

Désolé de Saboter vos Lignes

Eric Rondepierre

Dominique Païni



We know about the works that Eric Rondepierre made with frames from decomposing prints of films. The paradoxical danger that old film would burst into flames was countered by the staggering viscosity, the growing greasiness of the images, the oily deliquescence of the figures.

Do the appearances taken on by living beings and objects when they die ultimately tell us something about the nature of their substance? Would that still hold true in this series entitled *Désolé de Saboter vos Lignes*, the result of extracting images from these films, totally without incarnation and webcast on DSL (Digital Subscriber Line)? This series continues the translation of Rondepierre's cinephile fervour but freeze-frames and their photographic restitution are not made at the same moment in a film's life cycle.

The *Précis de décomposition* saved images from obscurity, catching them before their form dissolved and they became iconographic ruins. In contrast, the DSL series freezes or petrifies screening accidents. Today, access to film on the web makes us forget the old spooling of the reel, frame after frame, and the hypnosis induced by the computer screen blanks out the alternation that was part of a film being shown in a theatre: the spectator's worried, backward glance towards the point of origin of the beam of light, that mysterious cabin where the fire of images was kindled.[...]

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