

# Cheminement-s

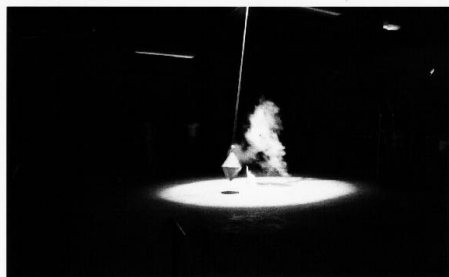


Solemnly, soundlessly, a tyre rolls along the ground; at the end of its run, it brushes against a mast which, as it falls, gives impetus to a third sequence ... Balances and trajectories inter-relate, each action bringing about a new impulsion, moments, each different from the next, connected only by the fact that they form an intriguing and witty sequence – successions, ricochets, specific causes and effects, a mechanical chain of actions and reactions, projections of shadows and artifices and unexpected sounds.

The onlooker at once understands the dynamics being used here, and yet, from start to finish, he follows, enthralled, the irresistible trail of the spectacle before him, held fast in a state of wrapt concentration.



It is the very simplicity of the deployment which holds the key to its expressive force; first we are presented with immediately recognisable everyday objects and junk, then a shock of small fireworks used for propulsion or dramatic effect, a fragile, delicate assembly, a juxtaposition of contraptions and thingumajigs, moving at times with a captivating elegance and a surrealistic and whimsical charm.



The action is not continuous; the breaks in rhythm are carefully regulated. A slow, imperturbable feat of balance is followed by a short, sudden cataclysm; a languid grating sound by a sharp explosion. As we move on, more lights kindle to reveal the trail of waiting mechanisms, the delights to come. What will happen next?



It's a huge piece of child's play, and it's instantly captivating.

The three creators of this great device, clad in formal black suits, move with cool deliberation in the midst of it all, like cogwheels driving their complex installation. They are the drop of water, the grain of sand, the light puff of wind which coaxes the machine along its path.

We are in a state of constant anticipation, delighted when the catastrophe we knew would happen, really comes about, and even more amused, when we realise we have been hoodwinked.

The whole ensemble provokes in us a delicious range of emotions, from the tension of waiting to astonishment at the conclusion, from dumbstruck fascination to joy when something crackles. From out of a fragile, witty structure, Cheminement-s has created a choreography which is positively mischievous, a ceremony which is at once slender, elegant and generous.