

# New Media Installation & Performance

HUAS 6393

Spring 2006

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Class times: Saturday, 10-12:45

Office hours: TR 1-3 and by Arrangement

Office location: JO 4.920

Class location: Green 4.208 and South Side on Lamar

## DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Over the past decade installation art has achieved mainstream status within contemporary visual and performance culture. Its presence has had an impact not only on art and performance, but also on a broad range of entertainments such as Disney World, fashion shows, media design and presentation, architectural environments, and club and consumer culture. These new "immersive" installations and performances reflect our cultural desire for sensual pleasure, the creation of a new narrative experience, an egalitarian space where the viewer/spectator is totally enveloped in, and interactive with, a hermetic environment/experience. Installation refuses to accept fixed boundaries, collaborating with other non-art areas, sites, and concerns.

This course, New Media Installation and Performance, embraces an expansive definition of art, and acknowledges the blurring boundaries between the arts, between fine art and commercial art, low and high art and technology, and between art and science. The course will provide students with theory, history, and practice of employing installation and performance art with technology as a means of extending personal artistic practice. Emphasis will be on practical experience in the conceptualization and production of collaborative, experimental, trans-disciplinary artistic expression.

## REQUIRED TEXTS:

Installation Art in the New Millennium: The Empire of the Senses  
(Paperback) by Nicolas De Oliveira, Nicola Oxley, and Michael Petry  
Thames & Hudson, 2004, ISBN: 0500284512

Site Specific Art: Performance Place and Documentation  
(Paperback) By Nick Kaye, Routledge, 2000, ISBN: 0-415-18559-9

T.A.Z.: The Temporary Autonomous Zone (Paperback)  
by Hakim Bey Autonomedia, 2nd edition, 2003, ISBN: 1570271518

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION

- This is a studio course requiring the active participation of students. Requirements include: Completion of required reading and active discussion of material and issues raised by the course.
- A workbook documenting the student's new media installation class exercises and the student's Creative methods, process, and project.
- The course will include a number of in and out of class exercises.
- The course will end with the presentation of a group or individual installation and/or performance. These final projects will evolve from the student's interests and investigations, and may or may not involve performance.

## GRADING 1000pt scale

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Exercises	50%
Artist Workbook	25%
Final project	25%

Late or incomplete work is not acceptable  
Incompletes will not be given in this class  
Plagiarism and cheating is unacceptable  
All dates and assignments are subject to change  
Assignments will be made with ample time for completion given  
please be alert to alterations or corrections in the schedule

**Attendance Policy:** It is a once a week class, so: Two (2) unexcused absences permitted; however each subsequent unexcused absence will result in the lowering of one full letter grade per absence. Two late arrivals (30 minutes + after the hour unless lateness is pre-arranged) will count as one absence.

**Note: No Gum Chewing or Eating in Class. Soft Drinks, Coffee, and water permitted.**

## WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

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14 January Introductions, Organization, Objectives  
New Media?

**Read: TAZ**

21 January The Temporary Autonomous Zone  
Understanding where your are

**Ready Made Exercise**

28 January Place and Space

**Read: Installation Art in the New Millennium**

4 February Inherited artistic/Aesthetic Forms  
Instincts, Approaches and Methods

**Charting Exercise**

11 February Exterior to Interior to Exterior  
**Display and Presentation Exercise**

18 February Environments, Functional Sites, Self-Sufficient  
Machines  
**Sound Exercise**

25 February The In-between Space  
Artist as Trickster  
**Create a Personal Mini Site Exercise**

4 March Site-Specific  
The Opposition between Ideal and Real Space  
**Read: Site Specific Art**

11 March **\*\*\*\*\*Spring Break\*\*\*\*\***  
**Read: Places and Non-Places**

18 March Systems rather than objects  
System is real not imagined  
Reveal the Form and the Site  
**Site Analysis:**  
**History, character, narrative & Hybrid of Space**

25 March Disorder the Senses  
the Artist Brings Order  
Allowing Things to Happen  
**Preliminary:**  
**Installation/Performance articulations**

1 April Presence endows place, creates space with unique  
distinction  
**Gathering of Sources:**  
**actions, relationship and Materials**

8 April Psychic nomadism  
the Intensification of everyday life  
The Everyday as Performance  
**Revealing and Acting out the Site**

15 April Artist as Archivist, Activist, Trickster  
Expel or Incorporate  
**The System:**  
**The exchange between site, material, and the body**

22 April **South Side on Lamar**  
**Urban Arts Festival**

29 April What is your perspective?  
The open end

Workbook reviews