

preview extract

**Dance performance in cyberspace
- transfer and transformation**

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requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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Abstract

The aim of this research undertaking is to understand the potential development of dance performance in the context of cyberculture, by examining the way practitioners use new media to create artworks that include audience participation, and by endeavouring in their theorization. With specific reference to cyberspace as a concept of electronic, networked and navigable space, the enquiry traces the connections such practices have with conventions of the medium of dance, which operate in its widely known condition as a live performing art. But acknowledgement that new media and new contexts of production and reception inform the characteristics of these artworks and their discursive articulation, in terms of the way people and digital technologies interact in contemporary culture, is a major principle to their analysis and evaluation.

This qualitative research is based on case-study design as a means of finding pragmatic evidence in particulars, to illustrate abstract concepts, technological processes and aesthetic values that are underway in a new area of knowledge. The field where this research operates within is located by a mapping of published literature that informs a theoretical interdisciplinary framework, which contextualizes the interpretation of artworks. The selected case studies have been subject to a process of systematic and detailed analysis, entailed with a model devised for the purpose of this enquiry.

From this undertaking it can be claimed that while an extensive array of technologies, media and interactive models is available in this field, the artists pursue a commitment to demonstrate their worth for specifically developing (new media) dance performance, and for dance performance to articulate technological and critical issues for cyberculture studies. The results of this enquiry also contribute to conceptual understanding of what dance can be, today, in the light of technological changes.

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Contents

ABSTRACT.....	2
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
LIST OF FIGURES	6
1 CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION.....	8
1.1 Studying the potential but yet unlikely	8
1.2 Identifying a new area of knowledge.....	11
1.3 The dance piece as internet art or cyberspace performance	17
1.4 Conceptual, methodological and ethical approach	23
1.5 Encourage practice and theoretical engagement	26
1.6 Thesis chapters outline	28
2 CHAPTER 2 - MAPPING CONCEPTS AND EXPERT PRACTICES - ONTO A LITERATURE REVIEW	30
2.1 Clarifying the technological frame: cyberspace, new media and interactivity	31
2.2 Applying the qualitative frame: dance, professional and art	47
2.3 Dance and the computer.....	48
2.4 Dance and the Internet	64
2.5 Conclusion - the 'being in between' of dance performance in cyberspace....	78
3 CHAPTER 3 – RESEARCH METHODS	79
3.1 Outline of a qualitative research	79
3.2 Fitting in the community	85
3.3 Case study research design	92
3.4 Tools for a model of analysis.....	97
3.5 Undertaking analysis, process and results.....	106
4 CHAPTER 4 - THE NATURE OF DANCE PERFORMANCE IN CYBERSPACE	110
4.1 Understanding dance with new media	111

	p.5
4.2 The medium of dance	117
4.3 Where is performance?	131
4.4 Dance performance in cyberspace is conceptually possible.....	138
5 CHAPTER 5 - 96 DETAILS: INTERNET DANCE ART / WEB-BASED DANCE	139
5.1 Compagnie Mulleras.....	141
5.2 96 details – <i>a priori</i> content: themes, structure and components	145
5.3 96 <i>details</i> – transactions between the artwork and the audience.....	159
5.4 96 <i>details</i> – Techno-aesthetics: the web is a place to give	174
6 CHAPTER 6 SOI MOI – DANCE FOR AN I-PHONE	179
6.1 n+n corsino	181
6.2 <i>Soi Moi</i> – <i>a priori</i> content: themes, structure and components	186
6.3 <i>Soi Moi</i> – transactions between the artwork and the audience	201
6.4 Dance analysis in <i>Soi Moi</i> – the virtual body performing gender	214
7 CHAPTER 7 - ME AND MY SHADOW – INTERACTIVE INSTALLATION TO DANCE IN CYBERSPACE	220
7.1 Joseph Hyde and Ghislaine Boddington	222
7.2 <i>Me and My Shadow</i> – <i>a priori</i> content: themes, structure and components	227
7.3 <i>Me and My Shadow</i> – transactions between the artwork and the audience	239
7.4 Techno-aesthetics in <i>Me and My Shadow</i> – lets cyberdance	251
8 CHAPTER 8 - CONCLUSION	259
8.1 Wishes in context	259
8.2 Field signs	260
8.3 Resist resistance and keep moving	261
8.4 Evidence in the cases.....	264
8.5 The cost of being involved. Is it worth it?.....	267
BIBLIOGRAPHY	270
APPENDIX SECTION.....	283

Dance Performance in Cyberspace - transfer and transformation

Paula Gouveia Varanda

Appendix section

Appendix 1

Appendix to Chapter 5 / case 1

96 details - Cie. Mulleras

Interview with Didier Mulleras and Paula Varanda, July 2010

Information provided in the company's website

Press articles cited in the thesis

Appendix 2

Appendix to Chapter 6 / case 2

Soi Moi – n+n corsino

Interview with Norbert Corsino and Paula Varanda, July 2010

Information provided in the company's website

Press articles cited in the thesis

Appendix 3

Appendix to Chapter 7 / case 3

Me & My Shadow – Joseph Hyde

Interview with Joseph Hyde and Paula Varanda, August 2013

Interview with Ghislaine Boddington and Paula Varanda, August 2013

Information provided in the websites and process blog

Press articles cited in the thesis

Appendix 4

Conferences attended throughout the research and paper abstracts