

## Alliance of Women in Media Arts and Technology Conference 2019

**Project name:** Tempus Fugit

**Category:** Installation

**Artist:** Matea Friend

### **Abstract:**

Tempus Fugit is an audio-visual installation dealing with the collective, dissociative relationship we have with time. It is an exploration of the intangible world of time-space we live in; one we cannot touch or see yet defines every aspect of our existence as human beings. This piece does not attempt to encompass all time, but instead, focuses on time that is lost in longing, transformation, and dissociation. I use the entanglement of time as a material through visual layering of various stages of our ephemeral lives.

The work explores three various stages of a person's life adolescence, adulthood, and late adulthood using video to collapse these different stages into a singular moment. The video is then projected onto a structure made with transparent fabric. This fabric intentionally allows the light of the projection to travel beyond the structure in order to create the visual phenomenon of time having multiple dimensions, or multiple lives. The passage of light beyond the materiality of the fabric introduces a non-material realm of reality in which light and time exist.

### **Background**

Tempus Fugit is a generational piece that was inspired by conversations with my mother and grandmother. Tempus Fugit was the subject line to my grandmother's email to me. Its direct definition is time flies "(used to draw attention to the rapid passage of time)." I began to explore how we experience existence in relationship to age. I depicted our relationships to age by creating a word association where I asked the child, the new age adult and the eldest a series of words and asked for short responses as well as gestural paintings based on the emotion the word evoked. The responses arranged themselves into unexpected paintings and poems that were then projected onto three structures.

### **Motivation**

The motivation behind this piece was to better understand the relationship between time and age. It was also a means to connect in a profound way with family. I wanted to open a dialogue about time in relation to death and feelings of existentialism. Making work gives meaning to life.

The piece originated through conversations with my mother and grandmother. The conversations were about time happening to us, as if we were bystanders in our own lives. These dialogues evoked a sincere interest in how the individual / collective experience time. I see time as the

biological makeup of video, so to use it as a medium seemed fitting. I then thought about how it would be displayed, viewed and installed, the three structures for the each generation, the fabric for materialize the non-material and the installation for impermanence.

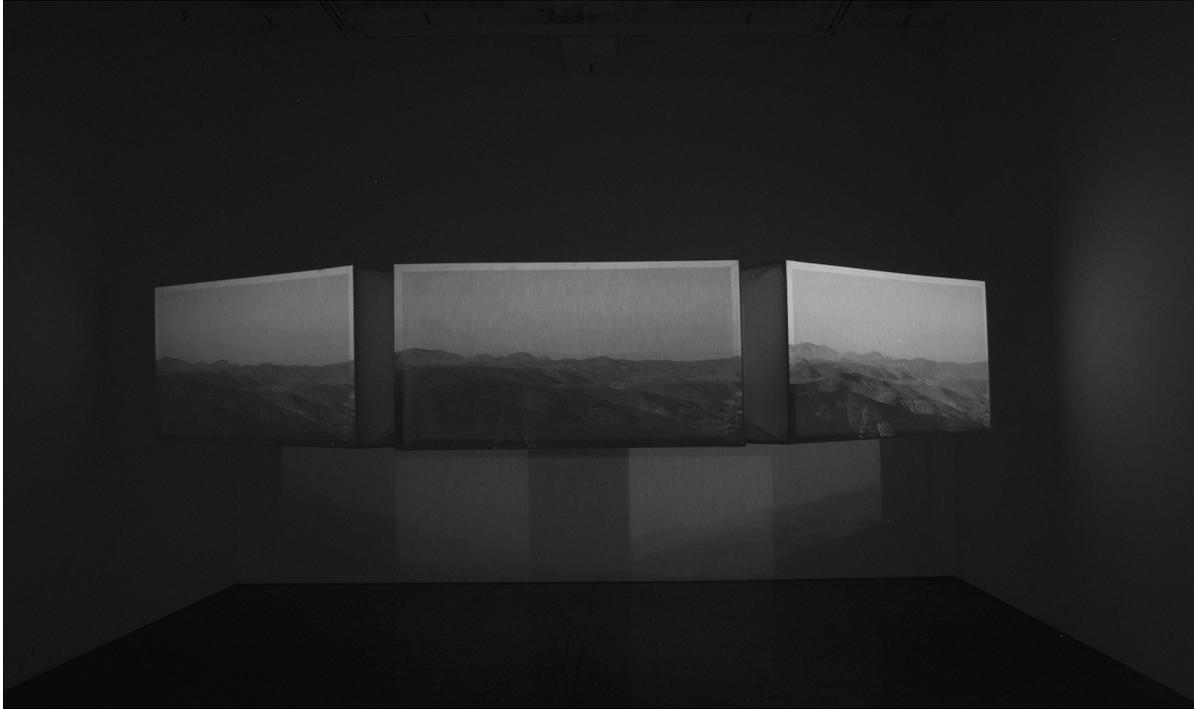
Tempus Fugit utilizes technologies such as video and light manipulation or projection mapping.

## Detailed Description

Tempus Fugit is an audio visual installation piece that explores how we experience time through the various stages of our existence.

The process for making this piece was one of letting go, unfolding and letting time reveal itself. The unraveling of the individualized experience emerged through the collective experience of time, weaving together different lives of the same story. I set up loose parameters, creating a dialogue about our relationship to age and how our association to words and gestures shift through time. I asked the adolescent, the new age adult and the eldest a series of words and asked for short responses as well as a gestural movement based on the emotion the word evoked. The responses arranged themselves into unexpected paintings and poems that were then projected onto the three structures. Through the act of letting go an emergence of the collective experience of time unfolded, demonstrating that regardless of generational differences, a similar experience of time is woven into all of our stories.





## **Audience Experience**

The audience will experience an audiovisual installation with the intention of collapsing and expanding time. The hope is always to merge realities and open dialogue about time, age, and materiality.

Mateafriend.com

## **Bio**



Matea Friend is a new media artist working in video and photographic installation. Friend's work creates immersive environments that use the medium of light to simultaneously collapse and expand time and our experience of it, bringing intangible worlds to life through ephemeral materiality. Through layered conceptual installations her work distorts our perception of reality and traditional, often dogmatic, notions of gender, identity, and the environment. Friend received a BFA in 2018 from the Design Media Arts program at the University of California Los Angeles and has exhibited her work in The New Wright Gallery in Los Angeles, CA, The UCLA Broad Art Center in Los Angeles, CA, Art | Sci Center Gallery in Los Angeles, CA, Pop-up at 424 Fairfax in

Los Angeles, CA, and Pop-up at Other Peoples Children @ Melrose in Los Angeles, CA.