

Andy Graydon: *Untitled (plate tectonics)*

FINAL REPORT

UPT was a great success. The first exhibition of the full installation opened in Berlin on September 10, 2009 at PROGRAM Initiative for Art and Architecture Collaborations. A compact variant of the work, *Untitled (fault)*, opened the new Marian Spore project space in Brooklyn on September 12, and was chosen as the first work to enter the Marian Spore collection. Websites for both shows are attached below.

The production of the work proceeded smoothly. Recordings were taken by me in the first part of 2008. In 2008 and 2009 I approached several New York based artists to submit further recordings (their interpretations of art spaces in sound) to me. Richard Garet, Andrea Williams, Ben Owen, and sawako all contributed recordings and compositions based on those recordings. I mixed and edited these recordings, and in the summer of 2009 started having the acetate dubplate records cut at Dubplates and Mastering here in Berlin.

UPT does not in fact have a final form, but is rather an ongoing process in which the dubplates are used to create and transform a new exhibition space with sound, and that space is then incorporated (in sound) into the body of the installation as it travels to further destinations. That said, the form in the work's first exhibition at PROGRAM was this: 11 dubplate records playable on 4 phonograph turntables onto 8 stereo monitor speakers set in different configurations around the exhibition space. A grid on the wall displays the records that document the sound of various New York exhibition spaces. Visitors are instructed to remove a record from the wall and play it on one of the available turntables. The original recording is cut to side A, while lock grooves (or loops) of the recording are on side B, allowing the listener to compose their own sound environment in a mode that can combine active and static (looping) elements.

Listeners can then move through the space that they have collectively created, a space which is molded and effected by the current space of exhibition also. To reflect this in the process of the work, I cut a 12th record where I invited the Berlin based artist Pe Lang to come to the installation and make his own recording of the room with the installation running. This process will be repeated in all further installations of the work.

A further elaboration of the work takes place online. Instead of hosting an open archive of sounds, as previously proposed, I have decided to publish the collected recordings and the compositions made from those recordings as a net label release. The online label Contour is interested in releasing the project, which would be available online for free under a Creative Commons license that allows for reworking of all sounds into the user's own work. The release is tentatively slated for late 2011, which gives the installation work time to travel to multiple venues and collect new spaces, interpretations, and compositions.

The Rhizome Commission made this work possible. It not only gave me the funds to create the records, but put a focus on the work that gave the project momentum and a measure of credibility which made it more possible to find institutions interesting in presenting the work; the Commission raised the confidence quotient of the project considerably. My only suggestion for further commissions is to take the artist's budgets seriously, and to fund them fully. I found that I ran out of money in creating the work because the commission was granted for only half of my stated budget. As a result I was not able to complete the work with the commission monies, and I was not able to

raise further funds. I paid for the rest myself, which is a common enough situation, but of course not ideal. Beyond that the commissions program has been wonderful and something I have recommended highly to other artists.

Andy Graydon
Berlin, September 17, 2009

Sound documentation credits:

[met_early_photography.mp3](#)

Metropolitan Museum of Art
Framing a Century: Master Photographers, 1840–1940
August 10, 2008

[MoMA_Eliasson.mp3](#)

MoMA
Take your time: Olafur Eliasson
June 8, 2008

[NewMuseum_Unmonumental.mp3](#)

The New Museum
Unmonumental
March 20, 2008

[Whitney_McCarthy.mp3](#)

Whitney Museum of American Art
Paul McCarthy: Central Symmetrical Rotation Movement
July 23, 2008

[Program_U\(pt\).mp3](#)

PROGRAM Initiative for Art and Architecture Collaborations
Andy Graydon: Untitled (plate tectonics)
September 11, 2009, Berlin, Germany
Recorded and composed by Pe Lang

Links:

PROGRAM

<http://www.programonline.de/>

<http://www.programonline.de/untitled.html>

Marian Spore

<http://marianspore.com/>

<http://marianspore.com/2009/09/untitled-fault-by-andy-graydon/>

Dubplates and Mastering

<http://www.dubplates-mastering.com/>

Contributing Artists

<http://benowen.org/>

<http://www.richardgaret.com/>

<http://www.troncolon.com/>

<http://www.myspace.com/urbanfieldrecording>

<http://www.pelang.ch/>

Contour Editions

<http://www.contoureditions.com/>