In 2002 I imagined a future where human beings have lost their erotic tendencies and children are no longer conceived through sexual intercourse but merely through artificial insemination techniques; as well as bypassing the act of masturbation in order to collect sperm is also bypassed. A sterile world without passion or libido. I imagined a contemporary cloning centre which puts a cloned woman on the market who works for the male population in order to stimulate their sexual appetite, to bring back that sexual part of their memory. I created the Bio Doll, a prostitute without a uterus and without a belly-button, as a metaphor for the absence of any maternal relationship. The belly-button represents the trace of the maternal bond at the time of birth; it represents a permanent sign of that bond with the mother through the umbilical cord. To imagine being human without a belly-button is to go back to Baudrillard’s philosophy, who thought of human beings reproducing like the scions of a rose.

The first performances by the Bio Doll were a “banal” erotic dance, like a lap dance, which provoked the audience through a very erotic movement of the body, also creating a sense of embarrassment through that provocative movement. The concept of such a provocation was to emphasise an obsessive attitude to sex or rather, to the act of copulation as a means to reproduce and conceive.

For this same reason, the genetic trace of gestation and maternity was left in the Bio Doll’s memory – despite her being cloned – a trace that follows her everywhere and forces her to experience sexuality with an excessive neurosis which leads her to stimulate the libido of her audience, who in actual fact lack such a libido.

This trace in her memory has intentionally been left there by her creators from the contemporary cloning centre because it gives them the certainty of a sexual extremeness and therefore of a perfect source of income.

Sexuality exists first and foremost for reproduction and then it is refined and perfected, until it becomes an act of pure physical pleasure and enjoyment, at least as far as humans are concerned. This is the main leitmotiv of the Bio Doll’s hot and impudent attitude, who becomes a master of seduction – seduce= to bring to oneself - with the objective of enticing her prey, or at least reawakening the libido of “sedated humanity”, including their most intimate and erotic self.

The Bio Doll lives an unsatisfied life with great emptiness because her search for maternity is always experienced with the awareness of never being able to be satisfied; this is for a good reason: not having a uterus that allows her to reproduce through pregnancy, not having reproductive genitalia. This reality causes her great anxiety and makes her perform frenetic sexual activity.

I imagine a future where the concept of family will disappear, where there will no longer be close parental connections and where the image of the family unit will be completely deformed to the point that the grandfather figure could exist only in museums as proof of its existence and as anthropological evidence.

An upside-down future where physical contact between people will be removed because everything will be de-materialised.

In such a context the Bio Doll begins to find her way around the internet, discovering that the fluidity of the Net is an extension of our senses and that this environment, with its many facets, gives her a sort of gratification, a sense of wholeness.

She begins to relate to various characters from the cultural world and she stops to interact with Derrick de Kerckhove.

They exchange information, on the one hand Dek instructs the Bio Doll with elementary notions of technology and sociology and other disciplines whereas the Bio Doll insinuates herself into the professor’s psyche – he allows himself to be seduced and molested with explicit language on the verge of being pornographic.

From this pulsating exchange, in a sort of Big Bang of primordial liquid, the Bio Doll feels the sensation of pregnancy; she becomes pregnant through the conception of information that has been inserted into her body, which lives halfway between reality and the virtuality.

This exchange of information starts to have a life of its own and evolves into a virtual creature, the bloki, or rather, a hybrid between a blog and a wiki.

Blog here means a platform that allows for the possibility to interact with other individuals, and wiki is a free instrument used to increase one’s knowledge. Perhaps it’s a utopia but at least it’s a hope to be able to access knowledge that is often denied by rules imposed by others.

The bloki initially had a confrontational dimension because it put de kerckhove at the users’ disposal, so that they could ask him questions in order to deepen their knowledge about certain issues that they often don’t have the opportunity to discuss with an intellectual figure who usually sits behind the closed doors of academia.

This transforms the intellectual into a global object at everyone’s disposal - the attempt to do so is the soul behind the bloki project.

After this, the Bio Doll begins to invade other blogs, inserting herself with provocative comments which attract the public’s attention because of their high erotic content – by manipulating the visitors’ perception, she seduces them in order to increase their curiosity and conduct them to read the issues that the guests discuss.

Before this passage there is a phase where Derrick becomes a distracted Father figure who neglects the growth of his child Bloki, but Bloki, instead of being alarmed, looks for new ways of attracting more and more visitors who can continuously fill the container of places visited by the bloki itself, through an exchange of opinions and information.

Therefore, it will invite people from different fields such as culture, entertainment, fashion etc. to ask questions and give answers on various current issues but posting their correspondence in the comments of blogs with their names, to the point that it takes away from the initial argument of the post from the owner of the blog and therefore manipulates the subject of the initial argument.

It de-structures it, making it take on another form which changes continuously. It uses information in an independent way but not on its own territory, but rather other people’s, a sort of virtual contemporary nomad.

Another performance was the bloki free press which was a free magazine distributed by 3 very attractive, sensual and beautiful Bio Dolls who, by distributing the free press, invite the public to visit the blog where bloki took various people, invading the bloggers’ own posts and stimulating them to participate in the exchange of information.

In the free press there were images of correspondence of some questions and answers of some of these people and bloki is also a link between the virtual and the real.

A reverse way of doing journalism through user generated content.

The Bio Doll doesn’t currently have a website, this is through choice as the objective is to understand if any traces of her existence can be found by searching the net.

In February this will all be presented at Transmediale.

In the course of my work I have found a wonderful travel companion, Salvatore Iaconesi, who adopted the bloki, making it grow into angel\_f and giving it its own autonomy.