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Surveillance systems in interactive installations

Interview

"Scare and enjoy, both reactions come out of the same thing"

Access, by Marie Sester
Digital artist
(France)

Tools

Video Transcription

It is a computer-controlled spotlight that alights on people in a public space. It is an interesting exploration into how people react when they are in the spotlight. Some people really enjoy it, in a kind of celebrity way, some people get really scared of it in a very surrealist kind of way. It is interesting that both reactions come out of the same thing.

This is actually what the computer sees and then analyses the points that touch the target. Once the target has been chosen, it stays, and it has to stay on that person as much as possible. Once a target is chosen, it uses optical plot techniques to track the user frame to frame.

We can do it this way; you can imagine how real, how you can do it pretty well. Now, obviously, we are making it so obvious to attract them, but it could be not so obvious.

Full video

Marie Sester, coming from an architecture background, started working in digital art work with the motivation of, as she said, "questioning the perspective of the West, and the meta-state of a New World Order, employing archetypes and referents as starting points".

Interviewed by Pau Waelder (co-director of Artactiva), at Ars Electronica 2003.

Keywords

security, spot light, celebrity, surveillance, control

Related links

[Marie Sester official site](#)

[Access, Honorary Mention Prix Ars Electronica 2003](#)



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