



## Unknown Cloud on Its Way to Berlin

Documentary interviews with witnesses

Lundahl & Seidl (2015–) *Unknown Cloud*.

**Year:** 2017

**Material:** Digital Video with Binaural sound in headphones, English subtitles

**Duration:** 6 minutes 29 seconds

The project, called 'Unknown Cloud', enables visitors to connect with their immediate environment, physical experiences and the lifeworlds of distant strangers. It tells a story about the reality of things that we normally cannot perceive with our senses but only read about, see images, or have an intellectual understanding of, such as: the rotation of the earth, planets of outer space, but also the life of someone living in a culture different to ours.

These recordings show people who encountered the 'Cloud' on different geographical locations, talking freely about their experience. What it made them feel and how they describe it. How do we talk about things for which we have no words? And how do we relate to things we cannot understand?

A brief study of the Cloud Phenomenon by Erika Tanos, Anthropologist

*Inside the Cloud we are given the contradictory task to imagine something that is already there around us, but that we have no direct experience of: the sensation of the rotation of the earth and the relative positions of celestial bodies in the solar system.*

*The gap between what we can perceive with our senses and what we can measure and calculate with technology and science is constantly widening. The more we discover, the more we are struggling to find something that is “true” in our postmodern hyperreality.*

*An example is the need for physical gatherings after a terror attack to feel the warmth of other humans.*

*The modern-day tech-alchemy of the Unknown Cloud allows bodily sensations, voices of distant others, secular collective rituals and celestial bodies to come alive in a dreamlike, but “real” state.*

*This deeply felt immersion takes the participants to the edge of the limits of knowledge, that which, since Aristotle, philosophers have variously called Agnoseology: the “theory of unknowability”.*

*The Cloud is an exercise in imagining and feeling what we cannot know and completely understand. It allows us to explore safely the paradoxes and contradictions of human life, as well as enigmatic social phenomena, such as empathy and trust.*

**Credits:**

Video production: Joakim Olsson

Anthropologist: Erika Tanos

Community Director: Anna J Ljungmark

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Contributing witnesses