There is no way to poeticise this situation, this is not an attempt to. People are suffering and it is manifesting itself in innumerable, implacable forms. There is a direct urgency; the acute active being in this moment which paradoxically makes us stand still. And in this stand-still our movements are different and other. We know where we go because we go nowhere.

A patchy interference.
The it that is when the other is not.
The occasional intermezzo.

We encounter from afar someone whom we now relate to in a circumference. The margin of distance which we keep from others have grown, and so gesticulation becomes broader as our small and simple gestures lose weight in conversation.

But this is not an analysis of movement, it is a reorientation of being. Being alone, being with others and behaving so as to be for others allowing them to remain.

Art is a fickle matter in my mind in this being. This is nothing new but perhaps it is heightened here, in the now. I have struggled to know the urgency of art as a need, as an essential for a while. Not the art already made, not my art, in particular, but all art being made en masse, in abundance, everywhere, now.

I feel it sometimes as a matter; suffocating, even in the best of circumstances and now just as much, in the worst. I take escape in it whilst simultaneously finding it circumstantially futile. But then the growing abundance has made the last years a steady incline of an attitude of satiation.

A wave is just now curling into an arched form only to break hard and soft into an activity of exponential frequency.

The swell, as well is a swelling volume that expands the room and at the same time, reduces it to nothing.

In the past I have oscillated between the urgency and the indifference. But now I have become untethered to the anchor that always held me from exiting the realm of reverence for the art.

There is a differentiation to be made here. No matter how difficult and contested the case might be to make, there must be a caveat to this emotional state of exhaustion. This is the personal, in which things are felt that risk being misunderstood, not understood, rejected or rejoiced. I am not looking to offend or assemble.

There is too much of everything and I am too tired of all of it (tired is a poor adjective but I don't know how else to describe it, except to say it brings upon a kind of dull tiredness, an apathy) to discover the new. Tired from exposing others to my art, tired from exposure to others art.

Because it has become so much and because it is everywhere and houses everything it has also become reduced to barely anything. This opinion probably fluctuates and were I held accountable to it as a definite I would surely eat my words and perhaps my works at a later point. But I leave it in here with the proviso to opt out eventually.

This is not to say that my output is more valuable than any other.

I am a new mother.

This has to be said. Because the new and seeming infinite zest for motherhood is a removal from everything. Because it opens up a space for being in a room so vast for me and so cramped for others that it is a kind of tardis of self. Your outlook changes.

This is not to say that my circumstances make me more purposeful than any other.

The projection of the image of the self onto the self, is itself an image. Of all that, which is on show, it is that which is not on show, through its absence, that which it is. Even a wide and voluminous form it is a flat surface. A representative deliberative body.

Methods vary and develop. Motherhood is a change of circumstance, a welcome noise that accompanies any future dialogue; the not-so-silent partner.

But these were circumstances that existed before and during the making of this work and exists as a chimera merging with the circumstances of now, in the context of the crisis.

The work that was to be on show were movements which resulted from a collaborative process representative of personal parallels. A relationship shown. The decision to not show the work was a result of responsibilities to not gather bodies in a space where closeness resulted in risk of repercussion. So the work which was intensely personal in its delivery recoiled in the impact of the reconsideration into an echo of sorts of its original idea.

Within the disparity of moving from physical to digital we lost a lot of voices which could have been heard. The impact of seeing the personal, in person and the implications of the eventual impatience with something slow and gradual released into a cascade of information could be speculated on. And in the many-worlds that may have materialised as a result of us following through with the work in physical form, there may be repercussions echoing ad infinitum.

But here we are, in the one in which we *are* in, in which the decision was made to stop something going ahead, something which had been gaining momentum for months, at a time when it was an individual responsibility rather than a reprimandable one, to stop and make a choice.

And there is something to be said about the loss of opportunity, the loss of labour and the luxury of loss without devastation as consequence. But this is something I leave to others, much more able-bodied and acute voices on the topic of loss since I live in abundance and feel entirely aware of the luxury in which I watch my daughter develop without lacking or needing without receiving.

But personally I don't know how to react. I have, at times the aching sense of guilt of my position, I have a roof and a floor with ample space in between and food and family and the generosity of others and the belonging to a welfare system which offers me support.

I have, at times, a present frustration of being elsewhere when I miss simple pleasures of home, a domesticity which nests nuggets of longing. And leaving many many far more complex emotions aside, ones that arise when being safe in a state of crisis where so many suffer. Where analysis of my own empathy and action and reaction is occurring from a metaphorical armchair of comfort, a place of privilege in which I can consider my relation to art in its relation to calamity.

It is a time of paradoxes. Where every element of home-life is shared as a kind of support structure onto which the system of care leans. And in this structure I am not sure that the joinery of life and of art production is a chimera I can stroke the hairs of. (Please see above caveat)

Because I am not certain of anything at this time, I am no expert even of my own attitudes. And so the very blunt resulting thought is not a result at all, just a way to end these typed out thoughts is to say that I don't know how I feel about this video and this work in the context of which it is released. Perhaps there are some symmetries in possible worlds, both in the one which we choose to show the work and in the one in which we don't, because I was uncertain before and I am uncertain now, on different grounds but rooted in the same systemic ambivalence.

This was not the preferred medium of the reception of this work, but this work exists entirely on the basis of the state of our current existence. And so there would be no video without the virus and this text would have been superfluous without the video. It exists in a bind in which what is said is a comment on the commentary of current situations, a quagmire of a gesture. A trope in itself of what I am not sure I am digesting with ease in this new life; art.

Sanna Helena Berger U.K, 1 may 2020