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Running-room in the Mangle of Practice: Contemporary art in the thick of things.

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Abstract

This document and the exhibited artwork it accompanies aims to perform a positive aesthetic of exile that enacts the dislocating and shattering strategies of spatial, temporal and imagistic montage but also attempts to open a caesura in today’s relentless flow of images and thickening temporality. It joins with particular currents in engaged contemporary art to re-imagine what documentary form might be as an act of revelation not reduction. I have advocated in word and deed a structure of desire that is promiscuous without being possessive and accounts for a mode of subjectivity that temporally emerges from its material conditions in the thick of things. The corpus of experimental work has traversed a wide range of media and intentions but always with these issues in mind. I have produced small, tentative gestures in the city and ambitious proposals for affective maps in a mixed-media installation. I have gathered together an ambitious chorus of voices from across disciplines to share in common in a dialectical movement of resistance and accommodation that seeks to expand the realms of conceptual and corporeal possibility.
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