

Treatment for potential crew

Synopsis

The Silent Dance is a 10-minute experimental psychological drama exploring themes of loneliness, fear, and the need for human connection. *Darcey*, a lonely woman, voyeuristically watches her vibrant neighbour *Jo* through her window. When *Jo* catches *Darcey* lurking, a battle of imitation unfolds, leading to an unexpected connection between the two women. Its loosely divided into 3 acts: *the pre connection*: the loneliness, solitude, stalking *The making of the connection*: the fear, the copying of each other behaviours/routines/clothes/interests...and *the post-connection*: a sense of hope or warmth , a weird calmness.

Characters

Darcey – protagonist

Lonely, introspective

Strong gaze / sleep deprived

Engages in habits/ nightly routines

Motivated by the desire to be seen

Jo – neighbour

Vibrant / initially unaware of being observed

Ordinary life –

praying/reading/dancing/with friends and lovers

Later seeks to reciprocate the watching

Supporting characters

Jo friends – briefly seen

Darcey's Room – becomes its own character.

Tone and feeling

TSD captures a strange blend of *eeriness* and *warmth*, exploring the loneliness of 20-somethings in the unique landscape we live in. The film will employ visual and auditory tools to disrupt conventions, like disjointed close ups, disorientating perspectives and a soundtrack that blends ambient sounds together, creating an immersive experience. Extreme lack of dialogue! Some horror + some bizarreness.

Set

Building a bedroom set in the tv studio. Making one location and setting it twice. Probably scheduling to film all of perspectives from and in one bedroom and then reset and film the other bedroom.

Darcey room – has a large clock on her wall. Lots of posters / paintings / poetry. Voyeuristic photos of other people. Disorganised. Cluttered.

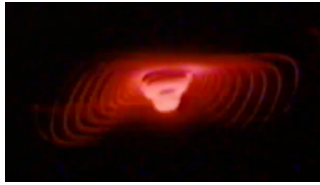
Jos room – lots of mirrors. Neater/cleaner. Still has art and music of her own etc.

Visual style

- Muted BnW / sepia / monochromatic tones in *Darcey's* isolated room (like that of Nobuhiko Obayashi's *Emotion*)
- Contrast with *Jos* more vibrant life. Looking through *Jos* window - more fragmented shots to begin. Focusing on *Darcey* – wider shots, surveillance-style perspective. The bedroom having its own perspective - maybe having POVS through the clock for example.
- Experimental – just as the set and sound design, the visual styles can merge and swap as the story continues.

Visual style continued

I'm interested in creating a prelude type sequence at the start (maybe even repeating throughout) in a similar abstracted style to *Mothlight/ Garden of Early Delights* by Brakhage // *Phenomena* by Jordon Belson to set the tone for the rest of the film.



Sound design

- Ambient music (Harold Budd/Robin Guthrie/Jean Michel Jarred's *les granges brûlées*/ Brian Eno – maybe more earlier stuff like *apollo* and *evening star* etc)
- Unique droning sounds / scores? For each character and can merge and blend into one as the film progresses.
- Diegetic sounds for the raw and mundane of it all





