

ALISON SANT
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EDUCATION

1989-1993 . BFA with honors, New York University, Tisch School of the Arts

Combined degree program in the Department of Photography and the Interactive Telecommunications Program

2002-2004 . MA Design, University of California Berkeley, College of Environmental Design Architecture Department, Visual Studies Program

Research included new media art practice and the urban landscape.

SELECTED PROJECTS

01.04 - present . TRACE (www.tracemap.net)

TRACE is a project, currently under development, that examines the intersection of wireless networks and urban space. The project will augment existing free WiFi access points in San Francisco, creating an additional node in the South of Market Area. Participants will engage with the piece through a laptop or handheld device that maps their trajectories within these zones, reflecting their interactions with both networked and material thresholds. The project looks at the wanderings of participants as elements within the construction of an alternate logic to the city. Each route will be added to a collective mapping that synthesizes the contributions of all participants to trace a hybrid landscape. By making this landscape visible, *TRACE* seeks to reveal the intersection of the physical and immaterial infrastructure and provide a means for the public to construct and manipulate its parameters. *TRACE* was exhibited at VIPER Basel | 2004: International Festival for Film Video and New Media in Basel, Switzerland.

01.04 - present . SECTION (www.section.ws)

Section is a database video project, currently under development, that examines the embedded syntax of our routes through the city and challenges the mediated experiences of the urban environment through methods of collecting, editing and compositing video. *Section* overrides the fixed logic of the urban itinerary, allowing for both the reinterpretation of existing urban spaces and the creation of new ones through methods of montage.

06.03 . DIF()

dif() is a comparative algorithm developed to examine the use patterns of public space. Deployed at a series of sites in San Francisco, *dif()* registers the movement of people as they occupy space, retaining a trace of the individual inhabitant. Together, these traces form a secondary architecture of the site, exploring the dynamically sculpted relationship between public sites and their occupation. Exhibited at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Beyond Media Exhibition *Intimacy* in Florence, Italy.

08.02-12.03 . TRANSCODE

Created in collaboration with Ann Chamberlain and Klover Kim and currently under development, *Transcode* is a project developed at the UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center. Funded by the Creative Work Fund, the project is being developed as a series of installations that create conceptual links between the physically isolated research and patient treatment centers. Drawing from a shared fascination with patterns in both scientific research and the 'feminine' art of interior decorating, the project explores this theme common to both science and design through a series of installations that link the methods of research with the forms and materials common to interior decoration. In addition, these installations draw from interviews with the staff, patients, and researchers as well as scientific data collected through imaging and database technologies. As part of the research process, the project has brought together architects, designers, artists, and medical researchers in a day long conference exploring multiple approaches to transforming medical infrastructure.

02.01-02.02 . FIELD CONDITIONS

Created in collaboration with Rick Johnson, *Field Conditions* was a project proposing architectural installations in San Francisco's under utilized urban sites. The project mapped abandoned spaces in the South of Market area including dead-end streets, the spaces in between buildings, and natural arteries covered over by the forces of development. These sites were then divided into four distinct latitudes, each offering a unique opportunity for responding to the urban landscape. Exhibited as three progressive installations at the Headlands Center for the Arts, *Field Conditions* proposed a series of temporary architectural interventions reclaiming these lost spaces.

12.01 . LUX

Lux was a site specific video installation created for the exhibition "Shadowbox" as part of the Second Wednesday's series at the Exploratorium, San Francisco. The installation examined the theme of architectural transparency, illuminating select sites within the museum that were frequently concealed from the public eye. The installation cycled projected video of these sites within the windows of staff offices and used this collected imagery to blur the architectural definitions of public and private space.

09.99-11.00 . 22X15

22X15 was a project, created in collaboration with Rick Johnson, to examine the phenomena of urban development shaping Charlotte, North Carolina. Focused on the interaction between urban growth and atrophy that seemed to characterize this fast-expanding southern city, we created web site as a tool for investigation. Entitled *22X15*, for the dimensions of the city, the site formed a log of our impressions and research tracing the forces of development. Thematically, the site included a broad examination of urban expansion from the conception of the highway system and the vision of the skyscraper to the damaging effects of the automobile and the abandonment of the inner city. Exhibited for eight months in a public shopping mall, the site was housed in a structure inspired by forms of mobile architecture. *22X15* was presented as an installation in the exhibition *Turning Point: South 2000* and initiated during a residency at the McColl Center for Visual Art.

05.98-06.98,09.99-01.00 . TERRITORY

Created en-route, *Territory* was a travelogue charting a nine month journey throughout Europe. Inspired by classic travel narratives, the piece combined photographs and text to form a collection of stories blending the experiences and exaggerations of travel. Produced as a web site, *Territory* was exhibited as part of *Urban Renewal Laboratory*, a group show at Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco and as part of the McColl Center for Visual Art *Residents: The 1999/2000 Artists @ McColl Center for Visual Art* exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina.

09.99 . SITE

SITE was a site-specific video installation created, in collaboration with Rick Johnson, for the grand opening of the McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, North Carolina. Projected within the facade of the building, the piece combined live video of the event with images of sites within the city that were both under construction and recently abandoned. The installation used the language of surveillance to describe the event within the context of rapid urban development. *SITE* was produced during a residency at the McColl Center for Visual Art.

07.97-09.97,04.98-06.98 . SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY

S.R.O. was an installation exploring the modern invention of privacy. Composed of a series of cubicle spaces, referring to a vestigial form of the modern hotel room, the rooms blended the relationship between every day objects and the preoccupations of internal life. Created in collaboration with Susan Schwartzberg and exhibited at New Langton Arts, San Francisco and as part of *Interface: Art + Tech in the Bay Area*, a group show at Duke University, Durham.

02.97-05.97 . BOUNDARIES

A video installation, exhibited at the Exploratorium, in which viewers related between two rooms punctured by a variety of visual apertures including video cameras, peep holes and surveillance systems. The installation complicated the perspectives of seeing and being seen; and explored notions of proximity, voyeurism, and technology. Developed with Kurt Keppeler.

03.95-06.96 . CENTO: A MARKET STREET JOURNAL

An alternative tour guide of Market Street combining contemporary and archival materials, photographs and interviews to create a narrative journey along Market Street. The book merged the experience of the street with the multiple voices of its past and present inhabitants. *Cento* was given away at a series of public events that brought the book's contributors together with the general public on day long walking tours. The project was created in collaboration with Susan Schwartzberg and supported by the San Francisco Art Commission.

03.95-10.97 . THE PERMANENT ATELIER

An installation and web site, designed for the Exploratorium, that investigated the relationship between the development of the institution and the architecture of the interior space. The project combined interviews, photographs, and text to describe both the history and potential futures of the museum. Areas for dialog provided an opportunity for staff, visitors, and architects to discuss plans for redesigning the public space. Created in collaboration with Rick Johnson.

04.95-07.95 . REMEMBERING NAGASAKI

Remembering Nagasaki was a web site designed to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The site presented the photographs of Yosuke Yamahata, taken in Nagasaki the day after the atomic bomb was dropped, as a context for discussion and reflection about the nuclear age. *Remembering Nagasaki* was created in collaboration with Rupert Jenkins and IDG Films, and exhibited concurrently at The Exploratorium and The Friends of Photography | Ansel Adams Center in San Francisco as well as the International Center for Photography in New York.

11.94-03.95 . INTERSECTION

A blue screen video installation, exhibited at the Exploratorium, that merged visitors in two different locations in the museum and placed them on the streets of San Francisco. The project explored geographic location as a context for interaction. Developed with Kurt Keppeler.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 11.04 VIPER Basel | 2004: International Festival for Film Video and New Media, Basel, Switzerland
- 07.04 *Urban Atmospheres*, RX Gallery San Francisco, CA
- 11.03 *Fall Arts Festival*, Berkeley Art Museum + Pacific Film Archive, San Francisco, CA
- 10.03 *Beyond Media: Intimacy*, Florence, Italy
- 06.03 *Vertigo*, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
- 12.02 *Shadowbox*, The Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA
- 04.01-10.01 *Open House*, The Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
- 04.00-11.00 *Turning Point: South 2000*, Joie Lassiter Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 09.99-01.00 *Residents: 1999/2000*, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC
- 09.99 *SITE*, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC
- 05.98-06.98 *Urban Renewal Laboratory*, Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 04.98-06.98 *Interface: Art + Tech in the Bay Area*, Duke University Museum of Art, Durham, NC
- 07.97-09.97 *Single Room Occupancy*, New Langton Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 02.97-05.97 *Boundaries*, The Exploratorium, San Francisco CA
- 06.96-08.96 *Cento: A Market Street Journal*, San Francisco Art Commission Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 03.95-10.97 *The Permanent Atelier*, The Exploratorium, San Francisco
- 07.95-09.95 *Nagasaki Journey*, The Friends of Photography | Ansel Adams Center, San Francisco, CA

PANELS/LECTURES

- 01.04 Guest Lecturer, University of California, Berkeley
- 11.03 Guest Lecturer, The San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco
- 03.03 Panelist, The San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco: "Research as a Vehicle for Art + Design"
- 10.01 Guest Lecturer, Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Woodside
- 11.99 Guest Lecturer, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte
- 11.99 Guest Lecturer, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
- 03.97 Guest Lecturer, California College of the Arts, Oakland
- 11.96 Panelist, The San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco: "The Politics of Indecency: Censorship in New Media"
- 11.96 Panelist, Society for Photographic Education, Oakland: "From Silver to Cyber"
- 10.96 Guest Lecturer, The San Francisco Art Commission, San Francisco: "Market Street Walking Tour: The Frontier"
- 10.96 Panelist, California College of the Arts, Oakland: "Alternative Narratives using Digital Media"
- 01.96 Panelist, The Governor's Conference on the Arts, Los Angeles: "Public Space in the Age of Cyberspace"
- 03.95 Panelist, The San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco: "Photography and Multimedia"

RESIDENCIES/FELLOWSHIPS

- 2003-04 Artist in Residence UCSF Mount Zion, San Francisco, CA
- 2002 Nominee Eureka Fellowship, Fleishhacker Foundation
- 2002 Recipient Creative Work Fund, Visual Arts Grant
- 2001-02 California Artist-In-Residence Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
- 2001 Recipient John D. and Susan P. Diekman Fellowship
- 2001 Artist-In-Residence Djerassi Resident Artists Program, Woodside, CA
- 1999 Artist-In-Residence McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC

REVIEWS

- 05.00 Charlotte City Scene: "Turning Point"
- 12.26.99 The Charlotte Observer: "Impressionistic Web Site Chronicles Change in Charlotte," Richard Maschal
- 07.11.99 The Charlotte Observer: "Artsy Inaugural," Kathy Haight
- 04.30.97 The New York Times On-Line: "Exploring How San Francisco Became What It Is"
- 08.14.97 The San Francisco Chronicle: "Private Spaces," Kenneth Baker
- 08.06.97 The San Francisco Bay Guardian: "Dancing in the Dark," Glen Helfand
- 05.97 Afterimage: "Archives of the Street," Gregory Sholette
- 07.17.96 The San Francisco Examiner: "A Market Street You Didn't Know Existed"
- 01.96 David Siegel, High Five Award for "Remembering Nagasaki"
- 01.96 Newsweek: "Remembering Nagasaki"
- 01.96 On-Line Design: "Remembering Nagasaki"
- 12.08.96 Web Review: "Spotlight: Ali Sant, Portrait of a Web Artist"
- 01.20.95 The San Francisco Examiner: "Playing Around with Multimedia"

EMPLOYMENT

- 2005- **Visiting Artist in Advanced Electronic Arts, Mills College**
- 2004- **Senior Lecturer, California College of the Arts**
- 2004- **Visiting Faculty, San Francisco Art Institute**
- 1997-2004 **Freelance Media Designer**
Created web sites for clients including McColl Center for Visual Art, Sant Architects, The Summit Foundation, and Stretcher.org.
- 1999 **Media Arts Teacher, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte**
Taught new media art practice and theory.
- 1993-97 **Media Exhibit Designer, The Exploratorium, San Francisco**
Created hands-on educational exhibits using new media for both the exhibition floor and the museum web site. Taught long distance learning classes using video streaming technology and wireless video on the exhibit floor, and ran workshops on the fundamentals of multimedia for the Teachers Institute.
- 1993-94 **Producer, Eden Interactive, San Francisco**
Creating an educational CD-ROM on the collection of Roy Neuberger.
- 1991 **Printer for photographer Larry Clark, New York**
- 1991 **Photography Instructor, East Harlem Community Center, New York**
Taught photography workshops to students in East Harlem.
- 1990 **Photo Researcher, Magnum Photos, New York**

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2004- Member, San Jose Airport Art Program Oversight Committee
- 2000- Member, META
- 1996-97 Board Member, San Francisco Art Commission Gallery
- 1996-97 Board Member, New Langton Arts