

## Wonders Wander

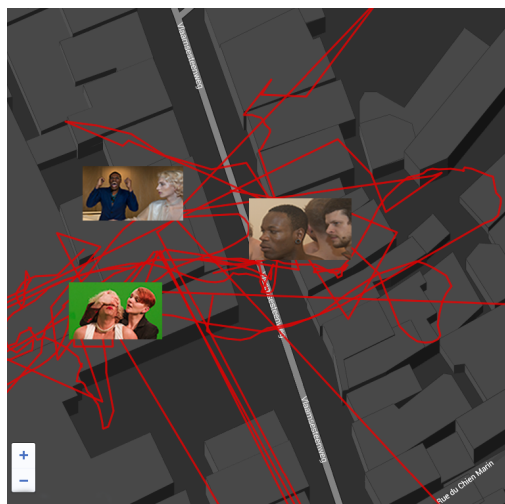
location based mobi-mini-serial

A proposal by Shu Lea Cheang for Madrid Pride 2017

### CONCEPT

Those were the explosive times, La Movida Madrileña, the artistic-socio-cultural movement that first erupted in Madrid's barrio Malasaña as Spain entered La Transición during the late 70s and early 80s. Breaking away from Franco's regime, heading towards España Moderna, sex, drugs, rock & roll, freedom of expression in all forms were explored. Barrio Malasaña, known by its residents as Maravillas (Wonders), once a countercultural hub is now a hip and trendy tourist attraction.

Wonders Wander, conceived as location based mobi-mini-serial, proposes to take the wonders out of Malasaña for a city walk about. Wonders Wander recruits Madrid based performers and non-performers, i.e. a pole dancer, a woman wrestler, a yet-to-come-out immigrant, a trans-avenger, etc (to be researched and cast) for composing episodic fictional narratives in serial mode. The mobi-mini-serial with its four filmic installments locates its narratives across Madrid's district borders, venturing into the peripheries where off-center social/cultural activities strive vigorously. Uplifting social reality to SciFi fantasia, Wonders Wander counters the ever-rising homophobic assaults on the LGBTQ individuals with positive force and shifts the under-served marginal communities to the foreground. Wonders Wander designs a website which routes the city travel with detours and diversions, guiding the public to unexpected encounters with Madrid's deviant citizens and its diverse neighborhoods where the filming of mini-serial took place. The mini-serial can be downloaded and viewed along the routes on mobilephones, also compiled for large scale mapping projection in public spaces. Locations transformed, narratives fictionalized, journeys contemplated, actions taken, selves liberated, Wonders Wander departs from 80s Madrid Movement and moves on to the self-claimed PRIDE generation.



### BRIEF BIO

As an artist, filmmaker, networker, Cheang constructs networked installation and multi-player performance in participatory impromptu mode. She drafts sci-fi narratives in her film scenario and artwork imagination. She builds social interface with transgressive plots and open network that permits public participation. Engaged in media activism for two decades (the 80s and 90s) in New York city, Cheang concluded her NYC period with a cybernoia film *FRESH KILL* (1994) and the first Guggenheim museum web art commission/collection *BRANDON* (1998-1999). Since her relocation to Eurozone in 2000, Cheang has taken up large scale installation and networked performance while co-founded several collectives to pursue cross-disciplinary projects. From homesteading cyberspace in the 90s to her current retreat to post-crash BioNet zone, Cheang takes on viral love, bio hack in her current cycle of works. In 2016, she is touring *UKI-enter the BioNet*, a collective biogame, in post-production on her cypherpunk feature *FLUIDØ* in Berlin; and developing *UKI, cinema interrupted* with mobile media applications. <http://www.mauvaiscontact.info>

## PORFOLIO



FRESH KILL (1994, 35mm feature film, premiered at Berlin Film Festival)

Fresh Kill, billed as eco cybernoia, envisions a post-apocalyptic landscape strewn with electronic detritus and suffering the toxic repercussions of mass marketing in a high-tech commodity culture.

"Fresh Kill makes sense out of this refuse by exploring connections among people on the edges of corporate capitalism and off-center in a white, bourgeois, heterosexual world. From the beaches of Taiwan's Orchid Island, used as a nuclear waste site in the 1980s, to the shores of New York's Staten Island, *Fresh Kill* collapses the globe in solidarity against racism, sexism, and the excesses of transnational corporate capitalism as resistance circulates through networks originally designed to facilitate the exchange of labor, commodities, and capital."

--Gina Marchetti "Cinema Frames, Videoscapes, and Cyberspace: Exploring Shu Lea Cheang's Fresh Kill."



BRANDON: A One-Year Narrative Project in Installments explores issues of gender fusion and techno-body in both public space and cyberspace. The project, a multi-artist/multi-author/multi-institutional collaboration, unfolds its multi-thread narratives over the course of one year (1998-1999). Using the metaphor of a road trip through different zones in cyberspace, the project is derived from the highly-publicized case of Brandon/Teena Brandon of Falls City, Nebraska, a gender-ambiguous individual who was anatomically female but lived as a man. Hosted by Waag Society in Amsterdam, two installations and forums, titled: "Digi Gender, Social Body: Under the Knife, Under the Spell of Anesthesia" and "Would the Jurors Please Stand Up? Crime and Punishment as Net Spectacle" were held as public events.

<http://brandon.guggenheim.org>



I.K.U. (2000, scifi cyberpunk feature)  
Premiered at Sundance Film Festival

"Step right up, ladies and gentlemen, the carnival is about to begin. Come inside, surf the Net, play the video game, dive into the screen, cruise the future, come get fucked, just come, come, come. Bodies are packages made to be opened, minds are penetrable, sensations communicable, orgasms collectable."

B.Ruby Rich, New Queer cinema

<http://i-k-u.com>





BABY LOVE Palais de Tokyo Shu Lea Cheang (2005)

Installation photo: Florian Kleinfenn



BABY LOVE (2005, installation)  
Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2005); City Hall, San Jose, USA (2006)

Baby Love situates human and its baby clones in a perpetual spin of fairground teacup ride. Tea and sympathy, love and ME-motion. Love songs, uploaded by the public are coded as ME-data in the cloned locker babies. Revolt against mirrored self, the clone babies reprocess the networked ME-data during the joy teacup ride. By taking a teacup ride with the babies, the ME-data are retrieved, played back, shuffled, and jumbled. A gentle ride turned fast spin, the data jams and jammed.  
<http://babylove.biz>





**CALLING THE YOUNG, WILD AND RESTLESS,  
THE HAS-BEEN AND STILL KICKING, THE ALIEN  
AND ESTRANGED WITH ONE LIFE TO LIVE, THE  
LONER AND THE PLEASER WHO MADE IT OUT  
OF GENERAL HOSPITAL, THE HOPEFUL AND THE  
HOPELESS LOOKING FOR A GUIDING LIGHT, THE  
SWINGER AND THE STRIKER WHO DARE TO  
TAKE ON THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL...**

## **OPEN CASTING CALL FOR MOBIOPERA**

**MOBI  
OPERA**

MobiOpera is collective public cinema captured on the go and played back on the move with narrative soapisodes generated by mobile-phone users. Daily casting sessions are held to set up plots and characters. Jointly written scenarios use the Sundance Festival's public arena as location and playground: 7 day casting, 7 day scenario, 7 day shooting bring together the MobiSlam VJ/DJ SOAPTRAVAGANZA with contributing cast and authors.

MobiOpera made possible in part by HP and Stella Artois®, 2007 Sundance Film Festival Official Sponsors

**STAR IN A SUNDANCE OFFICIAL SELECTION  
YOU and YOU ARE THE STAR, THE SCENARIO, THE  
SHOOTER OF THE NEW FRONTIER SOAPTRAVAGANZA**

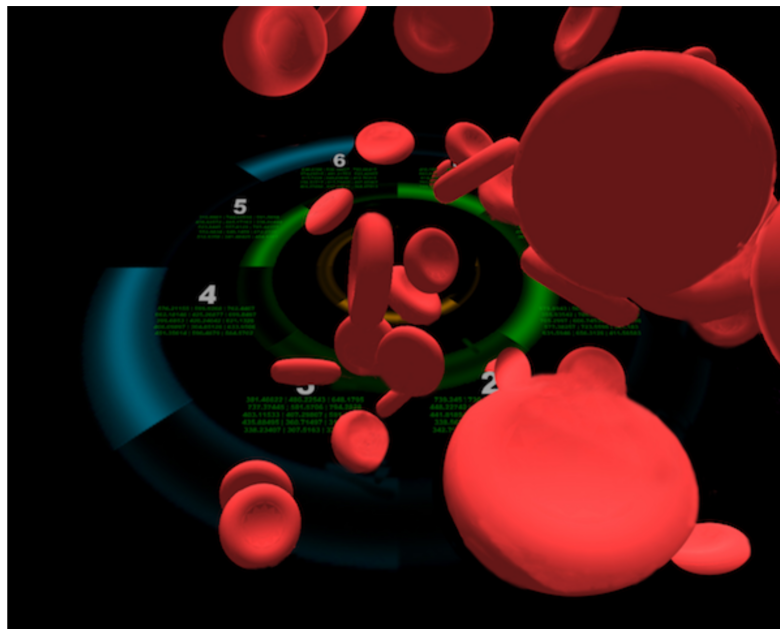
**PUBLIC DAILY CASTING SESSIONS**  
January 19-25, 11am to 1pm, New Frontier on Main  
(333 Main Street, across from the Egyptian Theatre)

**MOBISLAM**  
January 26, 8-10 pm Stella Artois Patio®  
(@ Sundance House-Kimball Art Center)  
Exclusively for contributing cast and authors

Follow cast and story development  
Blog and upload your own soapisodes  
<http://mobiopera.mobi>  
mms: upload@mobiopera.mobi  
Check out the INSIDERS' 10 MOST WANTED DAILY

MobiOpera (2007, mobile narrative)  
Commissioned by Sundance Film Festival New Frontier

Mobiopera is collective public cinema captured on the go and played back on the move with narrative soapisodes generated by mobile-phone users. .  
<http://mobiopera.mobi>



UKI (2009 - )  
installation, performance, game, cinema

In post-netcrash UKI, the data deprived I.K.U. coders are dumped on the Etrashscape where coders, twitters, networkers crush and crashed. Exchanging sex for code, code sexing code, UKI as virus emerge while GENOM retreats to BioNet. Taking human body hostage, GENOM reformats blood cells into microcomputing ORGANISMO (organic orgasm). UKI, the virus, enacted to infect a city, propagated, mobilized to infiltrate BIONET, sabotage ORGANISMO and reclaim the lost orgasm data.  
<http://u-k-i.co>



FLUIDØ (cypherpunk film, to be release in2017)

Check yourself in as a fluid junkie for a super hyper viral ride.

FLUIDØ is VIRUS, SEX, HACK, DRUG & CONSPIRACY.

Set in the post-AIDS future of 2060, where the Government is the first to declare the era AIDS FREE, mutated AIDS viruses give birth to ZERO GEN - humans that have genetically evolved in a very unique way.....

<http://fluidthemovie.com>