

HOC EST CORPUS MEUM



HOC EST CORPUS MEUM — 2014 — Video, 16m50s — [VIDEOLINK](#)

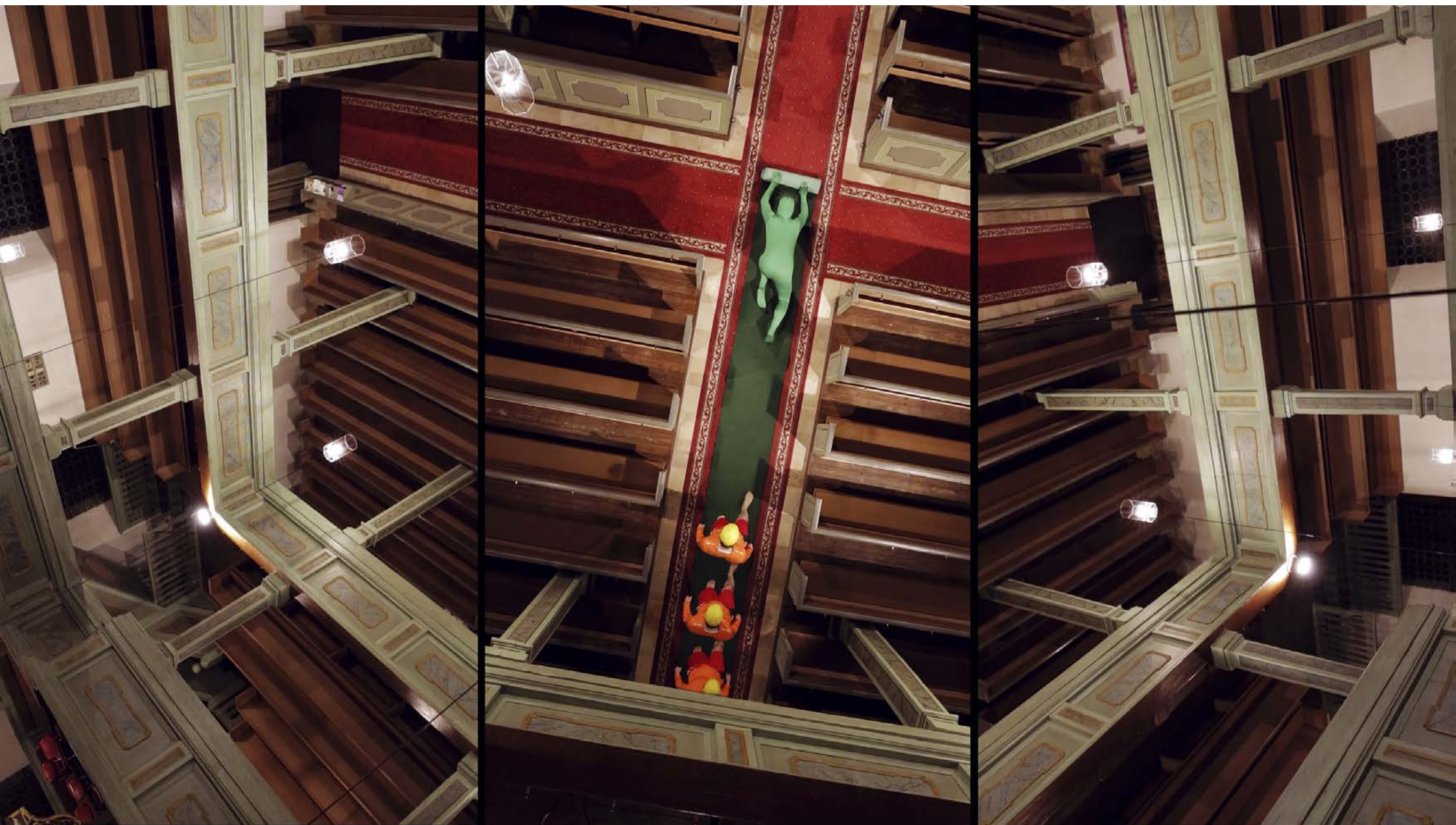


In a Baroque church, a number of ritual-actions are performed.

I thought of both Christian liturgy and sports events, of dance choreographies, pop culture and fashion.

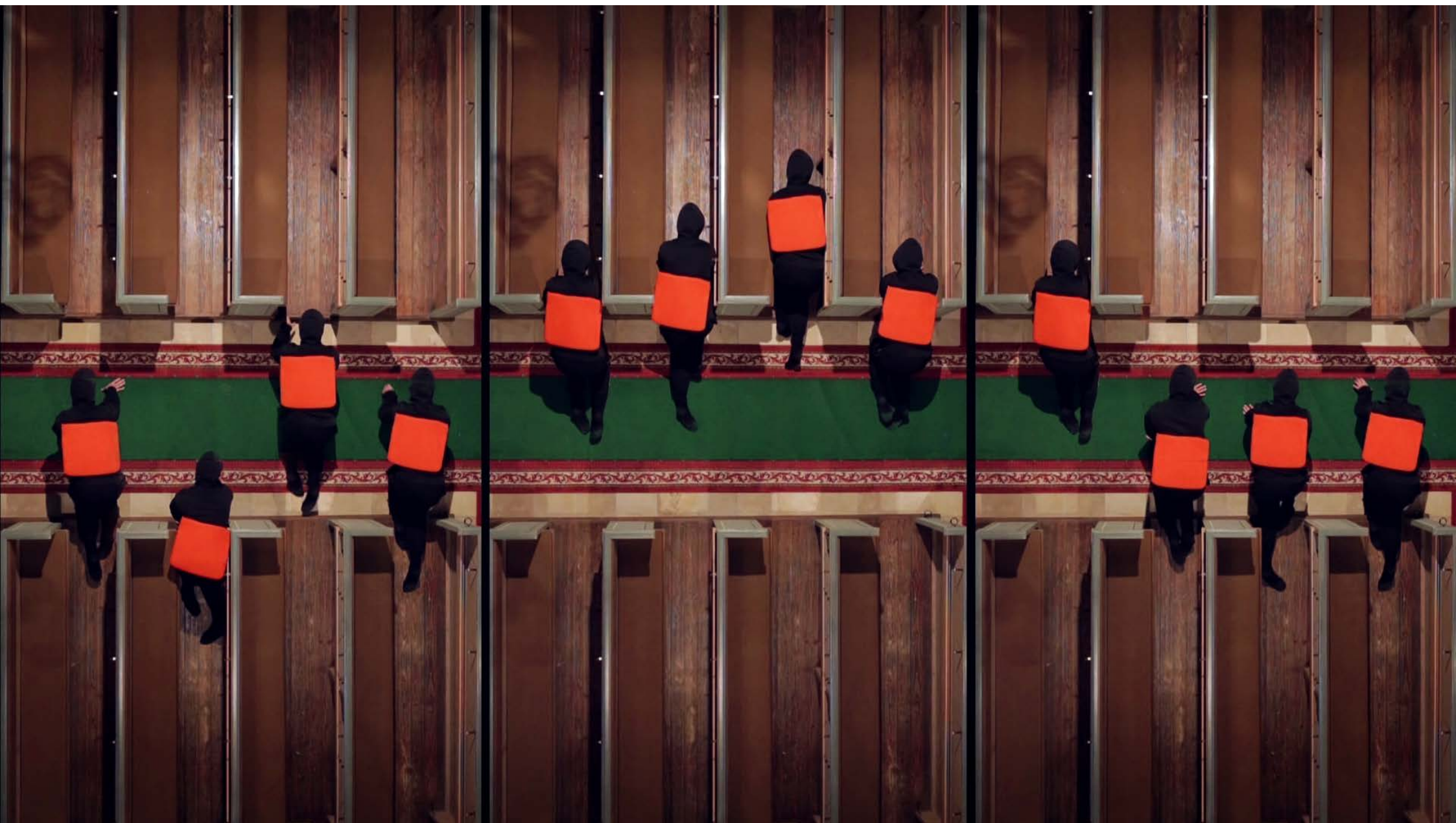
I spent dozens of nights alone in this church during the production.

With its opulent, painting-like imagery and its numerous references to fine arts and film, the scenario defies definition and tiptoes around the fine line between humor and pathos. The tableauxque impression notwithstanding, the actions still remain performative; this is because of the ever present fact that – regardless of the number of protagonists on screen – there is only one actor as well as all technical requirements are taken care of by this very person, too. So completely being by oneself during the shooting simultaneously determines and enables the whole process.



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THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM



THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM — 2019 — Video, 23m23s — [VIDEOLINK](#)



I spent months shooting in a church at night, all by myself and without a team. The result is an audiovisual collage that focuses on the performance of the protagonists. Although the sounds of the outside world sometimes penetrate the Gothic walls, the scenery remains completely isolated.

In an interplay of childlike ingenuity and boredom, comedy and tragedy, omnipotence and powerlessness, the protagonists seem to be primarily occupied with exploring the aesthetic and performative possibilities of the dark, expressionist inner space. They begin to perform what seem to be ritual acts, but never complete them; through permanent repetition a strange rhythmic choreography is created, which seems to run in circles.

Sacred chants after a Requiem by Charles Gounod and dilettantish attempts to elicit parts of Beethoven's 7th Symphony from

the organ, which dominates the room but also promises promise, compete with various echoes of contemporary electronic music. Offstage, the protagonist's voice recites fragments of Ernest Hemingway's 'The old man and the sea', simultaneously recalling the monotonous speech of a liturgist and the uncanny sound of an AI voice; elsewhere, disturbing passages from Franz Kafka's notes are being read.

Above all lies a struggle with the seemingly overpowering religious symbols, the utopia of practicing absolute artistic freedom that increasingly takes on entropic features, the struggle with an artwork that continuously deconstructs itself and appears increasingly incomplete in the course, the struggle of an artist who tries to repeat something he already did before.



THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM — 2019 — Video, 23m23s — [VIDEOLINK](#)



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