

66th International Astronautical Congress 2015

26th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE AND SOCIETY (E5)
Contemporary Arts Practice and Outer Space: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach (4)

Author: Mr. Nahum Mantra
Laboratorio Arte Alameda, Mexico, nahum.mantra@gmail.com

Mrs. Ale de la Puente
Mexico, delapuate.ale@gmail.com

THE MATTERS OF GRAVITY (LA GRAVEDAD DE LOS ASUNTOS)

Abstract

Zero Gravity: A silent question.

When we are born we pass in an instant from the dark to the light, from weightlessness to heaviness; here is our first contact with life. In dreams we remember this primitive state of lightness and so we dream of flying. Our planet and its life are moulded by gravity and yet this force is the weakest in the universe. We find its mysterious presence in our bodies, in our language and we fight against it to grow and to reach the stars.

The Matters of Gravity (La Gravedad de los Asuntos) highlights the fundamental principles of humankind. With a lightness to be able to fly together, but with a gravity that inevitably makes us fall again. Every one of us, here on Earth, is attached to a force that goes beyond all comprehension but not beyond our lives.

Two years of reflexion and a few seconds in zero gravity, were the origins of a series of artists' work that has been completed at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Russia. There, on board the iconic Ilyushin 76 MDK, 9 artists and 1 scientist from Mexico were subject to an environment of weightlessness.

A few seconds were enough to experiment with eternity, to tell a story, to break a paradigm, to liberate a molecule, to have an illusion, to experience movement without references, to create poetry out of two bodies, to make the useless become useful and to search for an impossible embrace.