Transduction

Jiayi Young in collaboration with Shih-Wen Young

ars electronica 2017, Linz, Austria

Project curated by Andreas Weixler, Se-Lien Chuang, and Volkmar Klien, Anton Bruckner Private University
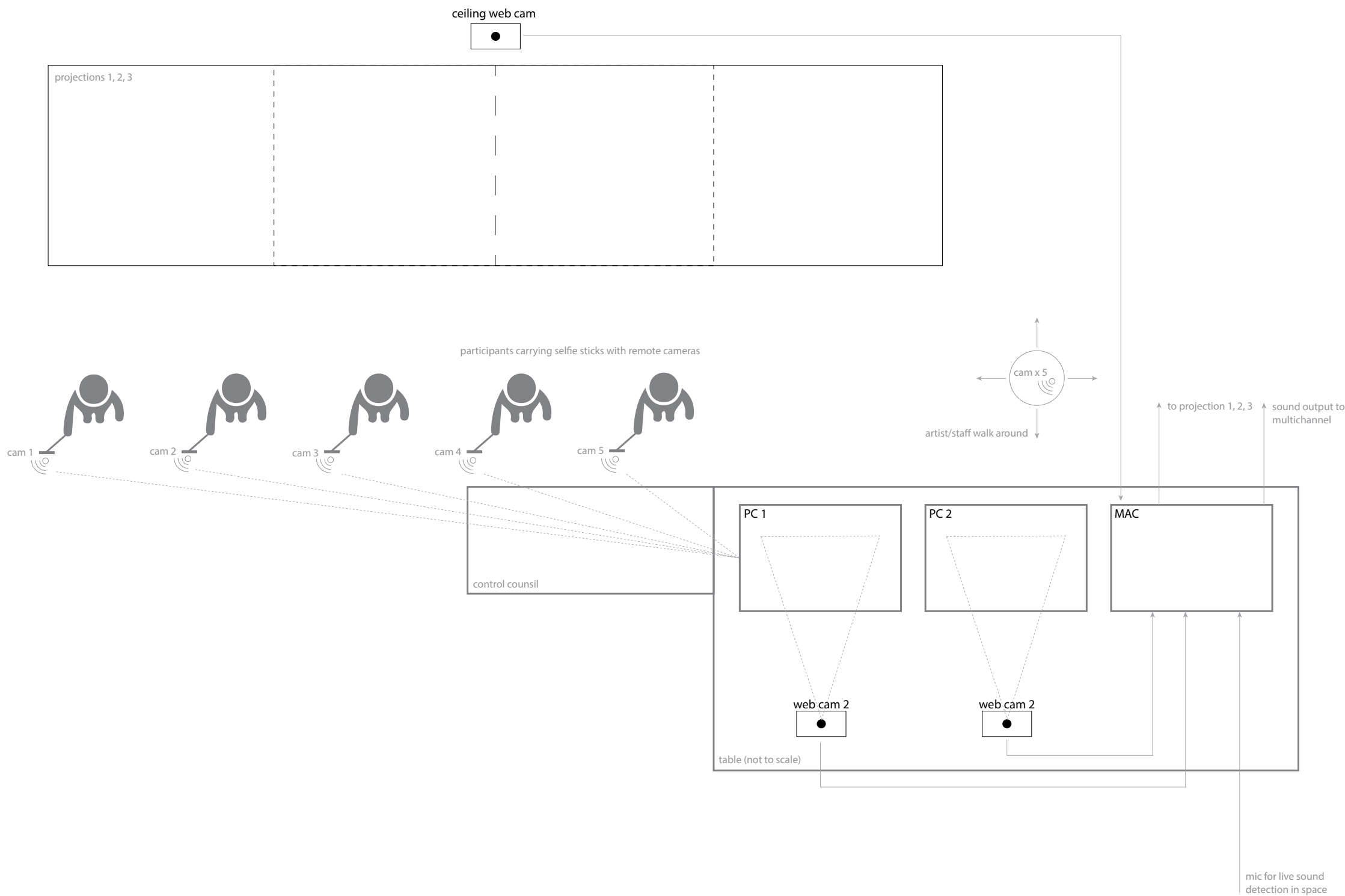Performance Assistance: Rachel Max

Medium: Public participatory stage performance, panoramic projection, motion tracking and real-time imaging through 10 Wi-Fi spy cameras, real-time sound visualization, 20-channel sound, selfie sticks.
Year: 2017

Length of Original Work: 10 min (original dialogue during performance is muted to protect participant privacy.)

Project Description: Transduction is a participatory stage performance. It freezes an everyday moment in the present time where exact surveillance, identification, and cataloging of the human experience in bite-size chunks seem to threaten individual autonomy meanwhile laying open an often overextended position of reverberation of the self existing in illusional amplification. The work invites audience participation to collectively compose in the precarious balance between self-exposure, surveillance, narcissistic tendencies, and identity construct, and provokes questions about the relationships between people and a technologically integrated landscape situated in an age-old question of the human condition of loneliness and isolation.

On Stage Rules:

1. Volunteers don't have to be English speaking.
2. On stage, volunteers will be referred to as guests 1, 2, 3.
3. On stage, volunteers are free to be yourself or assume a fictitious identity, and shift between these identities at will, any time, without telling the audience.
4. when I ask a question, volunteers can choose to answer it, or not.

ceiling web cam

●

projections 1, 2, 3

participants carrying selfie sticks with remote cameras

cam 1

cam 2

cam 3

cam 4

cam 5

cam x 5

artist/staff walk around

to projection 1, 2, 3   sound output to multichannel

control counsil

PC 1

PC 2

MAC

web cam 2

●

web cam 2

●

table (not to scale)

mic for live sound detection in space

TRANSDUCTION

Timeline Description:

minute 0 - 1 :
All system on including projection, sound and DMX.
Voice introduction and asking for volunteers.

minute 1 - 2 :
Participatns walk up the red carpet to the platforms.
Staff gives them each a selfie stick.

minute 2 - 8:
Participants will be given verbal instruction to answer questions one by one, to perform tasks, and to pose for the cameras in front of the selfie sticks.
Assistant will type the answers into the system.
Projection will reflect a combination of selfie photos, videos and text. Pixels will be scanned and mapped into sound and pushed into the speakers. The amount of piexels and sounds will gradually build up over time. Live detection of sound will in turn map sound into color pixels to be integrated into projection. Changes in projection will be reflected into the sound space.

minute 8 - 9:
Over time, pixel projection and sound bits will start to reduce. Verbal instruction will end at the end of minute.

minute 9 -10:
The space is dark and silent. Sound will rise to top layer of speakers with recordings of silence.