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"Apis Humane"

interactive computer installation ©2022, Laurent Mignonneau and Christa Sommerer

What is our relationship to bees? Most people seem to love them as they produce honey and pollinate trees and flowers. However once they get too close to us, we get scared of their painful stings. It is a relationship between fascination and fear that shapes our connection to them and insects in general.

In the interactive installation Apis Humane we deal with this ambivalent situation. Visitors can approach a large LCD screen and see themselves, like in a digital mirror, engulfed into a colorful and happy Rousseau inspired garden. However the plants and flowers move somewhat hectic, as if a storm would be approaching. When a visitor comes closer to the screen, he or she suddenly sees nice but slightly aggressive bees emerging from the eyes. Like tears they stream in a constant flow from the eyes, only to stop when the visitors moves the head upwards into the sky. In Apis Humane a symbiosis is created between the human, the artificial bees and an artificial natural environment.



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