



## about *Lover's Orbit* 2018

### 关于 恋人轨道 项目 2018

"[one] moves forward on its own, and yet radiate in relation to another; one orbits around the universe, in this mutual illumination, along with the earth."

—— Ai Qin

This performance was realized in collaboration with Jenny 如 hsiao at Arts Letters & Number (Upstate, NY, U.S.A) in Summer 2018. It was participated by members of ALN in the Hill behind the House where residents of ALN lived.

We asked all our participants to improvise the following instruction:

Find your favorite tree, or something that you identify as a tree.  
You will be meeting your lover under neath the tree.  
Using the tree as the midpoint, you and your lover will be orbiting around the same tree.  
You will encounter many unknowns, but it is important that you are aware of the presence of each other.

每一个人都是一个生命  
人世银河星云中的一粒微尘  
每一粒微尘都有自己的能量  
无数的微尘汇集成一片光明

每一个人既是独立的  
而又互相照耀  
在互相照耀中不停地运转  
和地球一同在太空中运转

——艾青

这是2018年7月在纽约上州Art Letters & Numbers (ALN) 驻地期间和jenny 如 hsiao共同构思的表演项目，与同期在ALN的成员，在ALN住房 (the House) 的后山 (the Hill) 中共同实施。

我们让此项目的实施者们根据以下指令，进行即兴表演：

寻找一棵让你心仪的树，或任何你认为是“树”的存在。  
在那颗树下与你相遇的人将会成为你的“恋人”。  
以那棵树为中心，你们各自以圆形轨道的动态绕着它运转。  
在途中，必然会遇见许多的未知。  
重要的是，你们随时知道彼此在森林中的位置。

The orbit between me and Jenny made up the large framework for the performance. We walked in circle around our choice of tree in our individual orbital track repetitively. We were interested in the Image of the Lover that emerges when we were physically apart. While walking, we were communicating without words, improvising the Ending of the performance by considering the presentness of the surrounding environment.

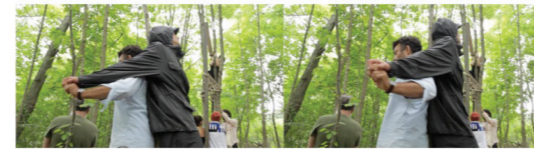
Meanwhile, other participants orbited on the Hill based on their own perception of the instruction. Some were holding hands with their backs facing each other to move the Tree between the two. The tip of the twig on top of the tree was continuously making drawings in circular motion. Some were orbiting on their own, having solitary conversations with the Tree(s) without any external interference. Some wrapped the Tree bark around with a rope and used the tree as a support for a swing. Whenever someone arrived behind the back of the swing, the swing got pushed in circular motion. Some saw presence of the Tree in another person and orbited around him/her/they. Some tried to, from afar, mirrored every act of the (him/her/they) Tree.

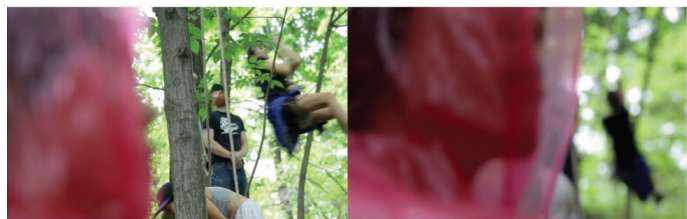
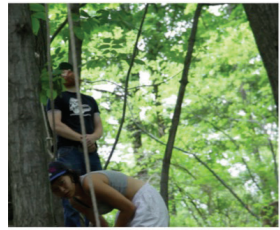
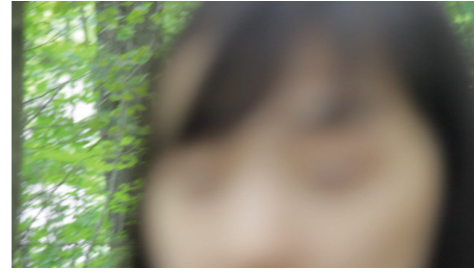
我和如之间的轨道运行是整场表演的大框架。我们绕着共同选定的树，以它为中心点，在各自的轨道上进行圆周绕行，不断地重复着。

我们关注的是与恋人产生距离期间所产生的想象 (Lover's Image)。在行走过程中，在无言中进行沟通，再根据周遭环境带给我们的影响，即兴触发整场表演的结局。

参与者们对指令的解读也各有不同，可以看做是几段恋情。有些人背对背，牵着手，用肢体共同晃动着两者之间的树干。树干顶端的树枝在空中不断画着圆圈。有些人独自围绕着树走动，不受他人所影响，进行着树与自身之间的对话。有些人在树上缠绕上线，荡着秋千，过路人见到了就在后方推上一把。有些人将他者当做“树”，围绕着他/她进行运转。还有人在远方模仿着“树”的一举一动，将“树”当做了自己的镜子。









Determination of timing was the thread of this performance. It constantly reminded us to conceive the ending of the performance. When we sensed it was about time to end the performance, we spontaneously shifted our individual circular paths into helices. This way, the distance between us became smaller and smaller. At the end, we met at the initial tree.

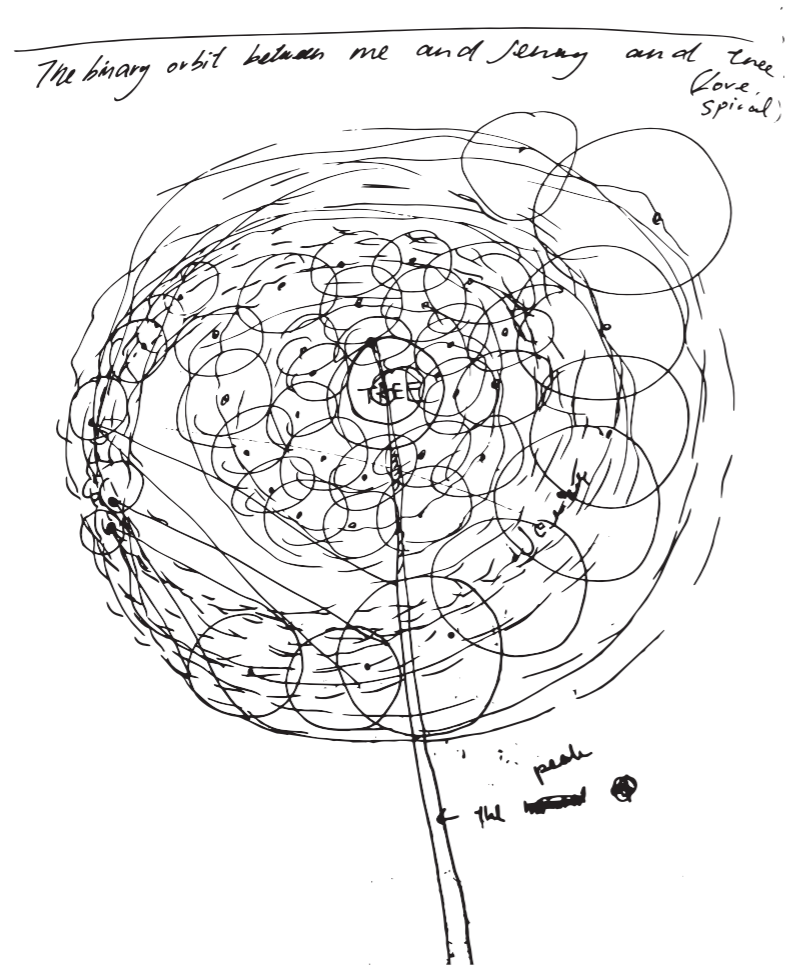
Jenny picked up a string that was tied to the tree, wrapped it around the tree bark. I followed Jenny's helix, and folded my path into her helix. As the string were all wrapped around the tree, Jenny stopped moving.

I held onto the tip of the string where Jenny's hands rested. As we pulled the string against the tree, Jenny came to my back and wrapped around me with both arms. We have arrived at the center of the helix, where we ended the performance.

赋予时机定义是整场表演的线索。它不断地提醒着我们去推动结局的发生。当直觉告诉我们时机的到来时，我和如自发地将各自的轨道卷绕成螺旋形。就这样，彼此之间的间距越来越小，最后在最初的大树前再次相会。

眼看如就在我前方。我单手环绕着树干，跟着如继续走。如拿起树干上卷系的绳子，拉着绳子的尾端卷绕着树干。我继续跟着如，直至她停下步伐。

当如手上的绳子都盘绕在了树干周围后，我将双手固定在了绳子的尾端，停下脚步，蜷成一团。如松开了抓紧绳子的双手，将双臂环绕在了我的腰间。就这样，我们抵达了螺旋的中心，结束了这场表演。



## NOTE:

When a planet is pulled toward a body, it would follow an orbital path when it has enough tangential velocity. It falls toward the body, however, when the orbital path encounters friction. When the orbital path decays, the planet will roll in a spiral path toward the center of the body.

Photo credit:  
Pedro Wainer

## 注释:

行星轨道的条件是行星的重力能够被恒星的重力束缚，以此维持圆周运动。在运动过程中，每当和大气层进行摩擦时，轨道会因拖曳而衰变。当轨道的能量到达它的极限时，行星便会以螺旋形的路径卷向恒星的焦点，即轨道的中心。

摄影:  
Pedro Wainer