

# Public Art Concepts

Dan Sternof Beyer 2011

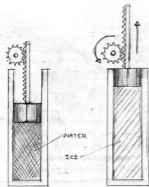
"If you want to build a ship, don't herd people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."

- Antoine de Saint-Exupery

# Ice Powered Kinetic Sculptures

As many have observed, when water freezes it expands. This is a very interesting property and a phenomenon that contains a rare amount of kinetic force. The volume expansion is roughly 108%. In the colder months of certain locales, this unique property can be used to power public art sculpture.

A flower that blooms when it freezes.



# Hito Odoshi

人威し

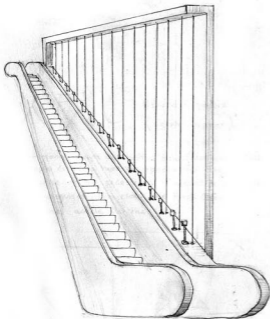


Commonly known as Shishi Odoshi (deer scarer) this simple mechanism is here repurposed for the surprise of the pedestrian. Placed as a gargoyle and disguised as a crow, the Hito Odoshi (people scarer) becomes active in the rain. The sculpture captures rainwater and at a certain amount, the weight of this water tips it over. The water is then thrown from it's mouth and the **sculpture** tips back to it original position.

These critical points cannot be easily predicted and thus the name of Hito Odoshi.



# Escalator Instrument

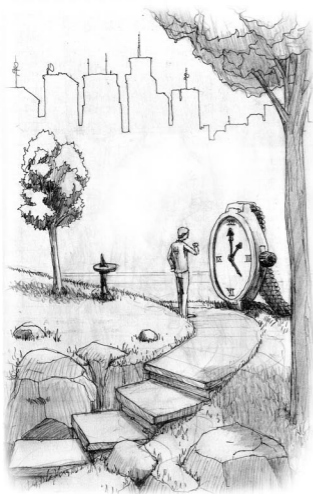


Along the side of an escalator a series of taut wires and hinged mallets composes a communal public instrument. The timing of the escalator and the ebb and flow of commuters naturally create a changing dynamic music which reflects its environment.

Tuned to a single chord the music is harmonic even with the presence of multiple participants.



Hinged mallet.  
Mechanism for striking  
and open rest position.



# Public Clock

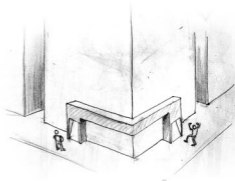
A large antique wristwatch stands in a park. It may or may not show the correct time. It may be stopped. It needs to be wound every day, the way old wristwatches do.

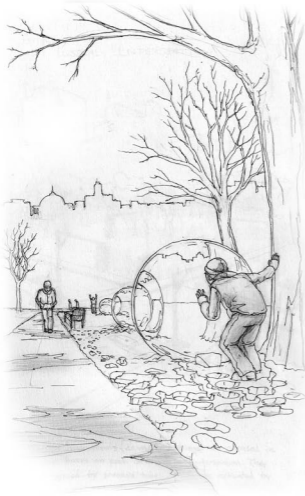
To remind us that time is relative. Social time is more relative still. Time is a social construction. We are the stewards of time.



# Distant Reflection

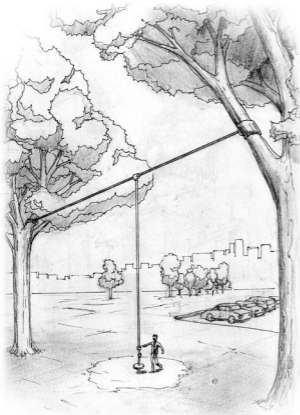
Using a series of mirrors, a reflection is 'piped' around a city block. The result is a real-time analog distant viewpoint of a far away place.





# Ice Telescope

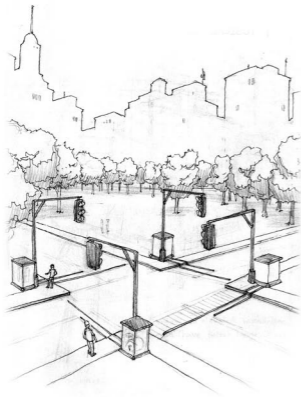
Large lenses made of ice stand at specific distances to each other creating an ice telescope. There are many ways to create a telescopic effect with lenses of different focal length. A simple Keplerian lens arrangement would seem agreeable.



# Cabled Ropeswing

Nothing quite achieves the open beauty of a cabled ropeswing; to run in a non-interrupted arc around the center, leaping with great strides that span meters and then flying into the air and soaring in a wide oblong circle.

# Musical Intersection



Musical instruments (drums, bells, strings) are encased in Plexiglas boxes on each corner of an intersection. They are triggered by pressure tubes, which are activated by cars driving over them.

The speed and frequency of the cars passing through the intersection creates an organic analog music, which is a direct representation of the pulse of the city.

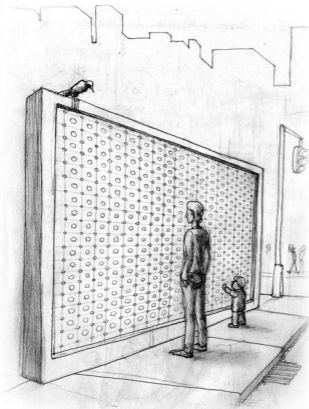
An elevated installation may increase the longevity of the work.



# Audio Light

A public wall reacts to the sound of the environment by emitting light in relation to location and volume. A simple modular component made of a single microphone and LED light is repeated hundreds of times. In this way, the volume and trajectory of a sound is accurately represented by activated lights.

This is not only an encouraging installation for street musicians and sound artists; it is a reflection of the ambient sound of the city. The modular design can be presented in sculptural form as well. The novel design of an ear would make an interesting visual study of sound.





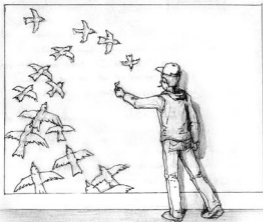
# ARt

Augmented Reality Art. Create any 3D model and upload it to a specific location in space on a Google map. Now just look through your 'phone' and see it looming above the city.

Become a famous virtual public artist. See that addition you want to make on your house, advertise your new product, or protest your local chain store. See that beautiful sunset every day. The list is endless.

Layer your reality today!

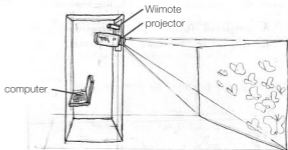
# Fire and Light



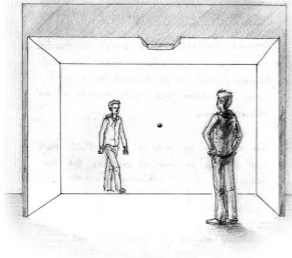
A projected animation is manipulated by an infrared source. The animation can be many things. Seen here: a flock of birds or a cloud of moths can be programmed to follow and cluster around a cigarette lighter's flame.

This piece is intended for outside use, drawing on the commonality of cigarette lighters in the public sphere. The computer, Wiimote, and projector will be enclosed in a projective obelisk.

Special thanks: Johnny Chung Lee.

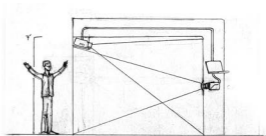


# Delayed Reflections



Delayed Reflections is described by its name. The projection is a 'live' feed from the camera which is delayed an amount of time. Delay length is subject to the perceived audience attention span and is adjusted accordingly. One minute is the standard delay.

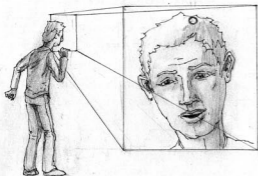
We all like to look at people. Really stare. We all like to look at ourselves. A delayed reflection allows for voyeurism but maintains aspects of interaction.



# Delayed Reflections

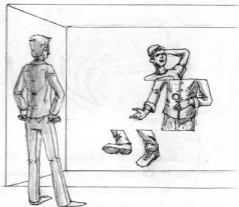
## Selves Portrait

Motion activated. Plays last entry forward and backward in a loop.



## Exquisite Corpse of Time

Delays the top third by 1 minute, the middle by 2 minutes and the bottom by 3 minutes.

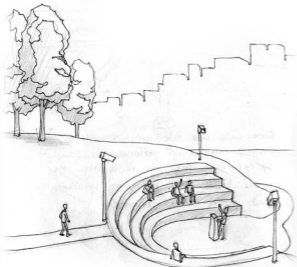


# The Public, Live!

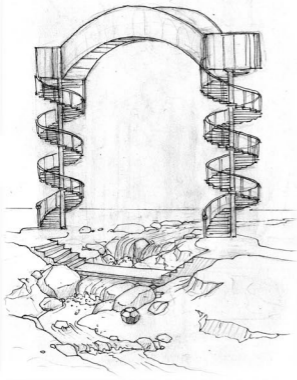
The common surveillance camera surrounds a small amphitheatre. These cameras, along with microphones in the podium and seats, broadcast 24/7 to a city website.

The live feed on the website can be accessed by all. The amphitheatre can act as a performance space or a place for public events, speakers or debates, and gives the ability to record without the need of renting equipment.

I believe that the public is more creative than they think they are.



# In the Mood for Love



A small footbridge connects the tops of two freestanding spiral staircases. It creates a romantic viewpoint of the surrounding area. The piece can also function agreeably at the bottom of an outside amphitheatre.



# Community Character

A sculpture made to encourage the public to interact through additions. The hands are positioned to hold objects. The lack of a head begs the addition of a head.



# Deep Ceiling

The ceiling of a gazebo is a mirrored parabola. The focal point is at average head height (5') in the center of the gazebo. A three dimensional reflection of the viewer is created.



# Contact

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The purpose of sharing these ideas is to encourage communication and collaboration to enhance the public space.

For more information on any of these ideas or simply to speak with the artist, please email :

**[danielsternofbeyer@gmail.com](mailto:danielsternofbeyer@gmail.com)**

Thank you for your interest.

Boston area organizations which may engage these ideas.

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway Conservancy  
[www.rosekennedygreenway.org](http://www.rosekennedygreenway.org)

Urban Arts Institute  
[www.massart.edu/about\\_massart/urban\\_arts\\_institute.html](http://www.massart.edu/about_massart/urban_arts_institute.html)

Cambridge Arts Council  
[www2.cambridgema.gov/cac](http://www2.cambridgema.gov/cac)

Somerville Arts Council  
[www.somervilleartscouncil.org](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org)

Massachusetts Cultural Council  
[www.massculturalcouncil.org](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org)

New England Foundation for the Arts  
[www.nefa.org](http://www.nefa.org)