ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE

INSTALLATION MALCOLM DICKSON

...I look out the window...
...freedom shimmers like a mirage...

... a dream derive ...

"Arrival/Departure" uses a past journey and previous encounter to speculate on the notion of why some events have more resonance through memory than they had at their moment of experience. This takes the form of an unspecified journey, which may be real, imaginary or metaphorical.

In the video work, the monitors themselves become dream (or memory) screens onto which images are built (traces). These traces take the recurring form of a passing landscape and of a woman's face. This re-awakoning of images is not solely for reflection - the past as something we will never experience again - but to suggest that as balance is lost it is continually recovered. Memory, or the renewal of images from the past to be used in the present, can be used to counteract the economisation of time within the whole of our present culture.

The video is constructed on super-imposition, dissolves, the repetition of images and the interplay between positive and negative imagery. The text uses two voices, one a personal narrative and the other describing certain psychoanalytical ideas touched upon in the first narrative. Connections are suggested between seemingly unconnected ideas: real/imaginary, inertia/change, memory/amnesia, near/far.



Departure

The horizon bends

The days are getting longer

Voyage

A heart leaps in a cage

A bird sings

About to die

Another door will open

At the end of the hall

Where there is glowing

A star

A dark woman

The lantern of the train departing

Nomad

The door which does not open

The hand which passes

Afar the breaking of glasses

The lamp is smoking

The sparks which are lighting

The sky is blacker

Over the roofs

Sundry animals

Shadowless

A look

A dark speck

The house no-one enters

Sun

Someone has just gone by

And in the room

has left a sigh

Life deserted

The street

An open windowpane

A ray of sunshine On the green plain

Pierre Reverdy