



An audiovisual performance

Project's site: www.spop.nl/?Knots

Live demonstration: <https://vimeo.com/644780371>

About:

After releasing Knots as a video-film, end of summer 2021, we have decided to expand the project towards a live performance, including live video mixing and instrumental/electronic music.

Knots is an experimental dance film for which we have engaged the Serbian dancers Ana Obradović, Jovana Grujić and Nemanja Bošković and Jovana Milovanović and Marko Segedinčev for the camera work.

Knots as a project deals with notions of connectivity, entanglement and barriers. It reveals the bodies of the dancers as relating to each other, to architecture and to landscapes or otherwise floating in the digital void. Simplicity of movements and gestures matches with the straight-forwardness of the animated parts. The style is raw at times and serves as a statement, seeking to remain within the human scale and condition. The instrumental and electronic music moves in between melodic phrases, industrial sounding structures and textural noise. The image emerges from within a pool of video loops, depicting and mixing choreographies in both studio settings and at urban locations next to animations and CGI manipulations.

While developing the live version of Knots, we added new material and opened it up for new combinations of image and sound.

The live show is based on a variable time span and follows the basic build-up of the Knots film: a five chapters division of 'scenes', taking place in five different surroundings and spheres. The idea behind the performance is to enable momentums of connectivity- of 'knotting' and dissolving. A process of connectivity and separation takes place in both the sound, the image and in between both. There are moments of synchronicity next to chaos and negation. The dynamic emphasized on a live setting enables the stretching or the compressing of the material at hand, shifting through densities and air. We travel in between the abstract and the defined, not shying away from extremities and the freeform to interact.



About the makers:

[Dirk Bruinsma](#) works as a composer and musician in various settings, ranging from chamber music to soundtracks for film and dance, free improvisation and experimental rock music. He appears on well over a thirty CD productions, mostly of his own groups and worked with various artists for exhibitions or stage productions. Since the mid eighties he appeared on the Dutch and international scene playing venues and festivals such as The Kitchen, the Knitting Factory, MIMI festival, FIMAV-Victoriaville, the Yokohama Jazz Festival, Holland Festival and the North Sea Jazz festival.

[Marit Shalem](#), also active as SpOp, is a visual artist, creating experimental video works and projects. Her projects often introduce multiple linearities while dealing with identity, communication and commercialism. Her recent interactive installation Alterations has been exhibited at the _V2Lab. An earlier installation, Broom Groom, showed at WORM-UBIK and the Science Gallery in Rotterdam as well as at the Ursula Walter gallery in Dresden. Shalem often collaborates with musicians such as Badgewearer for the Works on White project with performances in The Netherlands, France and the U.S.. Her work was shown nationally and internationally at a.o. the Dutch film festival, Utrecht, at Eurosonic, Groningen, Lokaal 01 Breda and Antwerp, at Experiments in Cinema, Albuquerque, at Bideodromo and Bionica in Barcelona, on Instans-Vidéo Marseille and Milan and on Madatac, Madrid. She is the recent laureate of the [Culture prize South Holland awarded by the Prins Bernhard Cultural fund](#).

Equipment:

Instruments: bass guitar, saxophone, samples and electronics

Video: laptop(s), midi controller and a projector.

We are pretty much self supportive for a medium size space including a projection screen in case there's no screen or white/grey wall at the venue.

We do require two (preferably high) tables.

For a large space we'd require speakers and a strong(er) projector.

Contact: marit@spop.nl and/or dibru@online.nl

