

'this moment' DAVID CUNNINGHAM

'this moment' shows a series of phonetic representations of the gradual accumulation of fragments of the repeating phrase 'this moment' which appear roughly once a second on the soundtrack. The system of representation follows the evolution of the broken sound into the complete word. One common observation on tape loops of speech has been that the sound appears to change even though it is simply repeating. 'this moment' is an attempt to accelerate and refine that hearing process.

The use of the phonetic alphabet creates differing representations of parts of the sound at different stages of the process as the phonetic symbols vary according how much of combinant vowels are audible and according to vowel length and truncation of consonants.

The piece creates a dialectic between the sound of the human voice and a system of representation which at first sight appears to be inconsistent. Through the use of extracts from a continuity, 'this moment' allows events to develop within the frame rather than use the conventional grammar of television to enhance, encourage or impose an action or narrative.

credits:

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