

The Self as Subject

Jin-Me Yoon – Clip 5

I use myself in virtually all my work because, like many artists, the uses of the self are endless and variable. And in terms of addressing questions of identity, and this idea of the performance of identity, and a critique of authenticity, it's the most expedient. I also find that using my body in certain circumstances allows for a kind of vibration, or juxtaposition, or a resonance, to happen in which certain questions will emerge. And it's almost like a collage technique, of using my body in relation to a particular setting, or a circumstance. Another reason that I use my body, and increasingly, I'm interested in gesture, the language of the body. And it goes back to an earlier preoccupation, in dance. I danced when I was younger, and I was very, very kinesthetic, very movement-oriented, until I learned properly that to be a cerebral thinker, you shouldn't move. Which is completely nonsense. But now I'm returning to a moment in which a visual artist and artist were intimately connected, specially in the new avant-garde in the sixties and seventies. And one of the central things that I'm interested in is this idea of gesture. How you can use a minimal gesture to stand in metonymically, stand in just as a part of a whole range of social experiences.