

HACKING HABITAT

ART OF CONTROL — 26.02–06.06.2016

THE REFUSAL OF TIME BY WILAM KENTRIDGE: TIMELESS

The multimedia installation **The Refusal of Time** by William Kentridge was the eye-catching blockbuster during the last dOCUMENTA in Kassel. People needed to queue up for up to two hours to see it. This undisputed masterpiece is now on display in the gym of the former prison in Utrecht. Visitors from abroad travel for hours to see this work of art in displayed. **The Refusal of Time** is the closing piece of the international exhibition HACKING HABITAT.

The Refusal of Time is the masterpiece by William Kentridge about the invention and standardization of time. The ultimate attempt to take control of life and parallel each and everyone's existence is constantly being undermined. Not only by people who are forced to subject themselves to the regime but also by time itself. Relativity, black holes and string theory take over. Visions of total synchronization are being replaced by modesty. Wall-sized video screens tell of victory and loss as the result of mankind's greatest innovation: time.

At the center of the installation is a moving sculpture—the "breathing machine"—an organ-like automaton with pumping bellows. Plans from the 1870s for copper pneumatic tubes under the streets of Paris that would pump regular bursts of air to calibrate the city's clocks remind us of factory machinery moving monotonously up and down. **The Refusal of Time** represents not only the resistance to control by time, but is a denouncement of any form of control.

The World famous South African artist William Kentridge is known for his special animated films, charcoal drawings and installations. He also works as opera and theater director. In the Netherlands work by Kentridge was shown at the Jewish Historical Museum and the EYE Film Museum, but **The refusal of Time** was never before shown in full extent. Critics and artists praise the exceptional display of **The Refusal of Time** in the spacious gym of the former prison. Climbing frames and workout machines act as echo of the devices that are carried in the processions. Synchronized projections on the walls form a hallucinogenic experience.

Music and Soundscape – Philip Miller
Video Editing – Catherine Meyburgh
Dramaturge – Peter Galison

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Practical information for the public: Information and contact: www.hackinghabitat.com
HACKING HABITAT runs until June 5, 2016.

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