

# P11

## Session 1 (Visual)

*I: How would you explain your experience with this?*

**P11:** Um it was like, **it was kind of disorientating 'cos it was like waiting through a shallow pond at night but at the same time it's like going through a field of grass or**

something because, of...**I kept expecting or my mind kept expecting that I'd have to start climbing hills because it looked like, the lights made up shapes on the ground.** So I expected okay I'm about to start climbing a hill

but **I go right through it and at the same time it's like going through a forest** or something because of the strands.

**So I ended up feeling the strands on my face so it was very...disorienting but peaceful at the same time.**

*I: Ok so when you feel **disorienting** can you explain more about your bodily experience. did you feel anything in your body?*

**P11:** Uh yeah. My body felt like it was tingling. And I kept reaching out to find out where I was and so same my feet kept trying to climb up these hills but they wouldn't climb up the hills because the hills were created by the illusion of the lights.

*I: So when you do this, what did you feel?*

**P11:** I felt like I was swimming as this is the swimming motion to force my way through the tangled strands.

*I: Ok um...what about the lights? You said the light patterns were disorientating?*

**P11:** Yeah well for one thing the lights kept moving about. The lights themselves almost seem to be in a sort of wave like pattern. They'd would go from...which also added to the experience of waiting through a pond or something 'cos I felt like these are waves but at the same time the lights are at different levels so I thought it made it almost as I say, you're walking in a meadow or something that has uneven ground so it's one in the same time it was like you're walking through

fluid and at the same time you're walking on solid ground. So that added to the disorienting experience but it was...it was actually kind of neat. I enjoyed it.

*I: Uh you said this was peaceful before right*

**P11:** Yes it was peaceful

*I: And um..how do you think this is peaceful?*

**P11:** Um it was peaceful because the way the lights were moving. It wasn't frenzied it was , there was a flow to it. And at the same time actually the sound of the projector, the fan, it's sort of a peaceful white noise. And that sort of, that ambient noise sort of added to the peaceful effect.

*I: What about fiber optics? You said you know you kind of move them away ...how did you feel about that?*

**P11:** I felt that it was um...as I said before, it's almost like a combination of swimming and at the same time also trying to find your way through a thick undergrowth of forest or something like that. So again there was that sort of, ...so again..it was the same sort of thing...feeling that when I was on dry ground going through a forest and at the same time, going through water. So there is, like as in two environments at the same time.

*I: Ok what do you mean two environments?*

**P11:** 'Cos as I say the moving through the fiber optic cables almost feels like using the swimming motion so it's like you're swimming but at the same time the feel of them on your face it's like you're going through a thick undergrowth so it's on dry land going through a forest and at the same time you're swimming under the ocean.

*I: When you were inside did you try something special?*

**P11:** um...I tried to move about and I swept through like this a bit. And I also ??tily?? tried to actually climb up the hills but of course you couldn't 'cos they weren't actually there.

*I: Um...okay. So were there anything more than your bodily experience and also the images of swimming and the forest...were there anything, other senses?*

**P11:** Um well I could feel the softness of the carpet on my feet. And I was thinking that was like walking on grass or something.

*I: Was it similar to walking in the grass or different?*

**P11:** Actually sorry not so grass but I'd say moss or something. but moss.

*I: Ah okay that's interesting, have you done that?*

**P11:** Yeah Oh yeah

*I: When did you?*

**P11:** Oh a long time ago when I was a kid. We'd be visiting in the country side or something.

*I: Can you describe a little bit about that experience?*

**P11:** Well, I'd like to...run around in the fields with and through the tall grass or something and there'd often be moss underneath your feet and it felt very nice.

*I: A little bit...*

**P11:** A little bit springy 'cos you know moss is usually very thick. And this is something similar so it brought back memories I guess.

*I: What was the you know...your favorite or most strong experience from this?*

**P11:** Um...I think the strongest experience was the...fluidity of trying to walk through what my mind was telling me were hills but was going straight through them. I think that was the strongest experience.

*I: Um..can you describe a little bit of your overall experience. like can you ...experience...or put some words kind of qualities of this experience?*

**P11:** I'd say it was very immersive. As like uh..'cos all my senses were engaged, they were intact I could feel what I was doing and at the same time I could see what I was doing and the ambient noise ...so it was a very multi-dimensional experience I would say.

*I: So you mean multi-dimensional means a lot of things to you?*

**P11:** Mhmm yeah and engaging all of these senses.

*I: Ok so all of the senses but we mainly talked about light..and actually you talked about the project sound too. What about other senses did you aware of?*

**P11:** I wasn't aware of any others I guess just the three, the touch, the sound and the sight. But I definitely felt immersed.

*I: But when you say immersed, can you give some example?*

**P11:** Well um..i wasn't conscious of what was outside the installation I was totally focused on what was taking place there.

*I: Ok, alright thank you.*

## **Session 2 (Sound)**

*I: Ok, how'd you explain this experience this time?*

**P11:** Um, again I felt like...in um..outside but this time I was caught in the rain or something. the fiber optic cables were almost like rain falling on my face especially with the sound effects adding to that experience. but I also felt more uncomfortable like I could really feel them against my face this time.

*I: it was uncomfortable?*

**P11:** It was a bit uncomfortable like I say, 'cos on the sensation against my face and forehead felt stronger this time

*I: So was it touching because of touching or you could see?*

**P11:** Touching, yes mostly touching. As for seeing, it was, it felt like as I said like being outside ...with the fine rain falling

*I: how do you feel about falling...or getting rain on your body?*

**P11:** Oh I like it actually

*I: Oh you like it. But it was, sometimes you felt fiber optics on your face and was a little bit uncomfortable. Okay, is it similar...you said you like getting rain but um...when you have rain do you feel uncomfortable?*

**P11:** Um only if I'm not dressed properly. No, it's I usually no...just this time as I say, maybe 'cos there wasn't so much visual for my mind to occupy that I really felt the sense of touch was much stronger this time.

*I: Oh any other body parts that you felt that too?*

**P11:** No they felt fine. It was just kind of nice to sweep through the cables.

*I: Just your face*

**P11:** Yeah

*I: Ok so you briefly mentioned you're outside because of the sound. Can you describe more about the sound you heard?*

**P11:** Um it was like the sound of the wind and the sound of rain drops falling. Yeah which that and that with the cables look like fine rain that was falling that added up to this sensataion

*I: Did you feel like um...anything missing? Because the first session we had lights and this one has sound*

**P11:** No it didn't feel like there was anything missing actually. It was like a different experience entirely. As I say this was like if you're walking outside at night time in the country side you don't see any lights so yeah. And there was a bit of light because of the shimmering effect about halfway along there.

*I: So how do you feel about you know, you are outside and um..you're having rain and um..maybe you know walking in country side. Like you said you kind of liked it and how do you like it?*

**P11:** Well I like it because it's uh..mysterious and dark. And kind of romantic.

*I: So you feel like similar to this as well... any difference?*

**P11:** Um well the difference between this and doing it in the country side is that you're not...like some of the uncomfortable things aren't there like getting wet and getting cold from the wind like that. So it's a more safer version of it haha.

*I: But your body kind of feel same way?*

**P11:** Yeah it kind of felt like my entire felt this.

*I: Alright, um...so when you like you said your body feels similar thing, what you're body felt?...*

**P11:** Um well it felt like my body was...it's kind of strange, my body was pushing against the wind or something 'cos I could hear the sound effects and the fiber optics cable gave that simulation. I don't know. Yeah that's how it felt like.

*I: So you are the only person actually against the wind and rain...*

**P11:** Yes but at the same time, it felt like I was...um...touching a lover's hair or something like that. When I was...'cos I closed my eyes for a few minutes so it's almost like I'm caressing somebody's hair.

*I: But you felt that when you closed your eyes.*

**P11:** Yes

*I: Alright so it seems like you tried to stroke fiber optics, did you try any other action?*

**P11:** Well as I said I closed my eyes and went like this and moved about a bit just to get the sensation without any sight.

*I: Why did you close your eyes?*

**P11:** 'Cos I, I tried to do it without my eyes closed but then I could see the stuff over here so I wanted to ignore that and see what the effective without the visual simulation.

*I: So you think when you close your eyes, how different?*

**P11:** Oh you can really feel the strands of the fiber optic cables more and you can hear the noise more I guess because you aren't looking so your other senses become more stronger.

*I: I was wondering how the sound effect and your tactile feelings associate together?*

**P11:** They seem..it seem to reinforce it. When the, especially when the wind effect sound came up, it really felt like I was walking against the wind and the fiber optic cables. The other sound effect, the popping, is a bit disorienting it wasn't... isn't as...I thought is that supposed to be rain or a fire, I can't figure it out. Haha so yeah I thought it was rain.

*I: But is it different from rain drop?*

**P11:** It's not quite a rain drop it's more like a ...almost like a half way between a rain drop and a crackling of a fire.

*I: You want to add...or can you explain a little bit more about the two different experiences. How did you feel the difference? The first and second?*

**P11:** Well the second one wasn't so disorienting 'cos I didn't feel that optical illusion of the fiber optic cables creating what looked like hills and stuff like that. This time I didn't feel like I was walking underwater or anything like that, it was like walking in the forest in the rain at night time. So this one wasn't disorienting, it was just more mysterious, romantic and yeah...

*I: Ok for the first session, you mentioned the quality of experience was kind of immersive, now how do you think about this one?*

**P11:** The second one was very immersive as well. In a different sort of way because it was more the tactile and oral effects.

*I: Can I ask you...um..like how different? Like you kind of mentioned you know, degrees or different feeling or different kind of immersion.*

**P11:** I would say a different kind of immersion. Because...I'd say this one was more of realistic immersion because as I say, the first one with the optical illusion at least in my mind...made me almost like a virtual reality like a video game but this one was transporting me into the wilderness. So this was a more...artificial immersion and a more realistic immersion.

*I: Ok, so first one was more artificial or like virtual reality*

**P11:** Yeah 'cos you have the as I say, it was a bit...um...it shouldn't have been there. My mind was saying one thing and my body was saying another. But the second one my mind wasn't doing that. It was saying yes this is real.

*I: Okay first one you said you know that piece was kind of engage all your senses, um...what about this one?*

**P11:** Well not so much because there wasn't so much for the visual. Because the fiber optics weren't there.

*I: Yeah um...I okay..let's go back to the first one , I'm very curious about you said your body feels something and your body experience something different...*

**P11:** Well my mind kept telling me that there's a hill here so if I go towards it so my feet should start to rise up but my body wasn't experiencing that my feet were going right through the hill.

*I: Yeah so I was wondering you know there are two different kinds of things how did you work around those two different aspects?*

**P11:** I don't know. It's uh..i just uh ignore what my mind was trying to tell me and just experience it.

*I: And I was wondering um...if you had two different experiences, and maybe those two different things actually make you kind of confused in that situation...*

**P11:** I think so yeah.

*I: And how that...feeling or experiment kind of affect to build you know the kind of immersive experience*

**P11:** Um..that's a good question. It's almost like...your brain is working so hard at it that ...that's probably, my mind was just working so hard to justify this that...the outside world here becomes...I ignore it completely because I'm entirely focused on that.

*I: so in that way you feel immersed?*

**P11:** Yes, yeah because my mind is totally focusing on this experience. yeah.

*I: Okay but it's more like virtual reality*

**P11:** Yeah yeah.

*I: Ok, that's very interesting, maybe the main thing will be the visual illusion. Because of that. Okay did you experience virtual reality often?*

**P11:** Um..haven't in several years since they've dismantled the cave actually.

*I: Ok, so what kind of virtual reality, like the cave*

**P11:** Well that was the, with the 3D glasses and um...they put up images of coffee molecules and dinosaurs and things like that

*I: How did you feel about 3D like...*

**P11:** Oh that was uh..i felt that it was very immersive. The glasses were a bit cumbersome but that was technology of 10 years ago so.. yeah.

*I: Have you seen um...Barnard's or Diane Gromall's work ?*

**P11:** Yeah I've seen some of Diane's work, I haven't see much of it yet unfortunately.

*I: Ok, thank you.*

### **Session 3 (Both)**

*I: Ok how was your experience?*

**P11:** That was fun! I had fun in that one. Just would just push about the strands in order to create interesting patterns and it was like the lights would pool about and there'd be patches of darkness surrounding by these lights that are dancing about. It's like the dancing through it.

*I: You mean you dance through it?*

**P11:** Yea like cause dancing and the lights were dancing too.

*I: Ok um..basically this one has sound and ..yea both...can we talk about visual first?*

**P11:** Yeah the visual was as I say similar to the first time. The lights are at different levels just felt like I was trying to walk into a hill or something but same time this time, I was actually moving about the lights to see what sort of effect that would have and at the same time I was walking through them and it was actually quite beautiful.

*I: How do you feel you know kind of about making pattern and you dance through the light?*

**P11:** Um...as I say, I really enjoyed that I felt 'cos being creative and experimental at the same time and it was creating beauty and it was really nice.

*I: What about sound?*

**P11:** The sound of the wind while I was doing it was almost like I was working with the wind to create these patterns.

*I: So the sound and visual work together for you?*

**P11:** Yes it did, it made for a much more stimulating experience.

*I: So when you actually make the pattern, did you hear wind sound as well?*

**P11:** Yeah mmmm it was like make the patterns makes the wind. And um also like when say because of what I was doing, two of the lights would bang together as that'd create the popping sound.

*I: So you always had um...the sound and visual you know...experience*

**P11:** Yeah it was always working to together

*I: So anything stronger than the other sometimes*

**P11:** I think that the visuals were stronger than the sound usually. Because of course the sound sort of ebb and flows. If it was really if the sound really was affecting by what I was doing, I think that would've been even stronger I suppose.

*I: Um..from your second session you felt a little bit uncomfortable, fiber optics on your face, how did you feel about that in this session?*

**P11:** I certainly felt them again and certainly more than I'd felt in the first of the three session but it didn't feel uncomfortable this time. I'm not sure 'cos I was used to it or because um...I may be 'cos I wasn't concentrating on so much on it because of the visuals were there as well. That could be it.

*I: But in the first in the session you didn't say you know fiber optics were...uncomfortable.*

**P11:** No no, I hardly noticed it but only in the second session that I only started noticing. And then the third session I noticed it again I don't know maybe it was the sound?

*I: So you noticed again but compared to the second*

**P11:** It wasn't as uncomfortable.

*I: So through the three sessions, your feeling or your bodily experience has been changed?*

**P11:** Yeah um..i think so I also think 'cos in the first session I was a bit tentative and I didn't want to break anything but by the third session you know I was getting used to it so I was able to be more forceful with what was doing and try to experiment and see what was happening.

*I: Ok, for the first and second, first you had image of your experience forest or water swimming, the second one was you're outside on a rainy day, in the third one did you have any...images?*

**P11:** There was a bit of that like from the first one of swimming through swimming in a pool or something like that outside because of the sound effects and the way plays about it is almost like makes it almost look like fluid water. But in the third one it was more...abstract 'cos you know as I said I started playing with the effects and seeing what interesting effects I can make with the light.

*I: So you mean the first one was um...you kind of explore what it is, the third one was you kind of actively...*

**P11:** I was creating I was helping make that...

*I: But I would like to..make it clear, the third session was more abstract, what do you mean?*

**P11:** Um as I said, first one I was outside in like a natural environment, the third one I was helping to create that environment.

*I: Ah okay, so then did you um...in that way that is abstract*

**P11:** Probably abstract isn't quite the right word but um...more...artificial isn't the right word either but not nature but human-made art yeah. Mhmm..yeah.

*I: Alright, so then can you describe a little bit about this environment not just focusing on your experience but you know describe this environment as it is.*

**P11:** Um...it's not sure if I can. It's a..it's almost like um...an artificial forest or something with that...um...but at the same time it's almost like a...it's almost like water. Like a water environment but at the same time it's something it's an environment I have an affect on. 'cos I can, I'm rearranging the lights as I go through but at the same time they're being random. Hard to describe.

*I: Ah okay, let's go back to the creation part, like in the third session you kind of created the interesting patterns with your movements and gesture, then I'm curious how you make that decision? Like you create patterns*

**P11:** Um...it was not so much making a decision impulsively trying this or trying that. And also working with the fact that the lights themselves are changing to my mind randomly. So working with that it's getting dark over there well better start working over there. 'cos if it's dark over there it's not going to look interesting.

*I: So then um...do you think this environment is kind of an environment you can create whatever you want or still kind of you know you mentioned artificial forest but if you are in the forest you don't really create anything right?*

**P11:** No and it's the same with this, I did feel like as a temporary creation because as soon as I stopped moving or doing that all the lights would go back to their own place but for a time I can experiment and make interesting patterns and see what happens.

*I: What do you think about the you create some kind of pattern?*

**P11:** Oh I think that's the funnest part about it. You know having the lights swirl about because the movement of your hands.

*I: Okay um...can you put think of any words or phrase to capture your experience in this session?*

**P11:** Um..playfulness. I was being playful that time.

*I: Playfulness okay. Um..you said it's playful, when do you think it's playful?*

**P11:** Oh it's playful at both when I'm doing that and also when I'm walking through or waltzing or dancing through and that's being playful too because that has an effect. You know the wires moving about in their little patterns and they also have little lights in them too so it was...both with the deliberate motions of my hands and just walking through.

*I: So you experienced three sessions, which was the most strong experience?*

**P11:** Um, I think...actually I think the second session was the strongest experience maybe because ...because of the absent of light and I was just concentrating on the feel of the sounds. I'm not sure why that was the strongest but it was.

*I: And what was your favorite?*

**P11:** My favorite was the third.

*I: third okay, then maybe the strongest session was second then it has...bad or good thing about that?*

**P11:** I'd say it was a good thing. As I say it was very evocative of mystery and romance. And you never know what's going to happen at night.

*I: But you said you know your favorite was third and that means I understand if you have a chance to experience it again you'd like to experience the third one?*

**P11:** Oh yeah, I could spend hours doing that.

*I: So why not second one?*

**P11:** Um...because after a while I just nothing much was happenign with the third one I could make these patterns and all that and I could continue for another 20 minutes but with the second one it was very evocative for the time being but um...but there's not much more you could do.

*I: We talked about immersion in first and second session do you...like this but third session was more playful. Can you make any association with playful and immersion? Or not really?*

**P11:** Yeah well um...I think so. If it's, see part of it...I think there's an element of playfulness at least as far as I'm concerned where you're aware of what's going on. You know this is fun I'm having fun here so you're not so much immersed because I certainly didn't as immersed in the third session.

*I: So you focused on your creation..okay so maybe okay did you when you make the pattern or the lights moving, did you try to create certain pattern? Or did you try specific actions to create something...*

**P11:** Yea well more in absence of patterns. What I was trying was to create inky pools of blackness but pushing the lights away.

*I: Alright do you have any thing you want to add*

**P11:** I can't think of anything but that was fun though...I really enjoyed myself.

*I: Thank you so much*