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Release	Title	CAMP After Media Promises	
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Overview

- Title: CAMP After Media Promises
- Period: November 25, 2021 February 27, 2022
- Venue: Nam June Paik Art Center Gallery 2
- Curator: Kim Seong Eun
- ° Coordinator: Cho Kwonjin
- Hosted and Organized by: Nam June Paik Art Center, Gyeonggi Cultural Foundation
- \circ In Collaboration with: Seoul Express, Taeyoon Choi Studio, 0x2620, Daerim Plaza Governing Office
- Cooperation Partner: Goethe-Institut Korea
- Supported by: Sandoll Cloud



Statement

Nam June Paik Art Center presents the exhibition of CAMP, who are the 7th Nam June Paik Art Center Prize winner, from November 25, 2021 to February 27, 2022. CAMP is a Mumbaibased collaborative studio, and works with film, video, electronic media and public art forms, exploring various media technologies through research, infrastructural interventions, presentation, and documentation. The exhibition's title, CAMP After Media Promises, is one of the more than 100,000 backronyms for CAMP, produced by a computer script, on their first website in 2007. Their methods are about taking technology of all kinds in unfamiliar and often utopian directions with sharp gestures, drawing energy from their understandings.

The contextually rich, environment-shifting media work of CAMP relocates and redefines the categories of observer, subject, network, database, image and sequence, by stealing power, time and access from existing megastructures. CAMP's work goes to the heart of what is at stake when such systems overlap our living systems, and our value systems. Their after-proposals are responses to a change in conditions and horizons, immediate or longer-term, and a non-acceptance of the current, limited use of any technology. After-cable TV, after-electrification, after-internet, after-CCTV are not post- or going past, rather they are ideas and actions that breed in these intersecting environments, disturb their promises, and encrust them with possibilities. We are asked to remember many "promises of media," and the politics and geography of both those words.

For this exhibition, CAMP presents an essay through their practice in a large-format, 8 screen sync-video environment. By not merely presenting a series of works, by making it a journey through the inside and outside of artworks, this format is their response to the question of "exhibition" today. They explore a series of interventions, from a TV station inside a market in 2004, to a new film being shot on CCTV in Mumbai in 2021. For CAMP "media" is just another word for environments that surround and sustain us. Their images and arrangements are thus shifts in the environment, at certain crossings of time, space and opportunity, and now as another wave of digital technology passes through us. This exhibition includes a new commission by Nam June Paik Art Center drawing on the cinematography of CCTV in Seoul (with artists Seoul Express and Taeyoon Choi) at <u>cctv.camp</u>, and their proposal of an openaccess application for Nam June Paik Art Center Video Archive (with 0x2620) at <u>njp.ma</u>. In parallel, a microsite at <u>njpcamp.kr</u> is open as a web portal of the exhibition bringing a new experiential dimension to it.



■ Artist

CAMP was founded in 2007 by Shaina Anand, Ashok Sukumaran and Sanjay Bhangar. It has been producing provocative new works in a practice characterized by a hand-dirtying, nonalienated relation to technology. Their projects have entered many modern social and technical assemblies: energy, communication, transport and surveillance systems, ports, ships, archives – things much larger than itself. These are shown as unstable, leaky, and contestable "technology," in the ultimate sense of not having a fixed-function or destiny, making them both a medium and stage for artistic activity. CAMP's work has been shown in global venues, as well as India, including MoMA New York, Tate Modern, Serpentine Galleries, HKW Berlin, Ars Electronica, Anthology Film Archives, Sharjah Biennial, Kassel documenta and Skulptur Projekte Münster, and also in the streets and markets of cities around the world. From their home base in Chuim village, Mumbai, they run a rooftop cinema for the past 15 years.

studio.camp



■ Works



Partial install view from the 8-screen Moving Panorama video essay at Nam June Paik Art Center, filmed by CCTV in Mumbai, 2021

A Moving Panorama

CAMP presents an essay through their practice in a large-format, 8 screen sync-video environment. By not merely presenting a series of works, but making it a journey through the inside and outside of artworks, this format is their response to the question of "exhibition" today. This exhibition is a "moving panorama," which was historically a painted environment with moving canvases that would take you from place to place, sometimes imaginary ones. It is also a tour through the ages, where electronic media and modernity in general has evolved in compressed timelines, in the places of the world they live and have worked in. CAMP says "the city is big, the image is (still) small." Many of the images and sounds here have been recorded or produced by unconventional equipment in non-standard situations, from inside control rooms and in cable networks, from the Somali coast to their studio rooftop, from "made" to "taken," also open to being taken in turn, via their long running open archival practice. The installation has 7 acts in that unfold in duration, as well as in space: 0. City after Video • 1. Electric Time and Space • 2. TV Politics • 3. CCTV Social • 4. Leaks • 5. Grey Boxes, Brown Boats and the Sea • -1. Returns.





Stills from the Seoul live stream on November 23, 2021 as seen on CCTV.camp

A Live Choreographed Camera

"What is a movie in this age where there are more cameras than people?" This is a newly commissioned work in Seoul using a closed-circuit television camera. The camera is set up on the rooftop of the Daerim Plaza in Euljiro, and tells the stories of old towns under the force of urban regeneration. CAMP controls the camera's movements with computer software as if choreographing it. With the pan, tilt, zoom functions, the camera moves at various distances and speeds to capture the cityscape with some kinetic rhythm. It adds an oblique angle and duration to the old dance between cameras and subjects. The live streams are available online at <u>cctv.camp</u> too. You can also see in the moving panorama section a work commissioned by Kochi-Muziris Biennale and Nam June Paik Art Center, and produced at the Four Seasons Hotel Mumbai in the same way. More than 60 years have passed now since Nam June Paik pioneered CCTV as an artistic medium in the 1960s, CAMP's work experiments with a new possibility of filming with the technology. For the Seoul production, CAMP is in collaboration with artists Taeyoon Choi, and Youjin Jeon and Minki Hong of Seoul Express.

* Filming: Euljiro 157 Seoul, Oct 15, 2021 – Feb 27, 2022





Web views from njp.ma, an online archive for the videos of Nam June Paik Art Center Archives by CAMP and pad.ma

An Archive Proposal

Using their media archive system developed with Jan Gerber of Berlin's 0x2620, CAMP proposes an experiment for the videos housed in the Nam June Paik Art Center Video Archive, the world's only video archive of Paik's. The system provides such functions as time-based annotations, timeline views, edit and commentary features, so that its videos are searchable and viewable online with highly structured information. Employing this open-source software and web application, CAMP has run pad.ma, short for Public Access Digital Media Archive from 2008, indiancine.ma from 2013 about the history of Indian cinema, and the video art program of the 2021 Asian Art Biennial, phantasm.ma. Through these long-term archival practices, CAMP seeks to expand the territory of video as a medium from documentation and collection to argumentation and exchange. <u>njp.ma</u> is a pilot project to turn Paik's video archive to public-access museum resources.



Related Programs

Thurs. Nov 25, 2021

- 15:00 Lecture Performance "Panorama-rama" by CAMP (Shaina Anand, Ashok Sukumaran)
- 16:00 Conversation "Choreographed Camera TV" with CAMP, Taeyoon Choi, Seoul Express (Youjin Jeon, Minki Hong)

* Please check the website of Nam June Paik Art Center at njpartcenter.kr for more information.

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