

21st Biennale Sao Paulo 1991 MARIA DUNDAKOVA © Project SUN RITE “BAPTISME”

The central theme of the Biennale Sao Paulo was “The Holistic Global Tendencies of Humankind at the End of the 20th Century”. Based on the personal invitation of the jury of the Biennale, I further developed the project “Sun-Rite”. I presented it in form of pictures, live-performances with Brazilian dancers and the installation “Echo Wall” for which Bruno Spoerri especially composed the music. Music and installation are in a continual interaction and interconnection. The installation contains the happening at the Dead Sea, develops live in Brazil and is a future vision for the Brazilian landscape: “Sun-Rite – Baptism”. The draft of the project “Sun Rite Baptism”, a project for a Thousand People and the Ocean as well as One Man and a Wave received a lot of interest in the newspapers. The whole work “Sun-Rite” was selected as one of the top ten works at the Biennale. The delegation of the young artists, invited from all Latin American countries selected it as the best work and celebrated in the biennial under 10 best works.

Based on this success, the UN Commission for Culture chose “Sun-Rite Baptism” for the opening of the cultural accompanying program of the International Conference on the Environment which took place in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. In collaboration with the Museum of Modern Art and the city of Rio de Janeiro,

MARIA DUNDAKOVA © SUN RITE „BAPTISM “One thousand people and the ocean wave 21 Bienal international de Sao Paulo

Location	One kilometre shoreline, sandy beach.
Participants	Waves, the sound of the ocean, echo, up to one thousand people (one man – one meter – one step), blue and yellow energy.
Performance	The interplay of dual polar energy – blue and yellow. Blue energy is played by a wave of the ocean. Yellow energy is composed of a yellow path of light played by a chain of yellow stained people (chorus).
Description of the first rite	THE NIGHT. Four light beams projected into four different directions create a lightcross which illuminates the motion and the path of an incoming wave. Wave followed by darkness, darkness followed by wave, wave and light join together to create a path onto the beach. While the waves perform their dance, people begin to stain their bodies yellow.
Description of the second rite	THE YELLOW ECHO. The motion of the wave provokes a countermovement which is depicted by the chain of yellow people. A dialogue between the wave and the yellow line (echo) begins – coming and going.
Description of the third rite	BEFORE SUNRISE THE LINE OF YELLOW BODIES SLOWLY FORM A SPIRAL.
Description of the fourth rite	BAPTISM. The spiral turns into a circle which dissolves and dissipates into the sea.
Description of the fifth rite	CELEBRATION OF DAYBREAK
Music	The human voice and the voice of nature.

Film

To record the event, six cameras are installed: one camera: ocean to beach

three cameras: beach to ocean

one camera: from the right

one camera: from the left

These four cameras provide macro-vision. The two remaining cameras are for dokumentation and recording details.

Film scenario „Baptisme“

The night runs

from body to body

from wave to wave

from wave to puls

he puls turns into pace

the pace into fatigue

fatigue into a beat

beat upon beat into a scream

the scream turns into eco.

The untiring echo

In the night, infinite and lonley

de-mystifies the warm body

transformed into stone.

The stone into a ray

The ray into warm earth

extends under the blue body of the ocean

the waves become intoxicating lips

the drink the light

to the bottom.

Maria Dundakova © 1990

SUN RITE

- Mythological space is being created through space itself
- Mythological space is everywhere where there is the presence of man.
- Mythological space is the breath of things – communication between man and his environment.
- Mythological space is not static term, it is subject to the way mankind changes itself.
- Feeling is its measuring unit.
- Mythological space materializes itself in all forms.
- Where human feeling is projected and reflected back by the environment.
- The rite is composed of a technique with which mythological space can become visible.
- The rite is the happening which is projected into time,
- The rite is an event of being.
- The rite is the gesture with which man evaluates human space.
- The gesture is experience defined through a meaningful language of symbols and signs.
- The language of the rite does not illustrate an idea – it is itself idea.
- The technique of the rite can express itself through all the available techniques because it is defined by the desire to communicate.
- The rite makes it possible for things to continue to exist in time, which cannot be submitted to a concept like „past – future or presence“.

- Maria Dundakova © 1991

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MARIA DUNAKOVA ©
 Sketches for project
 PROJECT SUN RITE „BAPTISME“

**One thousand people
 and the ocean waves**

Celebration dance of daybreak

21 BIENNALE SAO PAULO

