

breaking the timeline 2010
a fachmodul by max neupert



presented projects ideas

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1 • rwd 1989 / fwd 1989

2 • mutually intelligible

3 • nicht blind, mute und deaf

1 • rwd 1989 / fwd 1989

background: 1989 the year of change

4 june, 1989 - tianmen square massacre in china. people in macau and hong kong are still fighting for justice for those who were killed. every year after 1989, candle lights memorial ceremonies are hold. while in china, no one is allowed to talk about it.

9 november, 1989 - fall of the berlin wall. the wall was not entirely demolished on that date, so as the system is still remained in some parts of eastern germany and no one would talk about it.

concept:

rwd 1989 highlights the regression of democracy and human rights in china. china at that time seemed to progress economically and more politically opened. 21 years after the massacre, the chinese government still deny what was being done to the students and the official who supported the protest for reform. while having the benefits from the economic boom in china, have the chinese really progressed in their mind, or will they just let the history be forgotten?

fwd 1989 highlights the progression in government reforms after the reunion. the west was pictured as the land of freedom, hope and wealth on the east side of the berlin wall. however, the reunion brought social and economic crises as the society and the people needed longer time to adapt to the capitalist west. such sudden changes did not harmonize with the old system that the people got used to.

execution:

4 june massacre images shown in linear direction and 9 november of the fall of berlin wall shown backwards, and images stop at the point they meet. images are projected on the windows of a building.

reference links:

4 june massacre

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXBS1mqy204&feature=related>

memorial ceremonies in macau over the years

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-LUFU3KXck>

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• rwd 1989 / fwd 1989 - projection draft

Democracy In China



2. • mutually intelligible

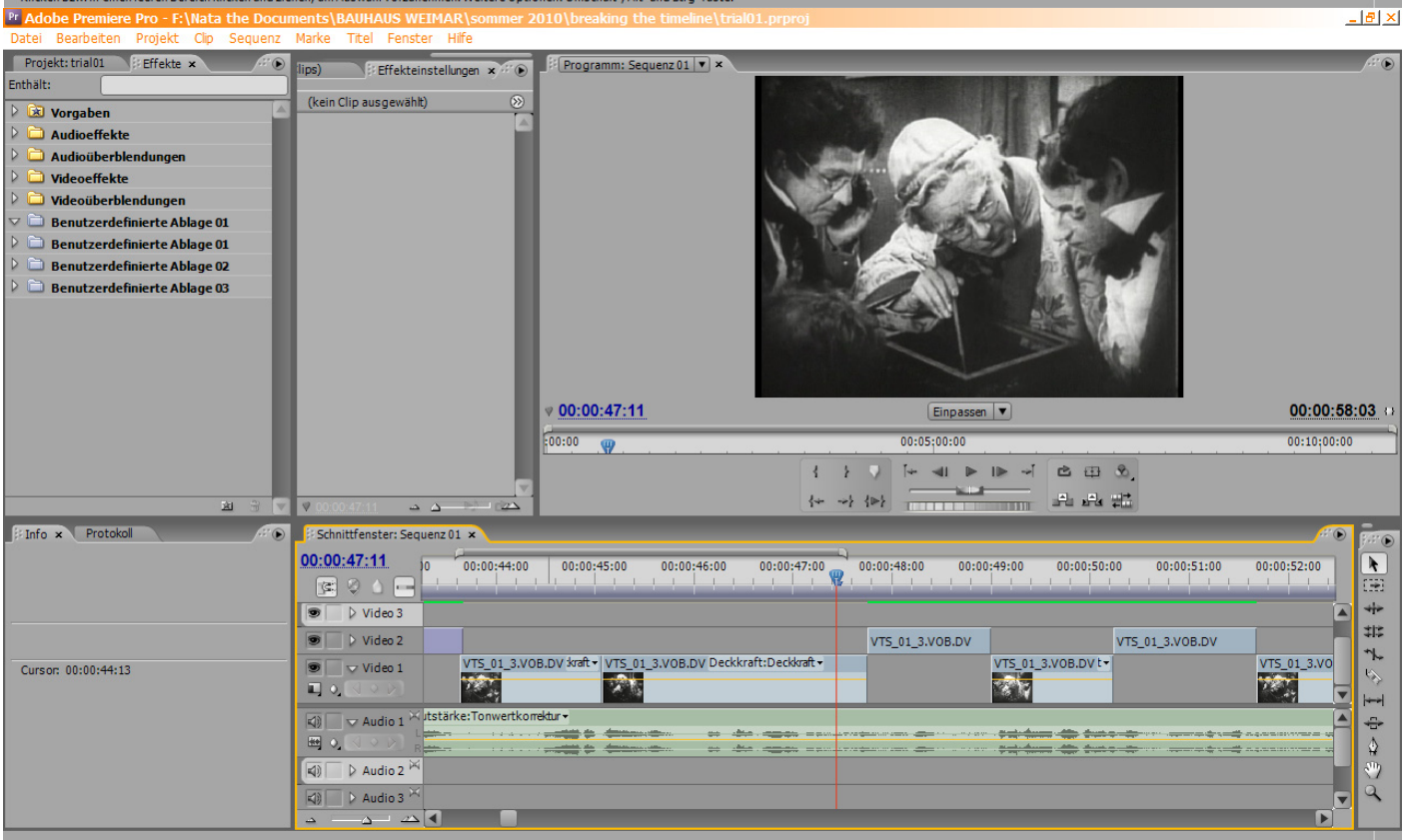
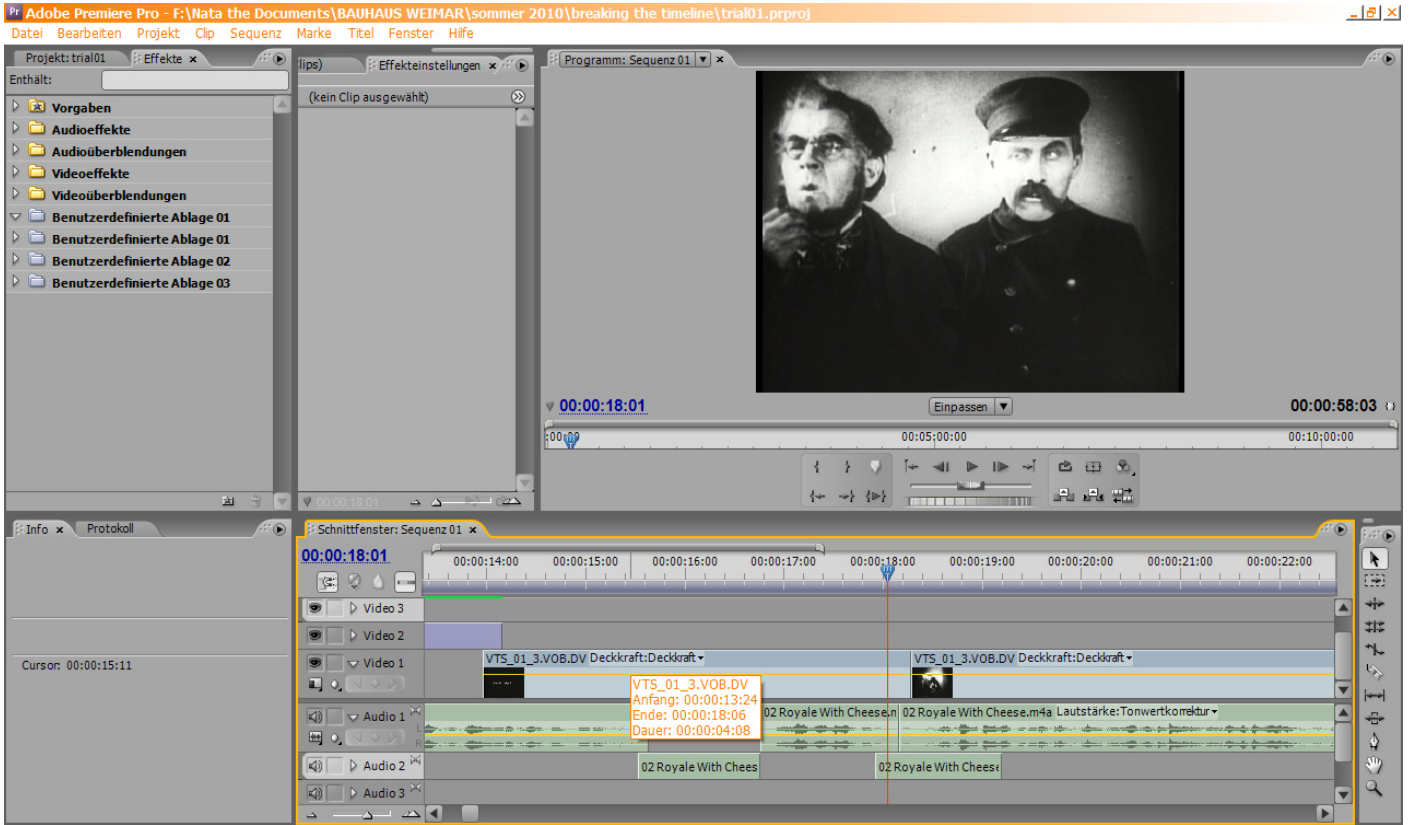
background:

1. i remember the first few meetings and classes were all in german when I got here last semester. and without any knowledge in german, it sounded like noises to me and i started making up the content when people talked. the initial idea that i came up was to film some of the lectures and add subtitles on the visual, which would be totally unrelated to the actual content that they were discussing.
2. i have been attending lectures and workshops that are held entirely in german. to me, sitting in a classroom for more than 6 hours and listening to something not comprehensible at all is a torture. similarly, i am also interested to find out how much patience a person has when he/she is forced to listen to a language which is totally not mutually intelligible.
3. the experience of watching movies here in germany is pretty hard because most of the movies are synchronised with german language without any subtitles, instead of screening the original audio version.

concept:

1. select a collection of foreign movies and dubbing the audio (dialogue) from some of the scenes to the selected scenes of some german movies.
2. create a booth connected with a monitor and keyboard buttons that one can select languages (no german available) and viewing time frame for viewing the video.
3. if the person leaves the booth before the selected time frame ends, gas will out from above as a signal of failure in completing the task of listening a non mutually intelligible language.

2. mutually intelligible - dubbing trial



visual: nosferatu (1922) / audio: pulp fiction (1994)

3 • nicht blind, mute und deaf

background:

having the trial result of the previous idea was not satisfactory, i decided to take the idea further to an indirect and non-interactive approach to the project, by setting up three screens to show how i spent my days randomly in weimar, suggesting the feeling of allienation, losing in time and space.

concept:

replacing dialogues from my previous experience which is familiar to me (language-wise) to the present expereince i have in weimar which is not comprehensible. it is how i usually make sense of something i cannot understand. sometimes in real life, the images can be a separate track for comprehensing experience, by imagining an audio that i understand, i can therefore make sense out of the things i see, though it can be totally unrelated to the actual happenings.

presentation and content:

the 3-screen installation shows two particular things i did on two random days and one of the screens shows a collage of the people i met in weimar.

screen 1 - the screens

a collage of the footages of a worldcup game (germany vs ghana) that i was watching, including livestream, TV, youtube highlights, fifa (playstation), while the audio was taken from the same match on the same day and time on a tv channel in macau that i used to watch football games, which is in portuguese.

2. screen 2 - the park

it shows what i saw on a random day at the park - some german boys were chatting and chilling out. as a foriegner in this context, i wish i would understand what they were talking, so i tried to recall some movies i have seen, looking for a memorable dialogue that i have come across, so that the images i was looking at became meaningful.

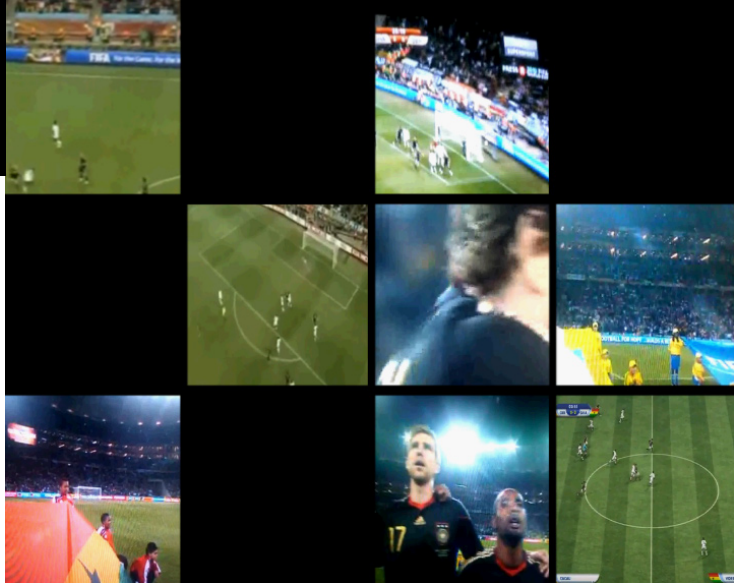
3. screen 3 - the girlfriends

a collage of distorted close ups of the girls i met in weimar, who i spent most of my time with. none of us know each other 's first language, but we communicate well with our imperfect english. still, music is the best common language, to express our emotions, to show passion to one another. it also shows my view on how a person perceives vibes; from a normal pace and tone before processing to a slow motion, altered pitch chanting while the mind processes a melodic expression.

3 • nicht blind, mute und deaf

2030-23-06-2010
THE SCREENS

i turned on the tv, i heard you talking
with that annoying nasal sounds again.
still annoying, but cute.



1720-22-06-2010
THE PARK

i will pardon your ignorance, when some
day you realize cantonese and mandarin
are two different languages, and chinese
is never a spoken language.



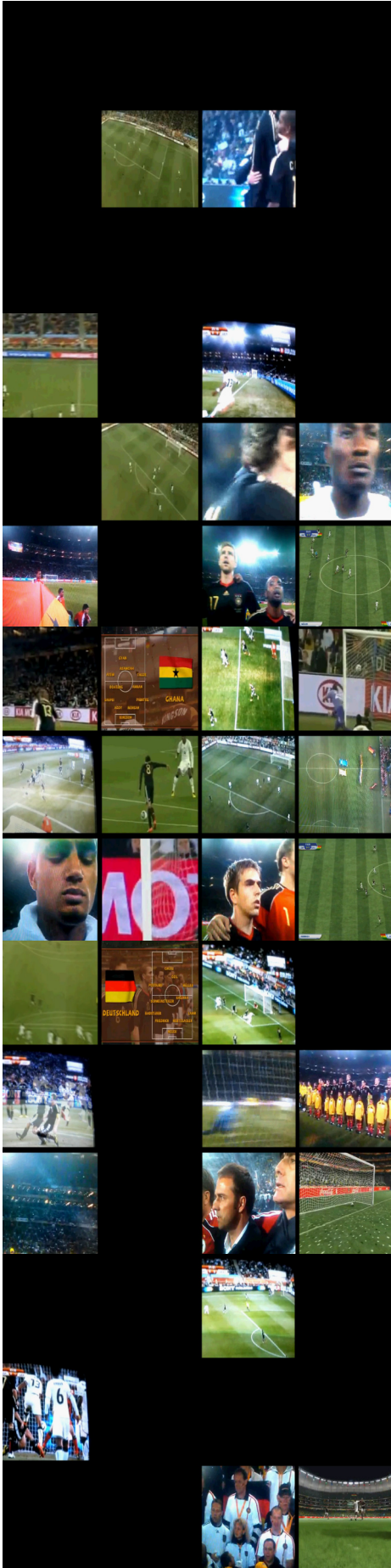
2040-05-07-2010
THE GIRLFRIENDS

lady hear me tonight, cause my feeling is
just so right. as we dance by the moon-
light, can 't you see you 're my delight?
lady i just feel like, i won 't get you
out of my mind. i feel loved for the
first time. and i know that it 's true,
i can tell by the look in your eyes.



3. nicht blind, mute und deaf

01. the screens



screen captures on livestream and fifa,
videos taken on tv livebroadcast
audio recorded on 26 june 2010,
03:00 macau time on TDM

3 . nicht blind, mute und deaf

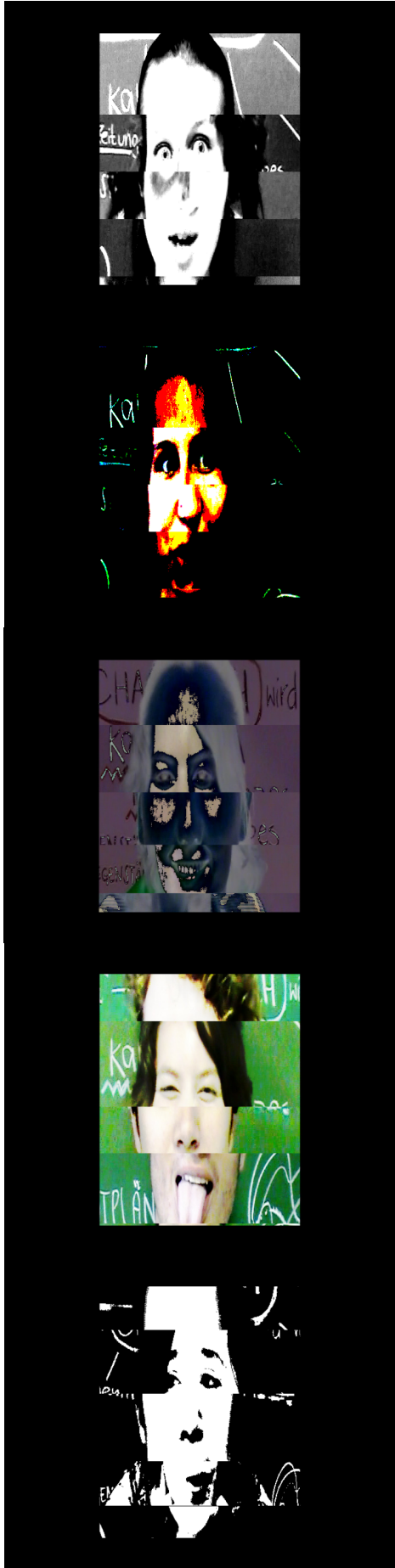
02. the park



dialogue from the film, *beast cops* (1998),
directed by gordon chan and dante lam
cute boys at the park as visual

3. nicht blind, mute und deaf

03. the girlfriends



aida, asami, clara, jesu, monika, nuria,
paula and sebastian as the girlfriends
song by modjo, lady (acoustic version)

a project by natercia chang

