

~.Soinusain.~

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Description:

~.Soinusain.~ (2017–19) a multi-sensory installation that proposes an intimate immersive experience inside sono-olfactive micro-environments.

Those micro-environments are three hanging cubical hexagons where we introduce our torso and head, activating the sounds. Inside them we are partially deprived of our sight, therefore the sensations given by the rest of the senses are enhanced, and in that state of intimacy we can be transported to other symbolic universes while we listen to abstract sounds and perceive particular smells.

The hexagons are made of wood, in their upper side they have speakers installed, an ultra-sonic sensor to activate the sound and an smell diffusor. Sounds have been designed with Pure Data (open source coding environment), creating a dynamic and sweeping composition that varies according to the algorithm that modulates it. For the creation of the olfactive micro-landscapes I use essential oils extracted from plants, combining them in the perfumer's manner.

Traditional perfumery classifies scents into base, middle and high notes to compose fragrances, just as musical chords are constructed with musical notes. This installation explores combinations of sounds and smells considering the wavelength of the sounds and the molecular size of the scents presented. We experiment three sono-olfactive compositions in a synaesthetic* way, one hexagon for the low sounds and odours, another for the mid range frequencies and the last for the high ones, so that all together they form the chords of ~.Soinusain.~.

Its first version was co-produced by STEIM, where it was premiered at the Amsterdam Museum Night (NL) in November 2017 and will remain part of their ongoing exhibition Micro-Tone at the Sound Art Hallway until 2022. In 2018, its second version has been presented at the XXI Mostra d'art Públic in Valencia University. Finally, for the latest version exhibited at La Place gallery (Barcelona) as part of the *Interpose* programme curated by Mayssa Fattouh, I included salt covering the floor as a rug that gives the feeling of a non-existent environment, blends the three hexagons and induces the visitor in a immersive state.

Concept:

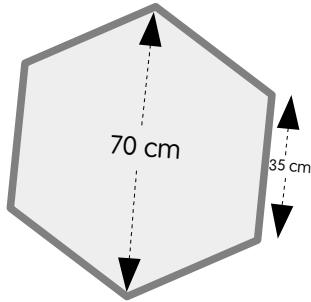
As synaesthesia has been explored in the arts mainly by blending vision and hearing, like Kandinsky's paintings of Symphonies or the 60's video art scene, ~.Soinusain.~ is part of my research into synaesthetic experiences that combine sound and scents in relation to space. It shares the vision of the currents of opinion that question the artwork as an observable entity, distant and aseptic, inviting us to penetrate inside it, so that the body acts as an active agent in the exploration of the artwork.

The digital transformation that helps us in many ways, for me has elements of risk specially in social relations. The majority of nowadays western culture society has integrated technology in most of our activities. Responding to the saturation of nowadays smartphone addiction ~.Soinusain.~ proposes a moment of pause, an intimate encounter with our senses and therefore with ourselves.

Moreover, the image we see from the outside of the installation, three persons experimenting it isolated but together, displays some of the present times ways of social relations: people immersed in their electronic devices, physically disconnected from the place they are and from the rest of the humans surrounding them. Do we want a society that connects just digitally? ~.Soinusain.~ raises the question if this is the model of society we want to live in so that if we want to change it we can start before is too late.

* Synaesthesia: : A way of perceiving particular stimulus from one sensory modality with another, like seeing sounds or tasting colours.

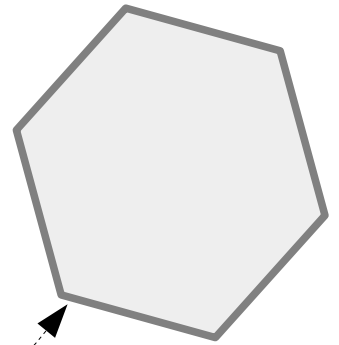
Sketches:



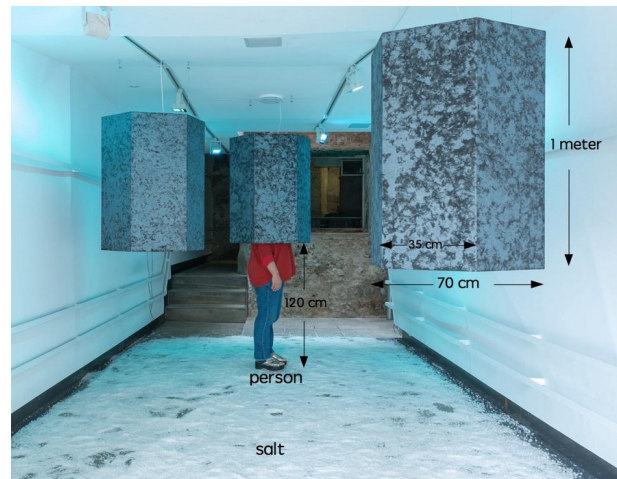
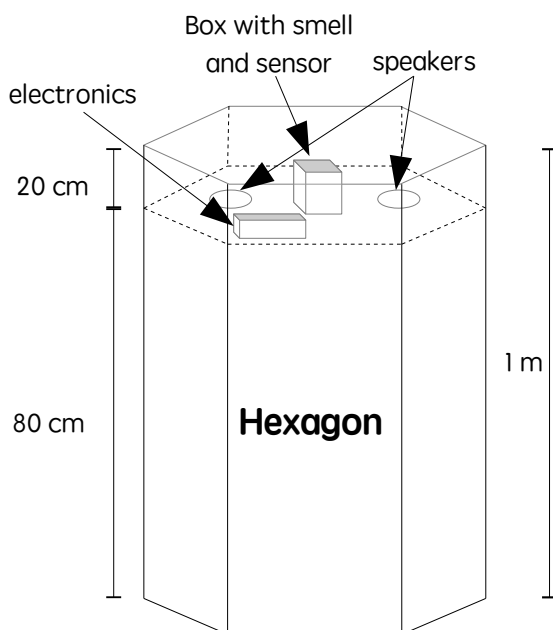
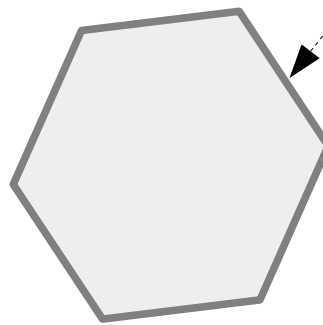
Top view

possible distribution in space of about 2x3 m

The hexagons can be placed in a non-regular position. The distance between one another must be of minimum 60 cm and maximum 2 meters. The space must be minimum 2 x 3 m by 2,5m high



Between 60 and 120 cm



They can also be placed hangin from a structure

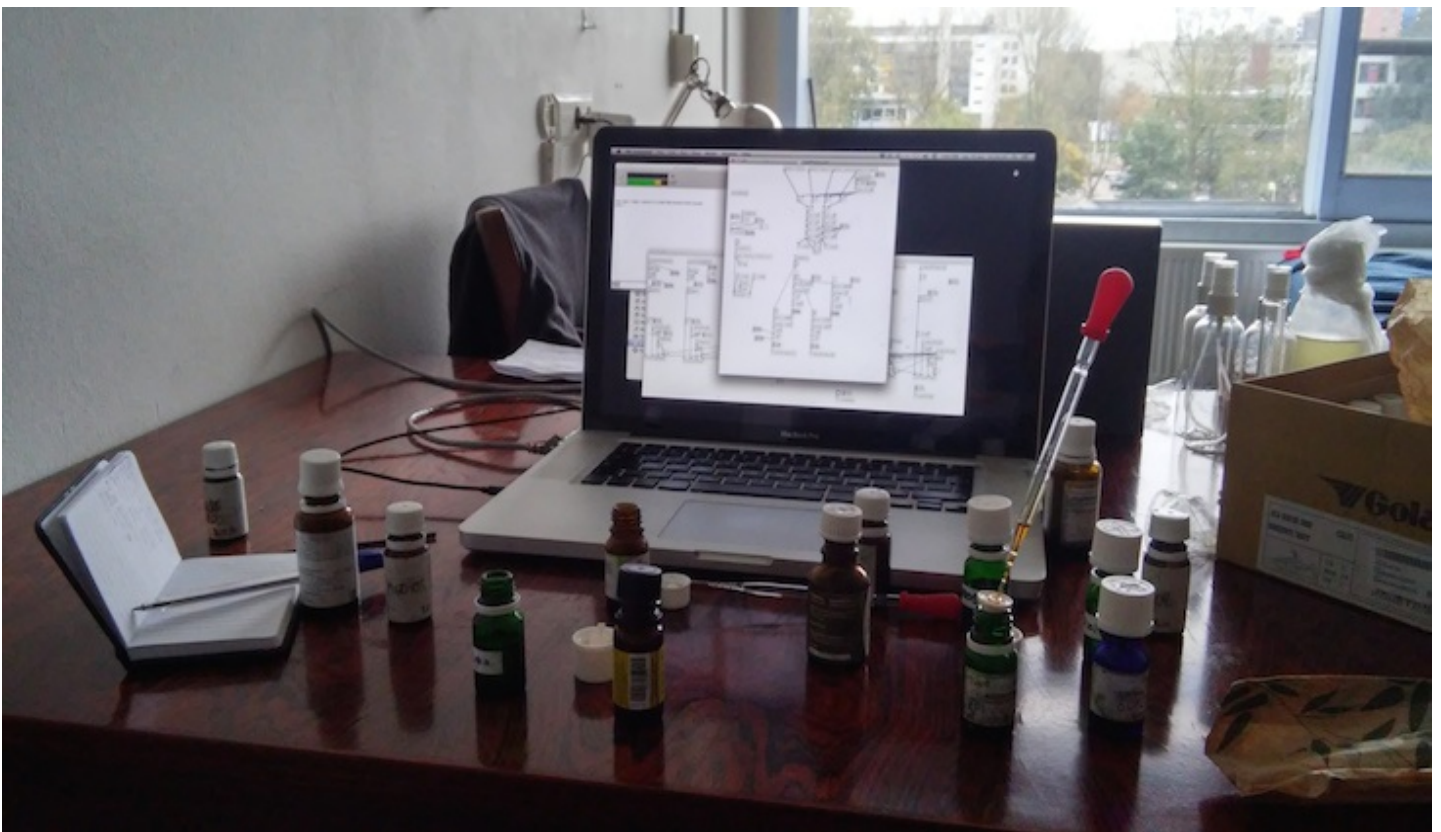


Pictures making off:

Constructing the hexagons



Working on the olfactory compositions with essential oils and the on the algorithms for the sounds with Pure Data, open source software.



Pictures exhibitions:

First version at STEIM Sound Art Hallway, Amsterdam 2017



Second version at Mostra Art Públic, Valencia 2018



Latest version with salt in the floor, exhibition at La Place, Barcelona 2019



Links about the work:

<https://instrumentinventors.org/work/soinusain/>

<https://vimeo.com/327337951>

<http://steim.org/sound-art-expo/sound-art-hallway/>

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