

MARTA MINUJÍN. MINUCODEs

Date: 30 September 2010 - 6 February 2011

This exhibition revisits a project that the Argentinean artist Marta Minujín did in 1968. With this the artis wanted to explore "how different social groups behave in the same situation". Minujín organised four cocktail parties in different spaces in New York. To each she invited 80 people from four different social and cultural backgrounds (the world of politics, business, art and fashion). People who had answered a series of questionnaires that this Argentinean artist published in a newspaper.

During these parties, which were filmed on video by a hidden camera, eight people in each group were asked to go into an adjacent room where Minujin, in collaboration with the multimedia artist Tony Martin, had set up a light and sound show that created a very intense sensory experience.

Afterwards, Marta Minujín created a film installation in the headquarters of the Americas Society (then known as Center for Inter-American Relations/CIAR). This installation recreated this show and projected the video recordiongs she had made of the four parties in such a way that the people who attended the parties could feel and see themselves as protagonists (and, at the same time, as witnesses) in a kind of sophisticated social experiment.

The aim of bringing this project to the fore once again 42 years after it was originally done, is to propose a contemporary reading of the early work of Marta Minujín (one of the most important figures in Latin American art over the past decades) and analyse how sociability codes have been transformed (the ways in which we relate to the space and interact with others). These works were ahead of their time and positioned the artist in an international context, today showing the unique contribution of this Argentinean artist to the development of contemporary languages.