

Dear participant

I am a codex

which suggests a perspective

into the question of the audience

I consist of three chapters.

This is the first chapter.

Between each chapter there is a colour

When reaching a colour, close me

and put me down for a while

Take time in between

Open me again for a new chapter

always at the same time with the others

Altogether you have 32 pages and 30 minutes

Use all of it

There is no hurry

Please read this page again now

Ok

Now close your eyes
at least for ten seconds

the audience is reading

what the author wrote

then research is written

These have been popular thoughts
within the research of reception of art

Roland Barthes would write
that the author is dead
and the true site of writing is reading

Marvin Carlson would write
that of the arts
only the reception of writing has been researched
so why not think that
the spectator of theater is also reading

But what if
the metaphor is not suitable

what if the point is
that when you put me down
and are in the room as an audience of this event
you are not reading



So,

lets imagine for a moment

that the audience is not reading

Let me give you an example

An audience attends *Voyer* by Joel Neves
at the Theater Academy in Helsinki in September 2017

They step in and encounter a wall-sized mirror
in a space with a carpet-covered floor

Slowly the lighting changes and the mirror turns into a
transparent window, revealing that the space is
divided into two nearly identical halves

Ten performers, equalling ten audience members,
become visible on the other side of the window

For the duration of the performance, this relationship
between the stage and the auditorium, at the
same time identical and different, is at play

The gaze of the spectators is directed both towards
themselves and the performers.

So,

what is audienced

In *Voyer*?

Or here?

When reading
we tend to be alone
with the writing
able to flip the pages at will

When attending an event
we are with others
and unable to turn back time

When researching
the phenomenon of the audience of events

how to configure the medium of research?
what kind of method to apply?

Can we research here and now,
as an audience?



Wonderful

So, now we are in the last chapter
which will continue into a discussion

It has been great working with you

Thank you



