
but yes it's more physical
it's rather inside of me
well I don't know
because it is
in my opinion it should be
the opposite but

When the voice appears, connections are revealed, a narrative becomes possible: a woman speaks to us, evoking invisible links that connect her to others, to people, objects or entities that she has trouble defining or naming. Her fragmented speech remains undetermined and suspended.

yes
yes that's it

Once the two sounds planes are revealed, we can move back and forth between the two poles, choosing one over the other or any of the intermediate degrees, determine the near and far and listen to their invisible links.

it is
yes it's a whole
which I'm part of
but yes it's a
it's a entirely
which I am part of