

Wojciech Bąkowski

Dance

2010

video

04'06"

Collection of Galeria Labirynt

The video or the music video was created for the song "Dance" by the electronic music duo Niwea, which included: Wojciech Bąkowski and Dawid Szczęsny. The work is made up of three sequences, two of which are intertwined and repeated for most of the piece.

The longest fragment shows Wojciech Bąkowski sitting on a chair in a small room. The man's body shakes irregularly from side to side – gently at first, and more and more in subsequent shots. This effect was achieved with a fairly simple measure: the man is not in the real room, but in the staged space of a truck trailer that drives around the parking lot. Because the recording camera was fixed to one of the walls of the trailer, a stable image was obtained, and the viewer can only observe the unconscious body movements of the seated man dependent on the car maneuvers.

The artist's movement is unorganised and out of control – it is only the result of the body being subjected to gravity. This experimental action, combined with the text of the piece, in which the title order "Dance" appears several times, the artist inverts the concept of classical choreography. It creates a situation in which "choreography" is not a planned, controlled and composed system of gestures of the human body.

Wojciech Bąkowski, who was born in one of the residential districts of Poznań consisting of large blocks of flats, is inspired by the grey, backyard reality. The plain text of the piece, more recited than sung, is a combination of contemporary poetry and classical hip-hop.

A relatively low-quality black and white video is devoid of enhanced contrasts and embellishments. Recorded with basic equipment and without complicated editing, it expresses the artist's minimalist style.

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translation: Krystian Kamiński

English subtitles: Julia Czekaj



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