

VOICE: OFF

DIRECTOR

Donigan Cumming

DURATION

0:38

YEAR

2003

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

English

CATEGORY

Video Art

**DESCRIPTION**

Two worlds are involved. The internal world, closed, virtually isolated, with just one tenuous, uncertain link with the other world, the telephone. The other, external world exists only to pass from one sealed-off place to another. Call each other? You lose your voice before you get an answer : your head spins with non-existent voices. Telephone and answering machines are scheming devices. Just waiting in vain.

IMAGE FORMAT

4:3

SOUND

Stereo

FURTHER INFORMATION

"Donigan Cumming looks at the violence of time that damages the body and exhausts memories. For the main character in *Voice: Off*, Gerald, the illness is incurable. Two cancers are at work, one of which is attacking his throat. The first images are irrefutable ones of a naked man who has reached old age and whose voice is failing. The capturing in real time of death at work is one of the terms of this dense and complex film. But Cumming also likes to go back in time in search of a state of innocence. In his studio he spreads out the photographs of Gerald's life. A new-born child, a little boy cherished by his mother, at boarding school, a charming teenager and a worried adult, these states confer on him different postures, different expressions, and reveal to the eyes of the filmmaker an unsuspected anguish."

PERRET, Jean. *Visions du réel*, [http://donigancumming.com/d_c/donc_home.html] (Consulted on september 15th 2009)

KEYWORDS

Autobiography, Memory, Loss, Oblivion, Speech

THEMES

Identity

Family
Private life