

DAVID CLAERBOUT

AIRCRAFT (F.A.L.)

13 November until 23 December 2021

The exhibition *Aircraft (F.A.L.)* is stretched between two recent works by David Claerbout, whose center is a flying entity, either biological or artificial, in an unclear state of suspended rest. In the video work *Mantova Pigeon* (2021) a traveling shot in a constant zoom-in zoom-out movement is focused on the figure of a pigeon resting upon the balcony's balustrade of the façade of the Torre dell'Orologio on the Piazza delle Erbe in Mantua, Northern Italy. In the video installation and accompanied drawings comprising *Aircraft (F.A.L.)* (2015-2021) we are confronted by an obsolete, yet somehow new, entity of an aircraft.

In an interview with Ory Dessau published in the online edition of the magazine *Metropolis M*, Claerbout describes *Aircraft (F.A.L.)* as following:

The airplane seen in *Aircraft (FAL)* is many things simultaneously, and this simultaneity is crucial to the work. It is seen in a hangar, but this hangar is not an active hangar and can also be regarded as a museum. Though it is seen indoors, it is in the air and in motion, since we do not see its wheels or the movement of its engines. However, the mise-en-scène may suggest it is neutralized and under construction and so forth. The work is an attempt to encounter, in an un-shocking manner, I don't believe in the liberating effect of shock images, they belong to the past and are not mine, the virtual, and by virtual I don't mean the non-existent — the virtual has nothing to do with not being there, but with that which can no longer go back to where it came from, nor arrive to where it was seemingly intended. For me, the virtual is always, already, in-between. Another way to describe the work would emphasize the component of memory in it. *Aircraft (FAL)* represents my endeavor to study the active lines between the retina and the visual cortex, and how memory functions there, how our memory uses the exact same pathway as our actual real-time vision. Memory and vision share one highway. It is the easiest way to explain the fundamentals of what we call madness, of seeing something which is being permeated by something else which is not outside ourselves. Our vision is a bi-directional highway. Although I see *Aircraft (FAL)* as something that stands on its own, it consists of a pattern I was searching time and again, the interchangeable pattern of memory and vision, from memory to vision, and back again.

opening 13.11.2021 1 - 9 pm
exhibition until 23.12.2021
open from wednesday to saturday
from 10 am to 6 pm
and by appointment

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