

Artwork Title : "I Know"

<https://youtu.be/A4hFE5MNxDY>

Artist's statement:

I will know if I see it with my own eyes. If I didn't see it, I would not believe it. That's how we do it all the time, our eyes are the most powerful tool for me to determine if it's right or not.

Short essay:

I Know is a video installation exploring the concept of "I believe when I see it" in visual culture. This video is inspired by three films which are *Nowa ksiazka* (1975) by Zbigniew Rybczyński, *Chelsea Girls* (1966) directed by Andy Warhol and Paul Morrissey.

The main theme about this video is about questioning a quote "If I had not seen it with my own eyes I would not have believed it." Nowadays, we are always facing different news and information. The content is very important but accuracy is more important especially we have many non-mainstream media such as editorial boards and internet press etc. If someone is not familiar with double checking for the accuracy of the news, then they would rather believe what they have seen. However, they missed an important point - sources of information they got.

I am using the multi window with single video which has selected video material based on a few sets of topics.

The first set includes primarily videos associated with the topics of "The beautiful part of Hong Kong", many of these videos include political messages and mostly the narrator is spreading the message that radical protest events had broken down the society,

destroying the core value of Hong Kong. They are often produced by the government or by corporations which are willing to go into the society and discover the beauty of Hong Kong. They express attempts by authorities to construct a concept of the public and the subject's role within it. They were made to construct docile, obedient citizens. There are mainly have two aspects:

1. On the one hand, it will exist when the people's eyes open. Such as the government advertisements that mainly exist at the MTR station, after the news of different TV stations. Which is mainly talking about how the portestor breaking the law, damaging the society, destroying the rule of law. Due to the frequency and location of the video, most of it can be viewed by the audience when they open their eyes.
2. On the other hand, they are sending a message that HKSAR is trying the best to rebuild Hong Kong and protecting the citizens all the time.

The second set includes primarily videos associated with the topics of “ The faith of protest” , many of the videos produced by different small parties or the volunteer. Most of them are trying to present a message that what and why they are joining the protest. Although there is a lot of visible violence, they try to raise an alarm of the importance of freedom.

There are mainly have a aspect:

1. Most of the protest scenes will not only capture the protestors but also the different parties, such as the government, political analysts etc. They are trying to tell the audiences what is happening among the society and which is the biggest threat of Hong Kong.

The third set includes primarily videos associated with the topics of “Daily life and common memory” I can think of these videos as a history from below, one that is

produced by the people. These types of video capture many aspects of the texture of everyday life. It expresses a conception of the public that is not bound by dominant social categories, a vision of shadow publics beyond official history.

There are mainly have a aspect:

1. It's easy to experience in our daily life and most of it is the same pattern for each day such as travel with the MTR, walking over some old store. It's representing our daily life that can be excluded from the protest or something we think is political. We can escape and never ask about the political, so that we will be happy to enjoy our daily life.

When the person in the video is facing the protest, he tries to close his eyes. Nevertheless, he will open his eyes while facing the reality which he thinks counts as normal society or event. It is easy to find that if people always imagine that they can escape from reality and keep using the living method from the 1980s, they will close our eyes and not believe the things that are crashing his / her original mind set automatically. It's a self protection which can help them escape from reality.

You Can't Wake A Person Who Is Pretending To Be Asleep. It's Time To Wake.