

# Ninety Degrees

DV | 4:3 | colour | 7.50 minutes | 2007

Actors: Peter Afken, Maggie Koller, Nora Schwarz, Mark Kepler  
Direction, Camera, Sound, Drawings, Editing: Josephin Böttger  
2nd Camera : Peter Afken

## SYNOPSIS

"Ninety Degrees" teeters on the edge of a linear narrative. The work not only explores the way we interact with our environment, our contemporaries and ourselves, but also questions the validity of our sensory perception and our ability to cope with a wider reality.

## TEXT

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The three protagonists in „Ninety Degrees“ obviously have mixed feelings about their encounters with their multiple selves. The stoic male character confronts a small army of selves with almost pathological indifference, as they engage in absurd ‘looped’ choreographies involving empty carrier bags or hammers. One of the two female protagonists, a chainsaw-wielding manual labourer, appears to be more upset by the strange goings on. The other female character, a caricature of a ‘typical’ petit bourgeois housewife, is less adventurous, and seems to be having trouble finding a suitable role in a disconcertingly foreign and mirror-free environment.

The visual impact of the video is provided by the diversity of images and the speed of the editing. Video footage is interspersed with animated material and static interference. A good deal of the atmosphere, however, is created by the detailed audio design. The brilliance, transparency and elegance of the noises conspire to produce an evocative soundtrack. Much of the work’s suspense is created by the subtle, and often menacing, interaction of sounds and images.

(excerpt of the text)

Philip Jacobs, June 2007