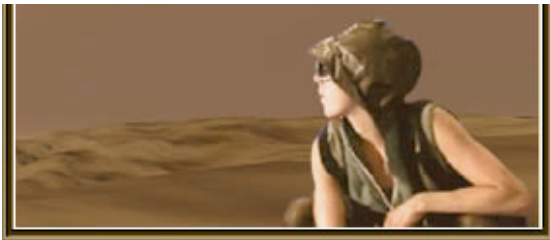


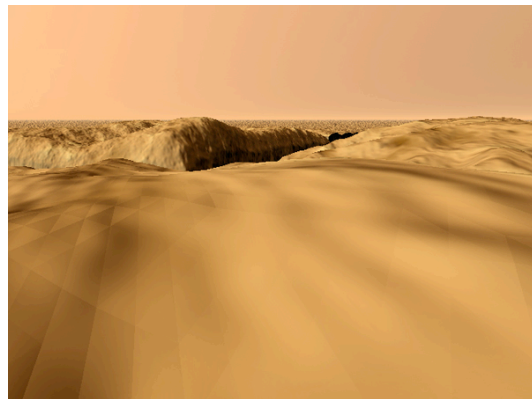
NEW ARTICLE: DESERT STORM/ EXTREME BEAUTY
BY: Francesca De Nicolò, 28 December 2003



Yael Kanarek is the winner of the international competition of net-art called Netizens (created from Sala 1, a gallery in Rome, Italy) and she was invited to participate with a solo show in the same gallery from November 25th to December 10th of 2003.

The exhibition, curated by Antonella Pisilli with a text of Valentina Tanni, was created to present a part of her work "alive:" Word of Awe. It is a cross-media project that Kanarek has been working on since 1995. The idea, as she says, is in essence an expansion of a travel in a nowhere land with a science fiction regard, materializing thought that connected a lot of projects spanning through artistic disciplines. So Kanarek--who describes a travel tale between music, performance, video, digital, net art, and writing--goes through a system in a trip in a land where we can deeply touch our awes.

For Sala 1, World of Awe is an installation/projection with choreography and contemporary music of Yoav. The aim is to generate a "station of the contemporary desert; who is the propulsion for the research; who is connected with poetry and intimate identity; where all objects are also a key for the crossing." So we can the gallery—the nowhere-desert--by the location of adventure, where a passenger (a virtual explorer) connected with a portal in the 419 of the 6^o street at Manhattan (closed in a mainframe between the sunset and the sunrise) has a trip searching for his/her treasure.



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The trip is documented in a journal that we can also see in the gallery. The journal was founded in the PC hand notes and made by the explorer, who was in the canyon of the famous Silicon Valley -- a cemetery of old but magnificent machines, also in the gallery. We can also read love letters, try some candies that are little tips of the virtual treasure that the explorer is searching, and see the map that is still on the wall of the gallery with his notes.



There are, also, extensions of the MRB, something that's reminiscent of a Japanese world of toys. The MRB is a prototype for a super-toy, the result of a collaboration with Bnode (Judith Gieseler and Innes Yates from a studio of architects). The MRB was developed as the prototype of the mood- ring- baby described in the Traveller's Journal. According to the journal, the mood - ring - baby was used by the traveller to see the effects of loneliness. Resembling an advanced Tamagotchi, the device was capable of holding conversations and telling stories.

In the gallery, we too can listen at the voice of a soprano who sings a song for the sweetheart lover. If we have a trip in the net, we can also see a fantastic section: Net Dancer, where Kanarek represents the Explorer who dances in the city, an electric and strange performance of contemporary dance ballet; this project was commissioned by Turbolence.org and made with the help of the musician Mr Gal and Evan Siebanc, dancer and filmmaker.

Like she says in the net, the worldview is what she always wants to explore, and particularly to know the individual different point of view. So, in this case, the result is an interesting walk through in search for treasure according to the scientific and physical observation of David Deutsch--an intimate travel where the

sensations are alternated in a metaphysical situation, and where science and art are connected in searching for love. And, Yanaker says, "I have found the key to extreme beauty; I try a pearl under your skin."

<http://worldofawe.net/index.html>