

Contributions from the multimodal aesthetic perspective on early development to the study of theatre spectatorship: An analysis of forms of vitality and present moments in a theatrical performance



Alicia Nudler

Universidad Nacional de Río Negro

Argentina



Doctoral Thesis:

*Theatre Experience and Embodiment:
Dynamic Forms of Vitality on Stage*

Historia y Teoría de las Artes
Universidad de Buenos Aires
Directora: Dra. Silvia Español
Director: Dr. Mauricio Tossi

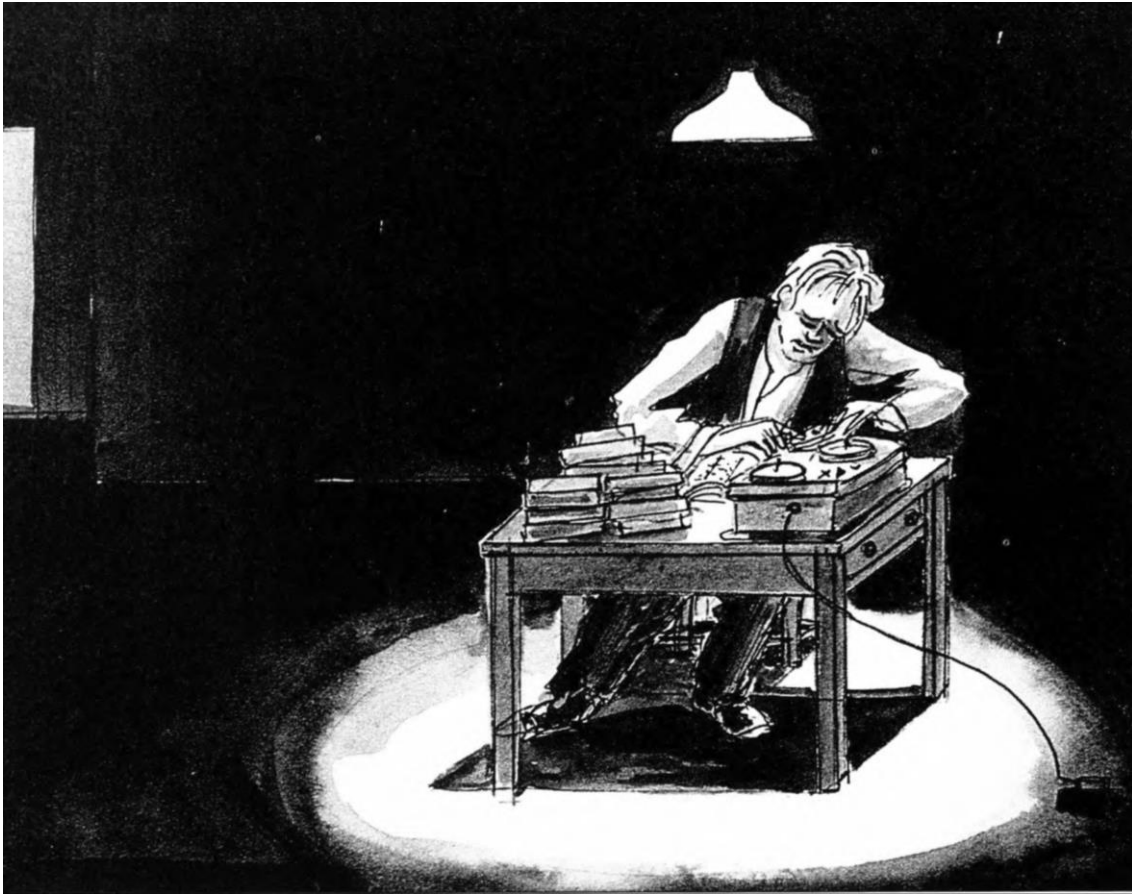


Main goals

- To study theatre spectatorship from an embodied perspective in order to enrich its understanding as a global, immersive, intersubjective experience
- To contribute to an analysis of the role of sensory multimodality in the construction of meaning and overall experience in theatre spectatorship
- To explore the role of forms of vitality in theatre

Forms of vitality (Daniel Stern, 2010)

- Subjective integration of movement, time, space, intention and force
- The manner or style of doing things (the “how” of things, not the “what”)
- The energetic and temporal profile of movements, sounds, emotions and thoughts
- The way in which human minds deal with dynamic experiences, crucial in interpersonal encounters and the time-based arts



Krapp's Last Tape (Samuel Beckett, 1958)
Jocelyn Herbert's Design
Royal Court Theatre, London, 1958

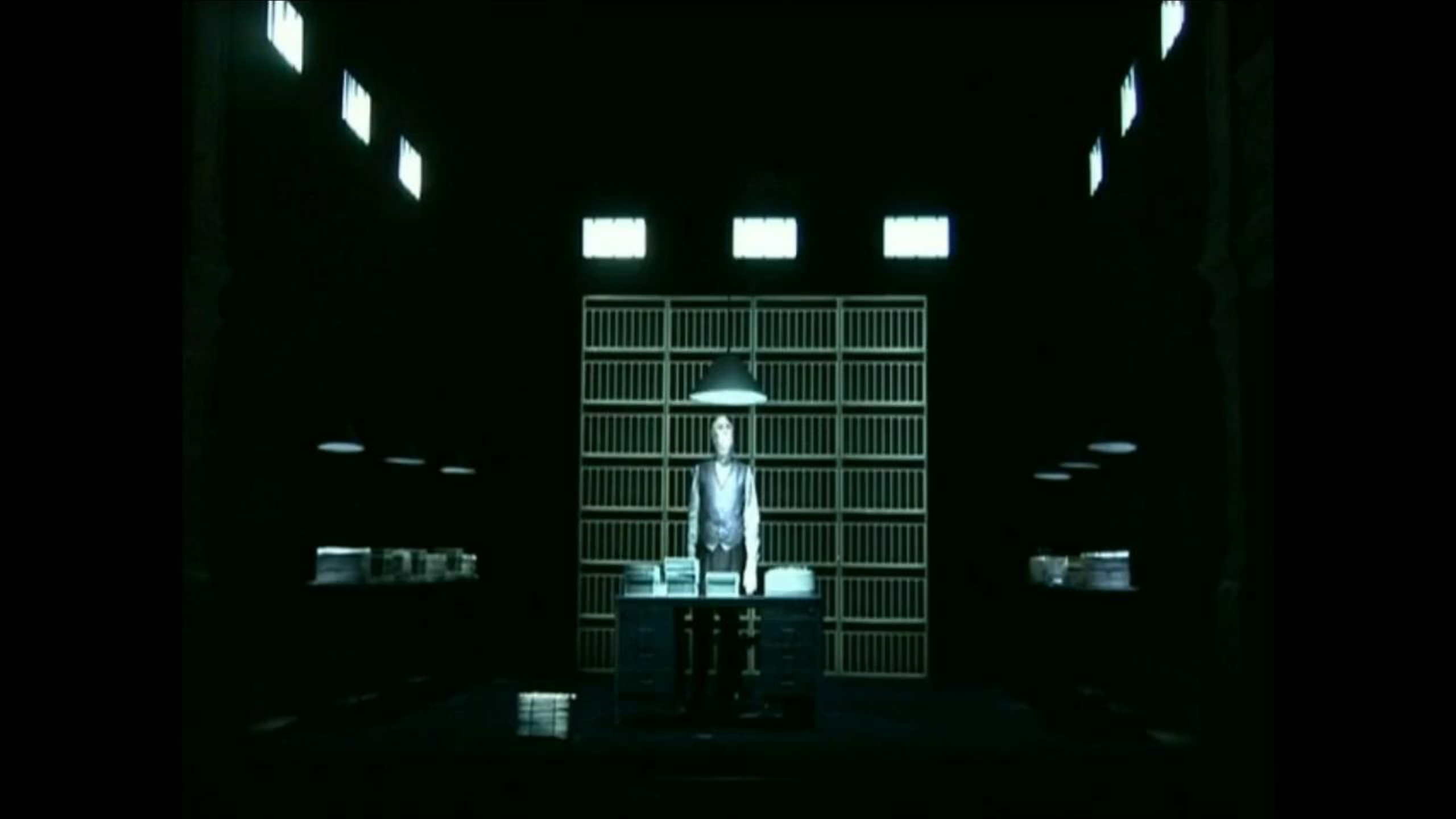




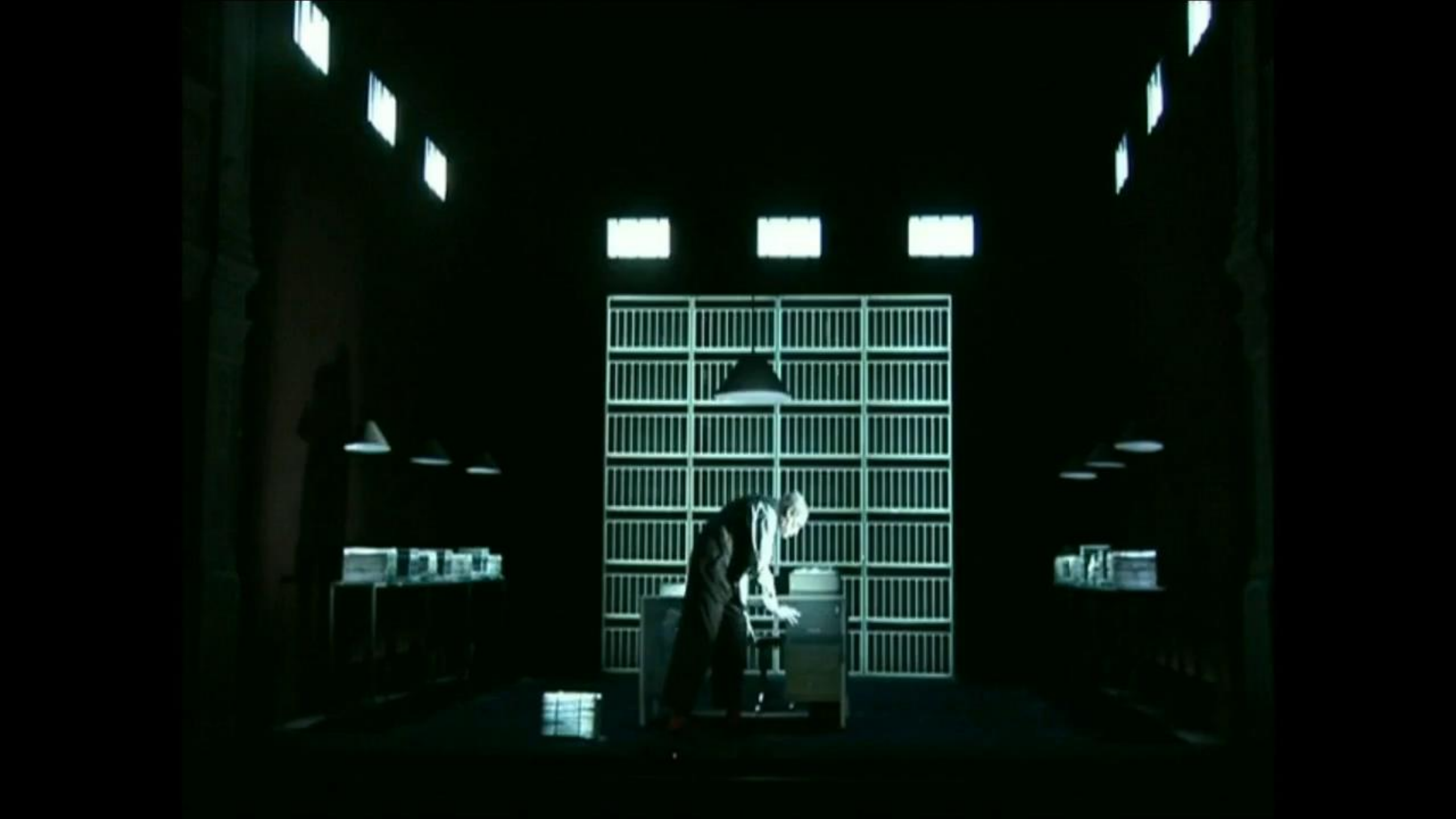
Robert Wilson in Krapp 's Last Tape
Premiered in 2009 at the Festival of the Two Worlds, Spoleto, Italy and shown at many theatres worldwide

Perceptual procedures

- 1) Sudden and intense event
- 2) Stressed modulation of forms of vitality in one sensory modality
- 3) Stressed convergence of forms of vitality in more than one sensory modality
- 4) Stylized stretch of goal-oriented action
- 5) Sudden change from a stylized form of vitality to an everyday one
- 6) Scaffolding of meaning through vitality forms
- 7) Event adding a certain meaning or effect
- 8) Procedure anticipating an aspect of the narrative
- 9) Forms of vitality revealing inner states
- 10) Repetition or varied repetition







Present moment (Stern, 2004)

- Experience of “now”
- Continuous, analogic, flowing whole, intuitively grasped as a global unit with boundaries, much like a musical phrase

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