

Anne de Vries (NL, 1977)

*Forecast*, 2011

HD Video 5:04 min

Anne de Vries er en hollandsk kunstner bosat i New York. Et tilbagevendende tema i hans arbejde er, hvorledes digitalisering og nye medier ændrer gengivelsen og oplevelsen af en verden, der kan forveksles med en stadig større og hurtigere strøm af billeder.

Hans video *Forecast* er en 3D-renderet film, hvor beskueren rejser igennem fotografier af skyer på blå himmel. Lydsporet er uddrag af en oplæsning fra filosofen Bertrand Russells bog *ABC of Relativity*, hvori Russell forsøger at gøre Albert Einsteins relativitetsteorier begribelige for den brede offentlighed. I teorierne, som Einstein fremsatte i starten af det 20. århundrede, forklarede han, at tid ikke er én absolut størrelse, men relativ i forhold til den person, som måler den. Tid og rum, forklarede han, er forbundne i såkaldt *rumtid*, hvilket indebærer, at tiden for en person, der rejser hurtigt i rum, løber langsommere sammenlignet med tiden for en person, der bevæger sig langsomt.

Anne de Vries har forvrænget lydsporet, så det lyder som om enten optagelsens eller oplæserens stemmes hastighed skiftevis øges og sænkes. Den maskinelle oplæser-stemme minder om den skleroseramte teoretiske fysiker, Stephen Hawking, der snakker via en computer og har været med til at videreudvikle Einsteins teorier. Hawking er bl.a. kendt for at anskue såkaldte ormehuller og sorte huller som uforsvarlige "tidsmaskiner".

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Anne de Vries is a Dutch artist who lives and works in New York. A recurring theme in his work is the ways in which digitisation and new media change how we depict and perceive a world that resembles an ever-greater and ever more rapid stream of images.

His video *Forecast* is a 3D rendered film in which spectators journey through photographs of clouds in a blue sky. The audio track consists of excerpts from a reading from the philosopher Bertrand Russell's book *ABC of Relativity*, in which Russell seeks to present Albert Einstein's theories of relativity for laymen. In the early twentieth century Einstein stated that time is not a given, unique absolute, but relative to the person measuring it. Time and space, he explained, are connected in so-called *x*, which implies, that time for someone who travels quickly through space runs slower compared to someone who travels slowly through space.

Anne de Vries has distorted the audio track so that it sounds as if the speed of the recording or the narrator's own voice is alternately sped up or slowed down. The machine-like narrator's voice is similar to that of Stephen Hawking, a theoretical physicist whose sclerosis requires him to speak with the aid of a computer. Hawking has contributed to developing and expanding on Einstein's theories. Among other things, Hawking is known for regarding so-called wormholes and black holes as rather impractical "time machines".