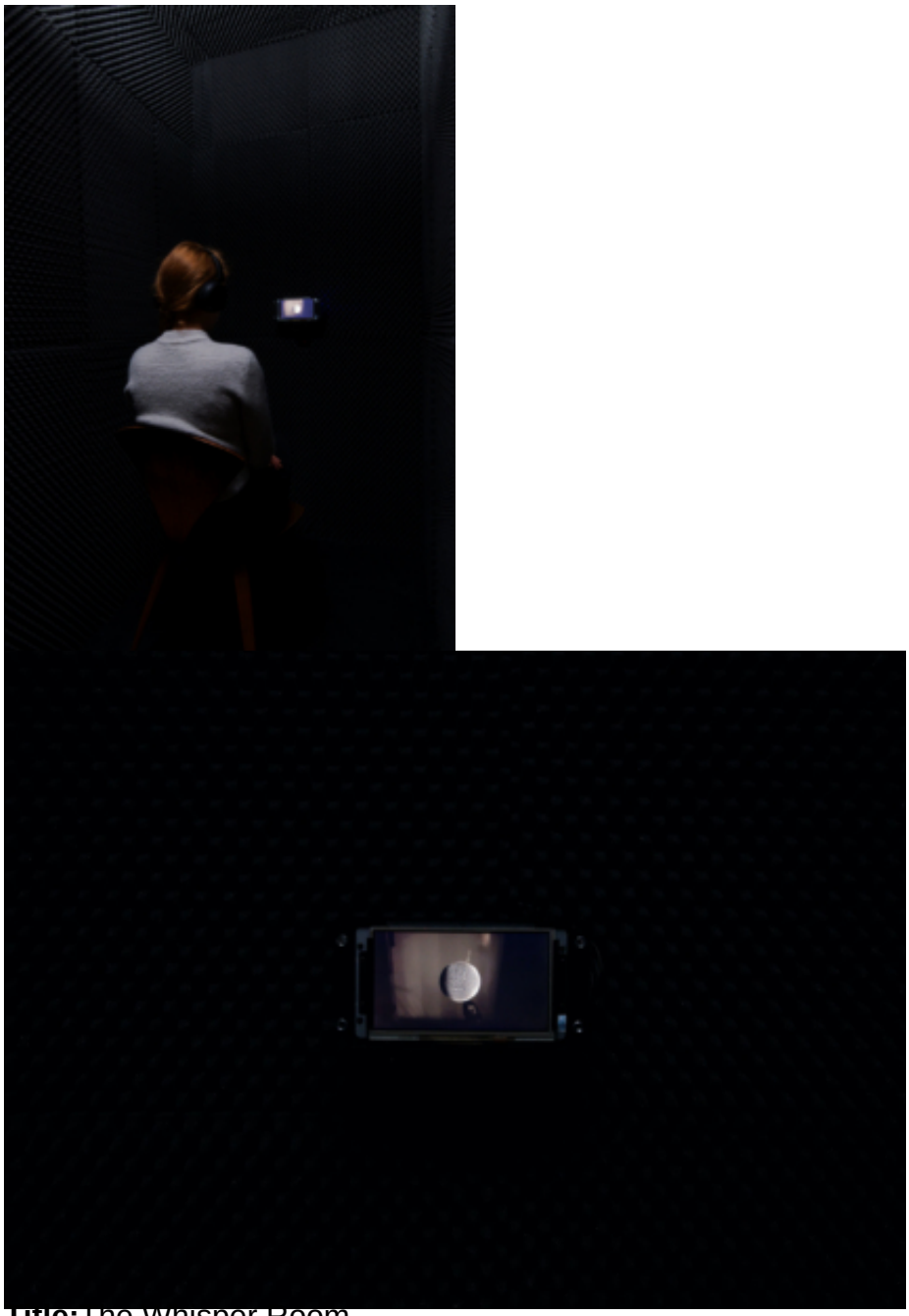


Title: The Whisper Room

Date:2017 / 2022

Media: Mixed media

Video Link :https://vimeo.com/825393125

Description:

Wood and/or metal construction, acoustic paneling, 7” HD industrial flat panel display, microphone stand, headphones, media player with activation switch, HD video (color, stereo sound, 3:10 min), and assorted cabling.

Edition of two and one artist proof

The Whisper Room is a close encounter through an intimate recital by the artist to each individual viewer. The installation mirrors the site of the recording—that being a narration booth. One viewer at a time enters a small-enclosed space that is covered with acoustic foam paneling. Therein one finds a microphone stand with a small video display mounted upon it as well as a pair of headphones. Once the headphones are donned the video automatically plays or is started by the viewer. The video begins from the point of view of one slowly opening a door and stepping into a small space (the narration booth) with a single microphone on a stand. The camera slowly approaches the microphone and frames the spherical grille. The sphere takes center stage as if it were floating for the duration of the video. It's as if the viewer is softly requested to speak, to be there, to remain, as a disembodied voice taps into a kind of imaginary place that is oddly nearby wherein contact may occur.

Spoken Text:

Note: The same text was first used in The Slow Torque of Bonsai, 2017 *in which each line is spoken approximately 20-30 sec apart accompanied by a single pulse from several linked strobe lights. In* The Whisper Room, *the delivery is closer to that of a typical recitation.*

Sometimes

As we approach

Others approaching

An imaginary point coalesces

Before us

Our past trajectories

All the protagonists

All of a sudden

Amongst us

Resurrected as it were

Our whereabouts

The involuntary inventory begins

Sampled earth

Unknown holes

Literal things too numerous to name

Reminiscent of ancient signs

Too sober to absorb

The slow torque of bonsai

The warmth of what once was

Just enough

Fades away

Alone in the light

Abandoned wood avails itself

I brought you here for reasons I can’t disclose

I’ve worked long hours for this

There is no particular agenda in mind

Nothing here will make or break

Anything

You, them, or I

Each and every one

Like tormented insects

By the end it will not matter

Or you will have forgotten

The differences once sworn by

I hesitated

Before deciding

Not to be present

No doubt, a compromise

I apologize

Do you remember?

The bed

The island

The refuge

The swollen details

Shared memorabilia

Human propaganda

The fact that you are here

Has that dawned on you?

But don’t go

I wish there were a way

For you to smell my belly for the first time

All over again

I could stand before you

Peer down at the crown of your head

We could have gone to see a film

Committed to the tedium of plagiarized time

Enabling our being together

Within our separate thoughts

Would it suffice?

Bibliography:

Exhibition History:

"Gary Hill: Mind's Eye Blink(s)," In Situ/Fabienne Leclerc Gallery, Romanville, November 6, 2022 - January 31, 2023.

"Gary Hill: The Engender Project," Baró Gallery, Palma de Mallorca, November 10, 2022 -

January 31, 2023.

“Moment Momentum,” James Harris Gallery, Dallas, September 30 – December 21, 2023.

"Gary Hill: Language Pit," bitforms gallery, New York, February 1 - March 23, 2024

"Gary Hill: Continuous Happening," Art Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, Guangzhou, October 23 - December 8, 2024.

Notes: