An exhibition by Nick Konings

the [transformative] mirror

ST PAUL ST Gallery 3 | 39 Symonds Street, Auckland
Saturday 4th | December 2010, 5:30pm
the transformative mirror: documentation of the practical component of the thesis
the transformative mirror: contemplating the self as an emergent being through active reflection
The transformative mirror: Contemplating the self as an emergent being through active reflection

Abstract
This project is framed as an active meditation on the process of self transformation. The process has been developed through a personal investigation into the contrasting concepts of the self as a 'reflected' and 'emergent' being.

The reflected self is conceptualised as being constructed through the reflected gaze of others. The metaphor of the mirror acts as a structural device to develop an interactive installation which encourages users to actively engage with this idea.

The emergent self is conceptualised as emerging from a constantly transforming interplay of forces external and internal to an impermanent body. The metaphor of the garden is used to develop this idea and to design the avatars in the installation.

Transformation of a biodegradable self-portrait acting as a host to cycles of garden life was recorded and used as a conceptual study for the design of the interactive environments.

The exhibition is designed to encourage audiences to engage in a process of active reflection. It is divided into three main parts and is staged in a sequence representing a narrative of my own journey of reflection and transformation. Maps are supplied to aid navigation of the narrative.
the[transformative]mirror

contemplating the self as an emergent being through active reflection
the[transformative]mirror
contemplating the self as an emergent being through active reflection