

DOCUMENTATION

Identification

Artist:	Gruber, Bettina und Vedder, Maria
Title:	Der Herzschlag des Anubis
Year:	1988
Duration:	00:04:57
Colour / Audio:	Colour/ stereo
Language:	None
Production format:	U-matic LB
Digitised formats:	U-Matic LB, Ampex 187 KCA-60
Data files:	23_Vedder_final/ 8,53GB

Short description



The video is composed of 4 “tableaux”. The first, the Anubis tableau shows a toy Anubis rowing on a little boat, standing in a rotating plinth. At the end of the sequence two very short inserts show what seems like a half-open door.



The next tableau is the Bird-Whistle-Tableau, in which two feathers connected by paper appear at first. As the camera zooms out the viewer understands that the two feathers belong to a party whistle that is being blown by a lying man producing an annoying sound.



The third tableau shows a rotating mechanism that moves 4 toy-like hawks, a moon and a human form.



The fourth tableau is the "Flikki-Cerberus Tableau", in which a film showing a hunting feline is projected on the head of Flikki, Bettina Gruber's dog. At the end of the scene, as the feline is just about to hunt the prey, all the lights go out except for a strong red one illuminating the background.

Background

This work is the last of a series of 4, the others being "Mama's little pleasure" (1984), "Big Brother Blues" (1986) and "Catfish Tango" (1986). Maria Vedder and Bettina Gruber had been working together since 1978. From the text by Rosanne Altstatt in the 40yearsvideoart catalogue: "Both women came from other medium to video: Gruber from drawing, photography, music and installation, Vedder from photography, sociology as well as theatre, film and TV theory. Video was what brought them together, in the beginning with the documentation of Gruber's mixed-media installations in a way that included the audio and how frequently the videos would come into place in a studio-like space" "At the same time Maria Vedder began to make her own videos, which usually experimented with the relationship of the artist towards the artistic practice and the characteristic of the Medium itself"

Technical Realisation

The work was produced on U-matic Low Band because a Low Band editing table was available and because Low band was more economical than High Band.

Available versions

There is only one version of this work. The content of the U-matic master was transferred to Betacam SP in 1998/99 and later on the U-matic was digitised to Digital Betacam at 235 Media.

Digitisation

The digitisation took place at the Laboratory for antiquated video systems in ZKM-Centre for Art and Media technology Karlsruhe.

The devices used were a U-matic VP-5040 player and an AJA IO-BOX; the information from the U-matic player was transmitted as analogue composite PAL signal over a FOR_A FA_330P TBC and into the AJA IO-BOX. The digitised 8-bit uncompressed PAL signal was then sent over a Firewire connection (IEEE 1394a) with a speed of 400 Mbit/s into a Mac G5 computer. The software used to control the digitisation was Final Cut Pro. The data was exported as QuickTime uncompressed 8-bit, for the digital restoration.

Maria Vedder pointed us a problem with the colour, unfortunately after the DVD had been produced. According to her, and as we could later confirm from the colour bars at the beginning of the tape, the colour values should be more saturated and brilliant.

Restoration

The work was in a good condition, with infrequent and very small, white dropt-outs through the whole video, more frequent during the first 2 minutes. (See image 1 at the end of the document)

Before any treatment could be started the fields had to be split. Diamant was conceived for film, and the images in it are seen as whole images and not fields. If the video were to be treated without the "field split" Diamant would consider the lines to be errors and try to correct them. This would mean loosing information where any of the tools was used. The "field split" tool prevents this problem by separating each field. After the treatments are performed one must only merge the fields again, and the line structure is kept.

The retouching of the drop-outs was mostly performed manually with the Drop-out module. As a last step the fields were merged together again and then the restored file was exported, again as QuickTime uncompressed 8 bit.

Other errors, which Diamant couldn't identify easily, were corrected with the use of masks on Final Cut Pro. (See image 2 at the end of the document).

Finally credits were added to the file, again using Final Cut Pro, stating that the artwork had been restored for the project 40yearsvideoart.de. The restored file was recorded as Digital Betacam for archiving purposes. The restored and unrestored 8-bit QuickTime uncompressed files are also being kept at the ZKM-Mediathek, in LTO tapes.

In the restoration process one error was inadvertently introduced in the original credits, with one frame being replaced by a wrong frame. This problem was corrected for the Digital Betacam given to the artist, but it is visible in the DVD Study edition.

Images



Image 1 - Small white drop-out



Image 2- Error corrected with Final Cut Pro

Timeline

#	Image	From h:min:sec	To h:min:sec	Total h:min:sec	Observations
1	Pink frames	00:00:00	00:00:12	00:00:12	
2	Little figure of a Jackal (Anubis) rowing a boat. The boat sits in a rotating plinth.	00:00:12	00:00:29	00:00:17	
3	Open door, with strong vertical lines	00:00:29	00:00:31	00:00:02	
4	Again Anubis on the boat, titles appear, "Der Herzschlag des Anubis"	00:00:31	00:00:37	00:00:06	
5	Open door, with strong vertical lines	00:00:37	00:00:39	00:00:02	
6	Anubis rowing on the turning boat	00:00:39	00:00:43	00:00:04	
7	Toy whistle	00:00:43	00:00:43	< 00:00:01	
8	Anubis rowing on the turning boat	00:00:43	00:00:46	00:00:02	
9	Toy whistle	00:00:46	00:00:47	< 00:00:01	
10	Anubis rowing on the turning boat	00:00:47	00:00:48	00:00:01	
11	Sequence alternating the Anubis and the toy cornet in intervals of about 1 second	00:00:48	00:01:06	00:00:18	
12	Sequence centred on the toy whistle and closing out until one sees the lying man blowing it.	00:01:06	00:01:39	00:00:33	
13	Sequence alternating closer images of the Anubis and of the man blowing the whistle	00:01:39	00:01:52		
14	Toy eagles with a moon and human-like form on a metallic background	00:01:52	00:01:53		

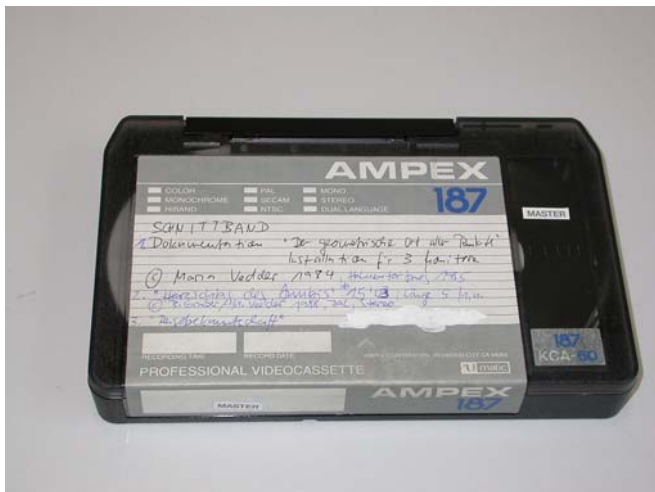
15	Anubis on the boat	00:01:53			
	Lying man with the whistle	00:01:54			
	Toy eagles	00:01:58			
	Sequence alternating the images of the lying man and of the Anubis.	00:01:59	00:02:16		
	Lying man with the whistle	00:02:16			
	Sequence alternating images of toy eagles and Anubis on the boat	00:02:17	00:02:27	00:00:10	
	Head of dog with projection of a feline	00:02:27	00:02:27	<00:00:01	
	Sequence alternating images of toy eagles and Anubis on the boat	00:02:27	00:02:45		
	Sequence alternating images of Anubis on the boat and of the dog's head.	00:02:45	00:03:15		
	Toy whistle	00:03:15	00:03:17		
	Dogs head with projection of feline hunting	00:03:17	00:03:45		
	Toy whistle	00:03:45	00:03:47		
	Dogs head with projection of feline hunting	00:03:47	00:04:07		
	Lying man with the toy whistle	00:04:07	00:04:09		
	Dogs head with projection of feline hunting	00:04:09	00:04:11		Darker area moving downwards in the image.
	Sequence alternating image of the lying man with the toy whistle and of the plinth with the	00:04:11	00:04:20		

	boat and Anubis				
	Sequence of the rotating plinth with the boat and Anubis getting darker and darker.	00:04:20	00:04:33		
	Credits (Ein Video von Bettina Gruber & Maria Vedder © 1988 Köln)	00:04:33	00:04:37		
	Credits (Akteur und Tröteur F. W. Heubach)	00:04:37	00:04:41		
	Credits (Ingenieure der Tut- Anch-Amun Werft F. W. Heubach, Achim Mantscheff, Christian Toelke)	00:04:42	00:04:48		
	Credits: (Musik: Bettina Gruber, Igor Tillman, Uwe Wieseman, Gerd Zillingen)	00:04:49	00:04:53		
	The Anubis keeps rowing and rotating in the dark	00:04:53	00:04:59		

Digitisation Form

Di gi ti sati on		Type	Source	File size	Stored in
Information Support	1	U-matic Low Band 23/3-M- (U-Matic LB, Ampex 187 KCA-60)	Maria Vedder	8,53 GB	LTO tapes
Techni cal i nformati on		Vi a devi ce	Card	Norm	Adj ustments
		U-matic VP-5040	AJA IO-Box Through a Fi rew i re- connecti on (IEEE 1394A)	Composi te, Pal , 8 bi t uncompressed	
		TBC FOR_A FA-330P			

Tape



Tape 23/3-M, U-Matic LB, Ampex 187 KCA-60



Cover of Tape 23/3-M, U-Matic LB, Ampex 187 KCA-60