

Room (Սենյակ) (15:22) 2021
by Anna Grigorian
Armenia/Canada

Title: *Room* (Սենյակ)
Duration: 00:15:22
Armenia/Canada, 2021
Experimental short
Director: Anna Grigorian



Anna Grigorian's experimental project "Room" (Սենյակ [sɛnˈjɑk]) is reflecting on the issues of oppression, violence, and murder cases of women. While the factual data used in the video is directly taken from the realities of Armenia, gender-based oppression and violence reaching physical retaliation and murder are ongoing and widespread, making the work relevant across countries.

Despite the violent topic, the work excludes any direct violent imagery. The monotonous, calm recital of the murder cases is accompanied by a series of choreographed performatic actions staged by the artist, creating an allegorical space where the discourses on gender, boundaries of the body, and patriarchal order are deliberated upon through artistic expression. The texts are excerpts from judicial acts, discovered through "Silenced Voices: Femicide in Armenia 2016-2017" report, prepared by Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women, and verified through DataLex Judiciary Portal.

Support acknowledgment: Arts and Cultural Studies Laboratory Artist in Residence program (Armenia), and the Canada Council for the Arts (Canada). The work is distributed by Vidéographe artist-run centre, which is dedicated to the research and the dissemination of moving image practices.

Room: Full cast and credits

Participants:

Julia Thomas
Vronsky Belizaire
Amber Jackson
Anna Grigorian

Music:

Hamayak jan
Armenian Dhol loops

Text:

Extracts from criminal cases from Judicial Department of the Republic of Armenia
Available available through DataLex Judiciary Portal, and presented in "Silenced Voices:
Femicide in Armenia 2016-2017" report by Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women, Yerevan,
2018

Voiceover based on: «Լռեցված ձայներ». Կնասպանությունը Հայաստանում - "Silenced
Voices: Femicide in Armenia 2016-2017" report by Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women,
Yerevan, 2018. p. 42-56

English subtitles based on the 2019 translation by Anna Shahnazaryan of "Silenced Voices:
Femicide in Armenia 2016-2017." Subtitles adapted for video by Amber Jackson.

Concept, montage, sound design, voiceover:

Anna Grigorian

Director:

Anna Grigorian

Short bio

Anna Grigorian is an experimental artist from Armenia, whose art practice is currently based
between Canada and Armenia. With a background in sculpture, literature, and photography, her
current chosen medium is moving image. Her video work revolves around socio political and
economic problems, and examination of power relations, through mixing elements of theater,
early cinema, and constructed surreal studio environments.

Anna Grigorian: Filmography

- 2021** **Սենյակ/Room** - single channel experimental video art
Duration: 00:15:22. Original language: Armenian
Subtitles: English, French, Spanish, Italian
- 2020** **Անվերջ հաշիվ/Counting** - single channel experimental video art
Duration: 00:02:02. Original language: Armenian, inaudible
- 2019** **Unsettled** - single channel experimental video art
Duration: 00:07:18. Original language: English.
Subtitles: English, French
- 2017** **The Jumping Ruler** - single channel experimental video art
Duration: 00:05:41. Original language: English
Subtitles: English, Spanish, Armenian
- 2017** **Electronic Hide-and-Seek** - interactive installation
Duration: 00:01:00. Video documentation of the experience
- 2017** **Working Progress** - single channel experimental video
Duration: 00:06:30. Original language: English
- 2017** **MidVay** - single channel experimental video
Duration: 00:06:21 Original language: English text, no speech
- 2016** **FITUMI** - single channel experimental video
Duration: 00:03:10. Original language: English
- 2016** **TMTT** - single channel experimental video
Duration: 00:02:51. Original language: English, deconstructed
- 2016** **Blue Scarf** - single channel experimental video
Duration: 00:01:10. Original language: English
- 2016** **A.T.H.B.W** - primitive animation
Duration: 00:02:21. Original language: English text. Found sound
- 2016** **Art Is...** - primitive animation
Duration: 00:01:53. Original language: English text. Found sound
- 2016** **Meditation on Movement and Light**
Duration: 00:07:46. Performance, altered sound, projection