

C U S H I O N

P R O J E C T

Nothing Too Much

NOTHING TOO MUCH  
presents **The Cushion Project**

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## 01 Introduction

### *Nothing Too Much*

The two words, 'nothing' and 'too much' have reciprocal meanings at the same time as meaning nothing at all. The borderline between the two cross-over, coexist and oppose one another leaving behind a new element. A new work of art.

Members : Soyoung Chung, Sunny Lee, Kew Yearn Chung

## 02 Cushion Project

### /Proposition in Urban Geography

The NTM 'Cushion Project' is a proposition in the urban geography, a temporal paralysis of the filling and emptying of a space, a virus and an airbag. By inflating this huge non-reflective monotone black 8x10m 'cushion' in an enclosed or open space within the cityscape, the structure starts to form itself around its surroundings. As the 'cushion' dilates, its organic structure evolves into a living cell replicating the flow of a virus. The struggle against this space consuming virus and the given space starts to either paralyze or ease the tension of space. Leaving behind nothing or too much.



## 03 Cushion Project Site 001: The Office 2008 Aug. 28th, artist studio in Seoul, Korea

The cushion starts to fill the empty space of an office. Approaching like a black tide, the cushion inflates and gradually forms a mountain. This intervention causes people in the space to react in their own way, either actively or submissively. Although their movement is restrained, people soon adapt themselves in the newly created environment and experience the moment with playful act.



Cushion Project Site:001 View of the video screening at Tensta Konsthall in Sweden



Details of The Cushion Project Site 001: Installation 2008 Aug. 28th, artist studio in Seoul, Korea



# 04 Cushion Project Site 002-004 Date: 2008 Oct.



## /Public Intervention in GyeongGi Province

'The Cushion Project Site 002-004' was set out in different public spaces in the living area of GyeongGi province to experiment different potentialities of the cushion. 'The Sites' was a start off point for the Cushion Project for discourse between artists and the public on its uninvited approach to the public space. The Cushion either paralyzes the public walking paths with its spatial filling or provides a new refreshing intervention in their daily repeating pathway.



Cushion Project Site 002: Underpath



Cushion Project Site 003: Playground



Cushion Project Site 004: Parking Lot



## 05 Cushion Project Site 005: The Concert Date: 2008 Nov. 8th

As a series of the traveling Cushion Project, NTM presented performance, which could also be seen as an event, a show but definitely not a concert, called 'The Concert'. It was an installation as well as a concert of live music, which was not on stage where it should be but instead placed in a public space, under a concrete bridge next to a stream and a pathway where people take strolls. This temporal installation is a black inflated cushion that is fitted underneath the bridge, almost like a tent set up by a wandering band or a grotesque living creature growing under the bridge, or perhaps a gigantic black trash bag that we abandoned. The cushion evolved into a living form of art inviting people to witness its unveiled mystery.

Inside this mysterious inflated cushion, a live sound is performed. The big cushion suddenly turns into a huge speaker, gathering the individual sounds of all instruments into one combined sound, containing the sounds within the Cushion and preventing it from dispersing away into air, as it would if each instrument was played in open air. The viewer hears the music, sees the inflated flowing black object but cannot see the music or the action that causes the sounds.

**Jazz Musicians:**

Vocal\_ Sook Lee | Keyboard\_ Hyo-Joo Lee | Guitar\_ In-Hwae Jeon  
Bass Guitar\_ Jin-Hee Baek | Percussion\_ Bae-Geun Kwon





## 06 Cushion Project Site 006: The Stage Date: 2008 Dec. 20th

NTM presents the third showcase of the Cushion Project series as a multi-disciplinary art event where various genre of art works come together on one stage. The Cushion, a black fabric sculpture which changes form when inflated, turns into a 'stage' where an art work can be viewed and experienced as a platform for intervention. This inter-media work made up of elements such as video / sound art and interactive installation, offers a new relaxing space where anyone can participate and experience.

The video work compilation consists of various video works that were selected under the theme of 'metamorphosis' (something that develops and changes into something completely different) together with the dilating black cushion as a platform. Inside the Cushion, living furnitures are stacked up together covered by the black cushion, forming a silhouette of small-scale urban skyline. Behind the skyline is the screening of video works that completes the stage as a function as a backdrop as well as being one of the main elements of the show. The viewers use the platform, the cushion sculpture, to sit or lie down to watch the video works and experience the sound works. The viewers become part of the installation as the performance starts around them.

### Participating Artists:

#### Performers\_

Hojun Song (KR / sound artist) | Fortune Cookie (KR / live music performance), | Dakei (JP / butoh dancer) + Ji-Hee Yoon(KR / piano)

#### Video Artists\_

Sandro Setola(NL), Sinae Kim(KR/FRA), Tobias Sternberg(SWE), Alexander Stewart(US), Gabo Camnitzer(US/SWE), Yannick Boulot (FRA), Onish Keita(JP), Rasmus Albertsen & Elin Bruun Nystedt(DK/SWE), Bohyun Yoon(KR), Daniel Goettling(DE), Nina Lassila(FI), Otto Morgen(SWE), Rimantas Lukavicius(LIT)

+ NTM (Soyoung Chung, Sunny Lee, Kewyearn Chung) in collaboration with Lisa C.



Video Art\_14 Participants

The video work compilation consists of various video works that were selected under the theme of 'metamorphosis' (something that develops and changes into something completely different) together with the dilating black cushion as a platform. From animation, short narrative film to documents of performance and installation works, 14 artists from 9 countries build up a visual world where organic forms and stories are presented.



Sound Art Performance \_ Hojun Song(KR)

Media Installation artist Hojun Song presents a new interactive art work specially created for <The Stage>. As visitors penetrate the space, the pre-set camera captures their faces and the recorded sound of cityscape dilates as more people get in. This piece explores the borderline between 'Nothing' and 'Too Much' through the relation between city and people.



Music Performance \_ Fortune Cookie

(Vocal\_Boram Hong, Guitar\_Heejong Yoo, Keyboard\_Dae Woong Im, Video Art\_Soojin Kwon)

Fortune Cookie released a new project album <Art of Cheese> in 2008. They debuted a trip to Brazil and collected various images, sounds and stories. After the trip, they are expressing an unfamiliar time-space emphasized and re-worked by their memories. At <The Stage>, Fortune Cookie takes us to an imaginary world with music within the cushion reminding of a mysterious landscape.



Butoh Dance Performance \_ Dakei

Leader of the Dance Group 'Shizuku'

Dakei, dancer and painter at the same time, feels the sound without his ears. In the occasion of the collaborative project with NTM for Cushion Project, the Stage, he presents a series of improvised Butoh dance performances with live music. Dakei interprets in his subtle way the multiple layers of the cushion as an artificial, natural and spiritual universe.



2008 Cushion Project | Nothing Too Much

NTM | Soyoung Chung, Sunny Lee, Kew Yearn Chung

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