

GRIDDING SENTENCES

2011

Stedelijk Museum
Amsterdam, NL

Gridding Sentences is part of a series of work that combines Tee's *Crystalline Floorpieces* (knitted rugs) with sculptural objects and performance. The central object in the museum space is a large-scale woven textile, *Crystalline Floor Piece / Hexagonal / V-shaped* (1+2). The V-striped pattern of the textile alludes to primitive art, as well as to the abstract expressionist paintings of Agnes Martin. The optical effect of the knitted grid creates the illusion of a third dimension, emphasizing the sculptural quality of the Floorpieces. To activate the sculpture into a stage, Tee collaborated with Jack Gallagher on a complex choreography for four female dancers and the artist herself. Their bodies create an image of moving between a modern society and a primitive world.



CRYSTALLINE FLOOR PIECE
/ HEXAGONAL / V-SHAPED
(1+2)
Hand-dyed wool,
367 X 560 cm



PERFORMANCE**GRIDDING SENTENCES****Duration 33 min.****Choreography by****Jennifer Tee & Jack Gallagher****Dancers: Miri Lee, Marjolein Vogels, Eilit Marom, Evelyne Rossie**

The five female performers begin on the ground, undulating in a state of limbo, exploring the boundaries of the Floorpieces and their negative space. The exercise reinvents the Floorpieces as a location with a third dimension. The geometrical bodily forms start to swirl, forming 'sentences'. An alternating, primitive intensity is added, talismanic gestures are exchanged, and the music speeds up. The artist is huddled, arms stretched in front of her, in the middle of the Floorpieces as the four dancers rapidly circle around her. The two textiles are separated and rotated into different directions. After numerous different positions, the Floorpieces are rejoined and reversed. The performers take on sphinx-like postures, before gradually moving to the center of the stage and looking into the audience.



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