

Petra Cortright
on Vlogs
Interview by Melody Panosian
February 2011

i am interested in the daily videos you make. they are worked on but there is this vlogging manner to it as well. who are they for? in terms of audience.

some of them definitely are in the middle between a "piece" and documenting something/capturing a moment, more like a vlog... i just recently posted a few videos on facebook now, in the past i may have posted them on youtube but now with facebook video uploads i had the instinct to put them there. mostly dancing videos or just videos of me recording something about life like a halloween costume or playing with my dog, those things i never considered pieces they aren't on my website, but they are sprinkled throughout my youtube channel and now they are on facebook. i think they seem to have a dual function for me of being able to share with friends/family as well as them acting as some sort of test that could later lead to a more solid piece... sometimes i just become curious about certain lighting or elements or effects and i just need to see how they are going to look on the webcam.. and then eventually some of them end up online but i also have a lot that are just on my harddrive stored as drafts. about an "audience" i just figure whoever wants to watch it can watch it, all my facebook preferences are set to public, as well as my youtube... i dont really like to push things on people, if they want to click they can click and since everything is public i dont have a specific audience filter in mind. i like knowing that anyone can look at it on their own terms rather than trying to release things to specific people or trying to push it onto certain groups.

you make your vlog posts for family, friends and people that happen to click their way to your videos. do you see a direction in which your vlog posts are changing?

they take the direction of whatever computer/technology i have / what location i am in - like right now my working computer just died so i have been using my moms imac and i made some videos in photobooth. i just usually adapt to whatever is available which is nice because it allows for change.

i also have other questions: how do you relate to art groups? are you working or studying in any particular institution?

i went to cca for a semester and then i went to parsons for roughly 2 years i never earned a degree and im not studying anywhere at the moment. there are groups i am (or used to be because some are inactive) involved with concerning internet finds / art... "nasty nets" "loshadka" "supercentral" "computers club". ive met a lot of artists through internet art/surfing clubs and that has also allowed for irl connections with galleries or other opportunities. i feel like i have a good network of people who i know or who know me in internet terms or art world terms after the last few years of being involved with these groups and i feel lucky because just the presence of being on the internet has branched out gently and casually into opportunities without any feeling like i was selling myself.

**for me, your vlog posts have a delicacy and prettiness. seeking and communicating that which would work in an infinite moment of your world as a reality for the masses, for the masses to confirm your reality.
what sort of longer videos do you make? how do those videos differ from the vlog posts?**

do you notice a direct link, being in your internet art contexts and creating or working on a personage? (by personage i mean a person the audience get to know, and return to, because of its curiosity about the world)

do you feel that your vlog posts are self display?

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