

VICTORIA DEBLASIO
on
***Time Savor* by Amanda Crary and Codey Gallas**



What is time? It's not something that is necessarily always tangible, yet it's something that we all experience and something that directly effects the way we go about our existences. It's something measured, something calculated, something saved, and sometimes can be something overlooked or unappreciated. In a society where everything is in-your-face and time seems to be fleeting, we forget how it can also be something that carries meaning outside of all its other responsibilities. *Time Savor* featured two artists, Amanda Crary and Codey Gallas, that exhibit what it is to find meaning in time passing through cyanotype, installation and performance.

Crary's work examines time as intimacy. Intimacy is often characterized by sex and sexuality, but that's not always the case. Intimacy can come forth wearing many different hats, and in Crary's interpretation of time, intimacy comes in the form of spending and capturing time, recording small gestures like eating a meal together. Crary created different cyanotypes on muslin titled *Setting the Table with the Sun* which are photographic blueprints of time passing. Crary used these sheets of muslin dipped in the cyanotype chemicals as her picnic blankets. The chemicals react to the movement of the plates and cups while simultaneously

being developed and essentially time-stamped in the fabric. Standing in front of these pieces, I felt the sense of movement and understood that time passing had caused the reaction and ultimately the image I was seeing. Body becomes interwoven with time, making time something visceral and tangible; it's intimate in that it feels like you're watching two people sharing space and time together without it being voyeuristic.

Not only was there a visual representation of time saved and spent, but we also were welcomed to engage in and or view physical manifestations in real-time. *Come to the Table* is Crary's participatory installation work that explores interaction and the sharing of both time and space. Offerings of homemade chicken noodle soup and Scottish shortbread cookies were set up around a table and chairs, surrounded by smells and pre-recorded sounds of a conversation with her husband (Gallas), inviting people to sit, eat, and share both physical space and the passage of time. For a moment, I got to have conversation with strangers and feel time start to slip; you get lost in sharing your time and space with others, again creating connection and intimacy in this subtle, yet profound way.

Gallas gave us the perfect view of manifestation of time, both past and present, through repetition. Walking up to this piece, I was met with a large sheet and a bicycle with tubes and brushes attached to the wheels. At 8pm on April 7th, Gallas mounted his bike and started an hour-long live painting with just him and his bike. In the small pocket in SOUP, I watched Gallas show the repetitious beauty of time and gave a physical presence to something that we normally pay no attention to. Catharsis is the only word that comes to mind when trying to describe the experience – it was both physically inspiring and alluring while mentally and emotionally calming and reassuring. And also, the sheer fact that Gallas was able to ride his bike in this small space with wet paint on the sheet, going in circles and figureights over and over was truly a feat; I enjoyed every minute of sharing time with him.

Time Savor truly exemplified what it means to not take time for granted. Our lifestyles are always so busy that we forget that sharing and savoring both time and space with not only ourselves but with others (both familiar and strange) is so important to living out a true human experience. Both Amanda and Codey gave so much of themselves into their work, and it was truly a wholesome and humbling experience being able to share some time with them.

Amanda Crary's Portfolio
www.amandacrary.com/

Codey Gallas's Portfolio
www.facebook.com/codey.gallas/

Thank you Victoria.

Sincerely,

SOUP experimental