

# NeckFace: Thesis Research Outline

Arlene Ducao | SVA MFACA | Fall 2003

## I. Ontological Influences

- A. Opera/Music Theatre
  - 1. Sondheim: *Passion*
  - 2. Berg: *Wozzeck*
  - 3. Kander and Ebb: *Cabaret, Kiss of the Spider Woman*
- B. Ritual
  - 1. Catholic Mass
  - 2. Stravinsky: *Rite of Spring*
- C. Tactile Domestics: Cooking, Craft-making
  - 1. Robert Whitman
- D. The Weirdness of Mundane Objects and Activities
  - 1. *The Twilight Zone*
  - 2. Robert Whitman
  - 3. French New Wave
    - a. *Dreamlife of Angels*
    - b. *Stranger Than Paradise*
  - 4. Roald Dahl
- E. The Grossness of Quotidian Objects and Activities
  - 1. John Waters
  - 2. Quay Brothers
- F. Chamber/Interiors/Containership
  - 1. Ingmar Bergman
  - 2. Hitchcock: *Vertigo*
  - 3. Bruce Nauman
  - 4. George Hadjimichalis
- G. Obsession, Compulsion, Organization
  - 1. Hitchcock
  - 2. Greenaway
  - 3.

## II. Methodological Influences

- A. The Use of Mundane Objects, Textiles, Crafts
  - 1. Lee Bontecou
  - 2. Tom Friedman
  - 3. Tara Donovan
  - 4. George Hadjimichalis
  - 5. Kienholtz
  - 6. Lee Bul

7. Senga Nengudi
- B. The Domestic and Mystical Poetics of Digital Tech
  2. Robert Whitman
  3. Bill Viola
  4. Tony Oursler
- C. Performance Installation—objects with ritual or narrative history
  1. Ann Hamilton
  2. Janine Antoni
  3. Deborah Warner (theatre)
  4. Sasha Waltz (dance)

### III. Semiotic Influences

Enigmatic Ecstasy/Fantasy

Rumi

Proust

Colette

Baudelaire

Phillip Pullman: *His Dark Materials* / *Paradise Lost*

Imploding Monologues

Beckett

Chris Marker

Bible

Arthur Clarke: *Childhood's End*

### IV. Sonic Influences

- A. Environments
  1. Tony Oursler
  2. Pauline Oliveros
  3. Mori Installation at the Kitchen, Spring 2003
  4. Brandon Morse
  5. Morton Feldman
  6. Bernhard Leitner
- B. Vocalism
  1. Torch singers
    - A. Cassandra Wilson
    - B. Dawn Upshaw
    - C. Annie Lennox
    - D. Nina Simone
    - E. Holly Cole
    - F. Marlene Dietrich
    - G. Edith Piaf
  2. Existential Opera

- a. Claude Debussy
- b. Wagner: *Tristan*
- c. Monteverdi?
- 3. Expressionistic Opera
  - a. Weill: *The Fall of the City of Mahagonny*
  - b. Ligeti: *The Grand Macabre*
  - c. Sondheim: *Sweeney Todd*  
(also see above)
- 4. Chant
  - a. Bulgarian Womens' Choirs
  - b. Reich: *Tehillim*
  - c. Meredith Monk
- 5. Melancholic Modes
  - a. Eastern European: Klezmer
  - b. Asian: Pentatonics

## V. Visual Influences

- A. Sensuous Use of Color in Representational Expressionism
  - 1. Francis Bacon
  - 2. Chaim Soutine
  - 3. Bernardo Bertolucci: *Last Tango in Paris*
- B. Saturated Monochromaticism (increasingly common today)
  - 1. Kar-Wai Wong: *In the Mood for Love*
  - 2. Hitchcock: *Vertigo*
  - 3. Jerry Bruckheimer TV dramas
  - 4. Chris Marker: *Sans Soleil*
- C. Satiric Curvature
  - 1. Kara Walker
  - 2. Yinka Shonibare