

THE BONDING

FILM

Technical specifications:

THE BONDING, 2022

Film, 16mm and digital transferred to 4K, stereo sound, 33 min.

This film is the result of a relationship between a human and a group of breeding Atlantic salmon, while being farmed in a techno-scientific environment during their 2,5-years programmed lifespan, translating its impact through a grainy, imperfect 16-film aesthetic, as well as digital video.

This relationship started in December 2019 with 100 Salmo-Salar eggs in the Institute of Marine Research (IMR) in Matre, Norway, and culminated with 16 salmon on March 3rd 2022.

Both, salmon and human had the chance to monitor each other periodically through an underwater webcam and monitor installed in their environment (tank and studio), thus providing another documentation source.

A significant part of this project was its process: thanks to the active interaction with the scientists at IMR, *The Bonding* offered a complementary way to understand empirical science from another perspective, allowing the possibility of sensorial and emotional elements to permeate the researches.

This experience was not only an inter-species experiment with a great deal of contradictions, but also a process of dialogue with a scientific community which is highly pressured to improve the salmon industry in Norway.

This animistic experience reflected upon what philosopher Martin Lee-Mueller, (PHD, UiO) expressed: 'it undermines moral or epistemological monism and offers a pluralism of ways of knowing, as well as a pluralism of the moral imagination'.

A bonding with an animal in which its integrity belongs to the deep sea and rivers, now being farmed, is a reminder of our own origins as a bio-engineered and self-conscious species.

Credits:

- Production: Michelle-Marie Letelier & Carlos Vasquez
- Cinematography: Carlos Vasquez
- Edition and sound: Carlos Vasquez & Michelle-Marie Letelier
- Sound design: Titus Maderlechner
- Post-production: Muscle Temple Lab
- Technical assistance underwater system: Carlo Crovato
- Infrastructure and technical management IMR: Lise Dyrhovden, Ivar Helge Matre, Tone Knappskog, Torfinn Aga, Arnor Gullanger, Linda Neset, Abhinay Nalla, Simon B. Flavell, Tone Vågseth, Espen Heggland
- Animal welfare: Lise Dyrhovden, Ivar Helge Matre, Per Gunnar Fjelldal, Tone Knappskog, Arnor Gullanger, Tone Vågseth, Linda Neset
- Logistics: Ragnar Nortverdt, Ivar Helge Matre, Rosie Peligro, Magnhild Rørtveit

Acknowledgments:

Carlos Vasquez, Carlo Crovato, Karolin Tampere, Bo Krister Wallström, Ragnar Nortverdt, Lise Dyrhovden, Rosie Peligro, Ivar Helge Matre, Torfinn Aga, Karin Pittman, Martin Lee Mueller, Marcela Moraga, Matthew Hansen, Ken Zillig, Frode Oppedal, Jan Olav Fosse, Eli Cortiñas, Knut Rommetveit, Malin Barth, Gitte Sætre, Daniela Arriado, Ida Helland-Hansen, Line Nord, Evy Sørensen, Hakim Bishara, Åse Løvgren, Jannecke Knudsen Heien, Lars Ove Toft, Maia Urstad, Carolina Cruz, Frans Jacobi, el personal del Instituto de Investigación Marina en Matre & last but not least, my mother Patricia Corral Monterey

MONITORS

Technical specifications:

FROM CONFINEMENT TO CONFINEMENT, 2022

9-inch monitors, SD cards, HD videos

Selected video documentation of virtual meetings between Berlin (Germany) and Matre (Norway), between 2019-2022

Credits:

- Production: Michelle-Marie Letelier & Carlos Vasquez
- Technical assistance: Carlos Vasquez & Carlo Crovato

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LIGHT TABLE

Technical specifications:

HOMAGE TO THE INVISIBLE, 2021

Metal, LED panel, translucent film, papers, carbon paper, glass, petri dishes, Salmo Salar corpses, glycerine, water

This piece pays homage to the forced eliminated salmon during the process of *The Bonding*, using a diaphonisation technique. *Homage to the Invisible* was made in collaboration with Dr. Timo Moritz and Philipp Richter at the Deutsches Meeresmuseum [German Oceanographic Museum] in Stralsund, Germany.

This artwork was produced thanks to the support of the Centro Internacional de Cultura Contemporánea Tabakalera in Donostia/San Sebastián, Spain, on the occasion of the group exhibition *Zin Ex II: Body and Architecture*, 2021-2022, curated by Florian Wüst.

Credits:

- Production: Michelle-Marie Letelier, Lise Dyrhovden (IMR) & Dr. Timo Moritz
- Infrastructure: Deutsches Meeresmuseum [Museo Oceanográfico Alemán]
- Technical assistance for diaphonisation: Philipp Richter

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