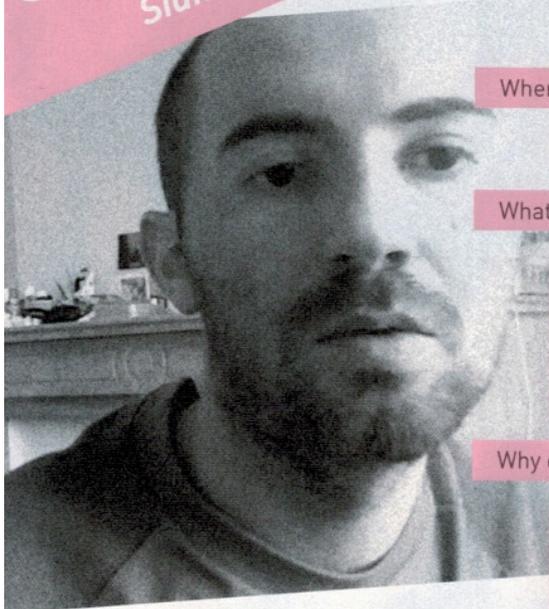


Snap Chat #7

Sidney Leoni



Where are you now?

I am in Stockholm, in Skanstull, sitting on a bench by the water.

What are you interested in at the moment?

It's been a couple of weeks now since I started writing my next feature film, a rather challenging social science fiction project that speculates about a future society that has learned to live rather peacefully in partial darkness. I am also working on a sound and dance solo-performance entitled "Last Recital". It will be a dance against war and violence, against neo-liberal globalisation and the constant flux of information.

Why did you create a film?

Dreams, visions and impressions of scenes and characters haunted me to the point that I could no longer sleep. I had to do something about it. So I crystallised it all in a film in order to be able to create some distance from these visions. Moreover, for almost a decade I've been longing to investigate the space of the cinema, as its main function is to project fictional worlds in front of an anonymous gathering of people that is literally plunged into darkness. And I have been so eager to focus on the film medium, to take the challenge to make a film and to actually make a film that I would actually want to go to see in a cinema.

How is your film influenced by choreography?

In the way that it is edited: like a maze of series of cuts, of shifts and collisions between fictional elements. In its multi-layered narrative. In the unusual extended time taken for sequences whose unfolding is principally based on actors' physical activities and movements. Also in how the film conveys numerous artistic fields of expression, such as ballet, cinema-making and acting, hand-shadow puppetry, radio mystery drama, paper artworks and painting. Maybe also in the particular attention that is given to the media of sound and music.

Who is your all time favourite author?

I don't think I have one. But to give an answer, I would say Mallarmé. Or maybe Bataille. And also Deleuze and Guattari as I find them quite fun to read, in their own way of course.

How did you choose the books for the Bibliothek im August?

I picked the ones that I think, to a certain extent, I could have written. In other words, I picked books that I strongly identify with in relation to how I think and how I operate in the world and in my artistic work.

What is your favourite quotation from the book, you have chosen to recommend?

I'm not sure if this quote also appears in the ciné-novel "Last year at Marienbad" by Alain Robbe-Grillet, on which the director Alain Resnais based his eponymous film. In the film, a woman stands motionless and in profile on the stage of a theatre in a large hotel. A bell rings. The woman slowly turns her head toward her audience and says: "Voilà, maintenant je suis à vous." (Behold, now I am yours.)

Sidney Leoni Under Influence

Filmvorführung | Deutschlandpremiere | HAU1
26. + 27.8., 19:00 | 75min | Eintritt frei

"Under Influence" ist ein experimenteller Spielfilm des Choreografen und Filmemachers Sidney Leoni. Frustriert von ihrer Hauptrolle in "Being Kate Winslet", findet die Schauspielerin Julia Gordon Zuflucht in ihrer Imagination, die von Figuren aus der Filmgeschichte belebt ist. Angelehnt an Klassiker des Film-in-Film-Genres ist "Under Influence" ein cineastisches Labyrinth mysteriös-psycho-tischer, ineinander verschachtelter Fiktionen.