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Brief explanation of installation of Neighborhood

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Sui Kay Zhou

Brief explanation of installation of Neighborhood

NEIGHBORHOOD is a re-creation of the piece I did 1994 which called A NIGHT CELEBRATION OF CULTURAL WARS. In that piece I projected many different cultural images with overlapping music on to my wrecked truck which was set to fire by some one in front of my studio.

In both Neighborhood and Celebration of Cultural Wars, image of urban industrial violence and cultural confrontation are physical content, but hopefully, this just the starting point for people to understand the both interesting and hardness of multi-cultural reality. We all tend to have good wishes towards the idea of this multi-culturalism. Some one lives in uptown Manhattan or Soho loft can easily enjoy the greatness of this while not necessary have to deal with the reality in my Bushwick neighborhood. I believe cultural exclusiveness is survival instant for every vernacular culture. Historically, it had been fine like this until "one day" different culture emerged, then single unified social structure displaced by others, time no longer goes one way direction and cultural value of THE society become relevant to others. Today, New York city is one of many places that many different cultures can be cultivated strong enough to raise confrontational threaten to others. This fact create a lot of civic trouble for the city, but at the same time make all of us going through the process of dealing with substantial struggle of understanding and balance among different cultures and values. "minority" cultures become less and less just exotic decoration, but part of social structure.