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[Culture, Entertainment]

Diversity of the Media Art

Three artists show at the WAH Center

Video works of Kenji Kojima

Converting images to twelve-tone sounds

The exhibition “**WAH: A New Diversity**” curated by **Yuko Nii** opened at the WAH Center (Williamsburg Art and Historical Center) in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, featuring three artists: **Kenji Kojima** (b. Japan), **Egon Zippel** (Rumanian born German citizen) and **Oliver Walden** (b. USA). Through this show, viewers can rediscover the endlessly expanding diversity of media art in this huge gallery, darkened to maximize the effects of these works.

Kojima invented his original software “RGB MusicLab” in 2007, which can convert colors on the screen to twelve-tone sounds. He has created sophisticated high-tech art pieces by combining image and music. He presents two works inspired by New York City, “Subway Synesthesia” and “999 Views of Skyscrapers from Great Lawn in Central Park.” His other work, created from press photos after the Great East Japan Earthquake affected the nuclear power plant in Fukushima, is entitled “Composition FUKUSHIMA 2011”, and tells how he was deeply shocked by the disaster. These intellectual videos are projected on a large wall in the gallery, combined with mysteriously beautiful music, stimulating the eyes, ears, and brain.

In contrast, Egon Zippel’s two works consist of low-tech slide images. Zippel uses three carousel projectors (projecting slide images that turn automatically and are constantly changing) for the piece “Broken Horizon”. He used the last end of 35 mm films in each slide, projecting each slide next to each other. Thus, Zippel creates one large image that is in constant flux on the wall from the three individual slides.

Oliver Walden presented a conceptual and interactive sculpture during the opening reception. In the piece “Untitled Box 2.0”, he installed a box, similar in theme to a jack-in-the-box, in a dark corner of the room. When the viewer turns on the switch, a light inside the box switches on and Walden himself is revealed in the box. Almost instantly, he turns off the light from inside the box. Walden seeks to reduce interactivity of the common denominator such as on and off, you and me.

Through the exhibition, different ways of expression are shown through these new mediums, and one cannot help realizing its endless possibility in the future. The show is open till Friday, October 2nd, 12-6pm, with free admission.

*This article was translated from its original Japanese written by Independent Curator and Events Producer **Kyoko Sato Ono** and edited by **Richard Sanchez**, Assistant to Yuko Nii, Founder & Artistic Director of the WAH Center (Williamsburg Art and Historical Center).*
<http://wahcenter.net>