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Heidi Neilson: Sonic Planetarium

In Residence: September 25 - November 24, 2017

Exhibition: November 17, 2017 - January 12, 2018

Opening Reception: November 17, 6 PM – 9 PM

Press release, images, and caption info may be downloaded here.

Cleveland, OH (September 9, 2017) – Artist Heidi Neilson explores ways of experiencing and understanding our increasingly important space while grounded here on earth. She creates works which position the individual in relation to things in orbit, in order to deepen the appreciation for Earth’s extended landscape and our relationship with land and place. Neilson employs a diversity of materials and techniques in her work, including books, audio and video recordings, events, and publicly available NASA documents. To witness the space environment directly, she adopts ham radio methods—building antennas from readily available materials and software—to receive transmissions from satellites.

Sonic Planetarium is a real time audio model of the man-made objects in Earth’s orbit. Sound files representing individual satellites play across an immersive surround-sound environment as the actual objects pass far overhead, as if you can hear into space. No two experiences of *Sonic Planetarium* will be the same, as each object has its own place in orbit.

This project will be the culmination of Neilson’s 2-month SPACES World Artists Program (SWAP) residency in Cleveland.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Heidi Neilson (Long Island City, Queens) is an interdisciplinary artist interested in giving visual and sensible form to the connections between people on the ground and above-Earth conditions and infrastructure. Her current work explores the presence and implications of Earth-orbiting satellites and how they may be detected and used by individuals, including the use of ham radio. Her often collaborative and publishing-based work is included in over 60 museum and university collections, and she has received support from the Art Matters Foundation, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, the Klondike Institute of Art and Culture, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Queens Council on the Arts.

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Major support for SPACES comes from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The City of Cleveland’s Cable Television Minority Arts and Education Fund, the Toby Lewis Philanthropic Fund, the Chuck & Char Fowler Family Foundation, the Meisel Family Foundation, the Nord Family Foundation, and the following:



Additional support comes from James Anderson & David Wittkowsky, Barrie Projects, Fred & Laura Ruth Bidwell, Fran & Jules Belkin, William Busta & Joan Tomkins, Jeffry & Cynthia Chiplis, Cleveland Lofts, FORM, Great Lakes Brewing Company, Ohio Savings Bank/NYCB, Fred Olivieri Construction Company, Jill Gerson Parker & Robert Parker, Process Creative Studios, Shannon McCue, (re)startsmart, the TEGNA Foundation, Vedda Printing+, and Wood-Lee International Art Handler.

SPACES is located at 2900 Detroit Ave., in Cleveland, OH. Gallery hours are Tuesday - Sunday: 12 – 5 p.m., and the gallery is open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. Admission during regular gallery hours is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.SPACESgallery.org, call 216.621.2314, or email contact@SPACESgallery.org.

Style Notes: “SPACES” (all capital letters) is the legal name of the organization, and should be used in all instances without any additional words when referencing the organization.