



Ochered (the rehearsal)

work in progress 2011-2012

b/w video 9'00".

HD

Russian spoken, English subtitles.

Ochered (the rehearsal) was performed by amateur actors in the city of Krasnoyarsk (Russia), and is based on the well-known dialogue novel *Ochered'* (The Queue 1983) by Russian writer Vladimir Sorokin.

Synopsis

On the stage of an empty museum auditorium, a small amateur theatre company reads the novel *Ochered'* for the first time. The backdrop is Soviet Russia's *Banner of Victory*. As they articulate the phrases, the actors taste the rhythm and flow of Sorokin's dialogues. Nine young people thus try to familiarize themselves with Sorokin's notations of 1980s (street) language, and with the novel's overall dark humor. Sometimes giggling, other times clearly shocked, the actors are aware of the camera and shy for its capturing gaze. The text they read has no plot -just as ordinary dialogue, it slips and makes detours- and the actors perform without much 'acting'. The recorded scene shows a public 'actors' reading', quite a common sight in (Russian) theatre tradition. At the same time this (re)enactment explores the musicality of the dialogue novel.

Sorokin's avant-garde novel *Ochered'* was completed in 1983 and first published in France. Written in dialogues only, it illustrates a scene in which Russians standing in a long queue in the streets of Moscow, wait to obtain their cut of scarce supplies. Blank pages interrupt text passages in the book, indicating moments of silence. The waiting people joke, chat about the news, solve crossword puzzles and argue. The dialogue format, more importantly, the leitmotif of waiting and suspended desire, inspired Lamers to re-edit the novel into a 'play' for nine actors.

***Ochered (the rehearsal)* examines how contemporary young Russians interact with precedent social and political circumstances and ideologies. It also explores how past rhetoric and convictions can still be traced in the bodies and gestures of today's people.**

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running time: 9'00"
year of completion: -
format: HD
screen ratio: 16:9
sound: Stereo

Main Credits

Concept: Ine Lamers
Director: Ine Lamers

Crew

Camera: Rob de Vree
Production assistant: Giulnara Davydkina

Cast

(Alphabetical order)

Boris Bory
Oksana Bugunak
Oljec Buziov
Alexey Makeev
Oljec Semenkova
Sacha Semenkova
Lena Soynova
Yuri Tchurak
Sveta Zamostyan

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