

Glossolalia - Speaking in Tongues

Church of St Peter - Kingerby

14 - 15 May 2011



An Unobserved Event
Archival digital print 60 x 60cm

Speaking with tongues is an installation arising from a project as artist in residence at Nottingham Trent University and shown during the West Lindsey Churches Festival with the collaboration of the Churches Conservation Trust.

The installation came about as a recognition of the resonances between the material architecture and artifacts of the church and a ceramic sculpture. This led to a response to the setting in the form of a sound work, Contingent Ceremony, recorded and performed in situ.

The sound work explores ritualisation as a spontaneous process through music, ambient sound and voice. The artist sees making order of the experience as a creative process for coping with the bewildering sensory and psychological input he confronts on entering the situation with all its associations.

The sculpture is part of an evolving secular reliquary or sacred natural history that connects with biological and cultural sources in celebration of humanity's sense of place from a non-anthropocentric view point.

On the second day of the installation Alexis Rago filmed in the moment the video *Ex Machina*. It depicts a bowl made of the same material as the sculpture, mysteriously rocking on an oak table while part of *Contingent Ceremony* plays inflecting the whole with shamanistic humour. Any explanation is left unrevealed.

The installation was subsequently taken to the Crypt Gallery, St Pancras and modified as part of the *Totem Body* exhibition in June 2011.

