

fig 1 Turner, R. Skein model. June 2007, Wire and selloptape
From a series of small signal transmitting devices made from found materials.

SKEIN: Pick Up Styx: An investigation of a selection of olfactory communication cyphers and their relationship to world events.

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**A thesis submitted to
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in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree
of Master in Art and Design (MA&D)**

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School of Art and Design

Primary Supervisor: Sue Gallagher

I dedicate this book to Nelson, Harley, Eugene, Millane

preface

Title

Dedication

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fig 2. Turner, R. Olfactory migration model. April 2007. Wire, mesh, perfumed polymer beads
From a series of small signal transmitting devices made from found materials.

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Attestation of Authorship

“I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the qualification of any other degree or diploma of a University or other institution of higher learning, except where due acknowledgment is made in the acknowledgments.”

Signature.....

Date.....

Statement

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work.....

Raewyn Turner

Collaboration: Kim Newell in 3D interactive graphics (not included in final work)

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prologue

a documentation of a series of events 2001--2008

- [the love diaries](#) Excerpts from authors's love diaries
- [the world events](#) World News, Retrieved from internet 31.1.08 (<http://www.infoplease.com/world/events/news>)
- [the perfumes.](#) Selections of celebrity perfumes released to the marketplace

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2001 Purple

This is my 1st year on my own, for 24 years.

I'm trying to find Grace and my place

I'm now 47 and I was feeling my love life was over, but I fell in love with a man from Ethiopia in December.

He was selling diamonds from his mines. In February I wrote his name on the mountain in the crater, and if that wasn't enough I went up the next day and moved the rocks around to spell out a message to the sky over the crater, hoping that by some magic it could be transmitted by the fisheye of the sky, to his heart. It read 'I would love to kiss You' and it took 3 hours to make it.

After that I was inspired to make a diagram of the terraces of purgatory descending into the crater, because all sin has its roots in misguided love. I feel my love for him is misguided because I don't even know him, I just kissed him once on an aeroplane flying over Paris. The sunrise was ruby red.

I only managed the fourth terrace, that's where the slothful are purged by continual running. I ran around inside the crater a number of times but there were only enough rocks to write avarice which is the word for the fifth terrace—it means excessive concern for earthly goods. The ascent up the side of the crater in Purgatory, culminates at the summit which is in fact, the Garden of Eden—touche! The trig station at the summit of the crater is Mount Eden.

In my garden I have egg shaped produce that I'd love to give away as gifts, as beautiful free bounty there are tamarillos, hens eggs, feijoas, potatoes, and pawpaw, but if I set up a stall for free give-aways people might think there's something wrong with them. Would you like this? Look, I can show you this: (egg-shaped bakelite) It's a genuine Bakelite. The Elgin St Muse in her blog 19.4. 08 says that If you rub it with your thumb and sniff, it should smell like formaldehyde and burnt human hair. That's how you know it's real.

2001

Congo president Laurent Kabila assassinated by bodyguard (Jan. 16). In final days of presidency, Bill Clinton issues controversial pardons, including one for Marc Rich, billionaire fugitive financier (Jan. 20). George W. Bush is sworn in as 43rd president (Jan. 20). Earthquake kills thousands in India (Jan. 26 et seq.). Libyan convicted in Flight 103 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland (Jan. 31). Right-winger Ariel Sharon wins election in Israel (Feb. 6). U.S. submarine Greeneville sinks Japanese fishing boat, killing 9 (Feb. 9). FBI agent Robert Hanssen is charged with spying for Russia for 15 years (Feb. 20). The long-simmering resentment of Macedonia's ethnic Albanians erupts into violence (March 15 et seq.). British livestock epidemic, foot-and-mouth disease, reaches crisis levels (March 23). Bush abandons global-warming treaty (Kyoto Protocol), angering European leaders (March 30). U.S. spy plane and Chinese jet collide. The 24 crew members of the U.S. plane are detained for 11 days; U.S. issues a formal statement of regret (April 2 et seq.). Race riots in Cincinnati continue for several days following a shooting of an unarmed black man by a white police officer (April 7 et seq.). U.S. millionaire Dennis Tito becomes first space tourist, visiting the International Space Station aboard a Russian booster (April 28). Former Klansman Thomas E. Blanton convicted of 1963 murder of four black girls in Birmingham, Ala. (May 1). After a Palestinian suicide bomber kills 5 and wounds more than 100 in a Netanya shopping mall, Israeli warplanes retaliate by bombing West Bank and Gaza strip (May 18). Four are declared guilty in 1998 terrorist bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania (May 29). Balance of the Senate shifts after Jim Jeffords of Vermont changes his party affiliation from Republican to Independent. The move strips Republicans of control of the Senate and gives Democrats the narrowest of majorities (50–49–1) (June 5). Bush signs new tax-cut law, cutting taxes by \$1.35 trillion over 11 years, the largest tax cut in 2 decades (June 7). Mohammad Khatami, Iran's moderate president, is reelected in a landslide (June 9). Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh executed (June 11). Syrian forces evacuate Beirut area after decades of occupation (June 19). Former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic is delivered to UN tribunal in The Hague to await war-crimes trial (June 29). Without U.S., 178 nations reach agreement on climate accord, which rescues, though dilutes, 1997 Kyoto Protocol (July 23). Bush allows stem cell research, approving federal funds for studies using existing strains of stem cells (Aug. 9). After six months of fighting, a peace agreement is signed between rebels and the Macedonian government (Aug. 13). Budget surplus dwindles; some blame the slowing economy and the Bush tax cut (Aug. 22). Terrorists attack United States. Hijackers ram jetliners into twin towers of New York City's World Trade Center and the Pentagon. A fourth hijacked plane crashes 80 mi outside of Pittsburgh. Toll of dead is more than 3,000. Within days, Islamic militant Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaeda terrorist network are identified as the parties behind the attacks (Sept. 11). Anthrax scare rivets nation, as anthrax-laced letters are sent to various media and government officials. Several die after handling the letters (October 5 et seq.). In response to Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, U.S. and British forces launch bombing campaign against Taliban government and al-Qaeda terrorist camps in Afghanistan. Bombings continue on a daily basis (Oct. 7 et seq.). Irish Republican Army announces that it has begun to dismantle its weapons arsenal, marking a dramatic leap forward in Northern Ireland peace process (Oct. 23). Plane crash kills 260 in Queens, N.Y. (Nov. 12). Afghani factions create a post-Taliban government (Nov. 27). Enron Corp., one of world's largest energy companies, files for bankruptcy (Dec. 2). Israel condemns the Palestinian Authority as a "terror-supporting entity" and severs ties with leader Yasir Arafat following mounting violence against Israelis. The Israeli Army begins bombing Palestinian areas (Dec. 4 et seq.). Taliban regime in Afghanistan collapses after two months of bombing by American warplanes and fighting by Northern Alliance ground troops (Dec. 9). Hamid Karzai, new interim Afghan leader, is sworn in (Dec. 22).

2002 Pink

I fall in love several times a week and swing the crystal. My sister and I spent weeks swinging an opal pendulum and asking it questions like does he love me? Is he married? And she asked it 'will I get married this year?' I was believing the answers and then one day I asked it if it was telling the truth and it said 'NO'!

I am running,

Running away

Running towards the mountain

I'm building a doghouse for my dog, we collect stones from the mountain and running up it makes me sweat. I love the way my youngest sister smells like freshly washed clothes and sunlight soap, the smell of abundance and wholesomeness. I'm noticing the state of things and how I feel about them, the way the wind blows over the water, the way the animals move.

This is the world I have, my body, my children, animals birds plants, that I live is a miracle, that I can perceive is a joy.

I love the sun on my back. I watch the red pattern behind my closed eyes when I stand in the garden and hold my breath and ask 'does he love me?'

I've fallen deeply deeply in love again. I made him a g-string to dance in

I'm making love when I make things, when I die laughing.

2002

The euro currency debuts in 12 European countries (Jan. 2). U.S. takes Taliban and al-Qaeda prisoners to Guantanamo Bay (Jan. 10). Defrocked priest John Geoghan convicted of child molestation; church's role in cover-up sparks national outrage (Jan. 18). U.S. reporter Daniel Pearl kidnapped in Pakistan (Jan. 23). Kenneth L. Lay, chairman of bankrupt energy trader Enron, resigns; company under federal investigation for hiding debt and misrepresenting earnings (Jan. 24). President Bush's first State of Union address labels Iran, Iraq, and North Korea "an axis of evil" (Jan. 29). Queen Elizabeth II of England marks 50 years as monarch (Feb 6). The trial of Slobodan Milosevic on charges of crimes against humanity opens at The Hague (Feb. 12). American Taliban soldier John Walker Lindh charged with supporting terrorism (Feb. 13). Reporter Pearl confirmed dead in Pakistan (Feb. 21). Angolan UNITA rebel leader Jonas Savimbi killed in battle (Feb. 22). Tamil Tigers and Sri Lankan government sign a cease-fire agreement (Feb. 22). Hundreds in India die in Hindu-Muslim clashes (March 2). U.S. and Afghan troops launch Operation Anaconda against remaining al-Qaeda and Taliban fighters in Afghanistan (March 2). Saudi peace proposal—offering Israel normal relations with all Arab nations in return for withdrawal from occupied territories—approved at Arab League summit (March 28). Israeli tanks and warplanes attack West Bank towns of Nablus, Jenin, Bethlehem, and others in response to string of Palestinian suicide attacks. In the first three months of 2002, 14 suicide bombers killed dozens of Israeli civilians and wounded hundreds (March 29–April 21). Israeli prime minister Sharon calls for exile of Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat (April 2). UNITA Rebels and Angolan government sign a cease-fire ending 30 years of civil war (April 4). International Criminal Court wins UN ratification, but U.S. refuses to ratify (April 11). Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez ousted in coup, then reinstated (April 12, 14). U.S. and Russia reach landmark arms agreement to cut both countries' nuclear arsenals by up to two-thirds over the next ten years (May 13). East Timor becomes a new nation (May 20). In letter to Director, FBI lawyer Coleen Rowley criticizes FBI for thwarting terrorist efforts (May 21). Dirty bomb plot foiled with arrest of Jose Padilla (June 10). U.S. abandons 31-year-old Antiballistic Missile treaty (June 13). At national conference, U.S. bishops recommend zero tolerance policy for priests who abuse children (June 14). Arthur Andersen firm convicted of destroying documents relating to former client Enron Corp. (June 15). Bush announces U.S. will not recognize an independent Palestinian state until Yasir Arafat is replaced (June 24). WorldCom, after admitting to misstating profits, files for bankruptcy—largest claim in U.S. history (July 21). Pennsylvania miners rescued after spending 77 hours in a dark, flooded mine shaft (July 28). Bush signs corporate reform bill in response to spate of corporate scandals (July 30). Bush addresses United Nations, calls for a "regime change" in Iraq (Sept. 12). Tyco executives L. Dennis Kozlowski and Mark Swartz indicted in stock-fraud scheme (Sept. 12). Terrorist bomb in Bali kills hundreds (Oct. 12). Government suspended in Northern Ireland in protest of suspected IRA spy ring (Oct. 14). Former ImClone Executive Sam Waksal pleads guilty to charges including fraud and perjury (Oct. 15). North Korea admits to developing nuclear arms in defiance of treaty (Oct. 16). Vatican calls for softening of U.S. bishops' abuse policy (Oct. 18). Chechen rebels take 763 hostages in Moscow theater; Russian authorities release a gas into theater, killing 116 hostages and freeing remaining survivors (Oct. 23–26). Snipers prey upon DC suburbs, killing ten and wounding others (Oct. 2–24). Police arrest two sniper suspects, John Allen Muhammad and John Lee Malvo (Oct. 24). CIA kills six al-Qaeda members in Yemen (Nov. 4). Republicans retake the Senate in midterm elections; gain additional House seats (Nov. 5). UN Security Council passes unanimous resolution calling on Iraq to disarm or else face "serious consequences" (Nov. 8). China's Jiang Zemin officially retires as general secretary; Hu Jintao named as his successor (Nov. 14). UN arms inspectors return to Iraq (Nov. 18). EPA relaxes Clean Air Act (Nov. 22). Bush signs legislation creating cabinet-level Department of Homeland

Dec. 13). Trent Lott steps down as Republican leader after furor over pro-segregationist remark
(Dec.20). Sen. Bill Frist unanimously elected Republican leader of the Senate (Dec. 23).

2003 Blue

I suspect that the magic is real.

I have perfect neighbours. According to Arlie Stephens, deities may be perfects, in the sense of being exactly right for their current situation. They are not, however, people. in quite the same sense as human people. They enjoy every kind of creative endeavor, whether cooking or playing the piano, and whether amateur or advanced. They like art, and athletics, and simply being a good vegetable gardener.

2003

North Korea withdraws from treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons (Jan. 10). Illinois governor George Ryan commutes 167 death row sentences, calling capital punishment flawed (Jan. 11). White House announces huge deficits expected to top \$200 billion in 2003 (Jan. 15). The UN's report on Iraqi weapons inspections is highly critical, but not damning (Jan. 27). In State of the Union address, Bush announces that he is ready to attack Iraq even without a UN mandate (Jan. 28). Ariel Sharon elected Israeli prime minister (Jan. 29). Space shuttle Columbia explodes, killing all seven astronauts (Feb. 1). Nine-week general strike in Venezuela calling for President Chavez's resignation ends in defeat (Feb. 2). U.S. Secretary of State Powell presents Iraq war rationale to UN, citing Iraqi weapons as imminent threat to world security (Feb. 5). Massive peace demonstrations take place around the world, protesting potential invasion of Iraq (Feb. 15). UN Security Council members France, Germany, and Russia insist that "the military option should only be a last resort" concerning Iraq (Feb. 24). Serbian prime minister Zoran Djindjic assassinated (March 12). Hu Jintao succeeds Chinese president Jiang Zemin (March 15). The United States and Britain launch war against Iraq (March 19). Baghdad falls to U.S. troops (April 9). European Union expands by ten nations (April 16). First Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, sworn in (April 29). U.S.-backed "road map" for peace proposed for Middle East (April 30). The United States declares official end to combat operations in Iraq (May 1). U.S. diplomat Paul Bremer becomes civil administrator of occupied Iraq (May 12). Terrorists strike in Saudi Arabia, killing 34 at Western compound; al-Qaeda suspected (May 12). Bush signs ten-year, \$350-billion tax-cut package, the third-largest tax cut in U.S. history (May 28). Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi again placed under house arrest by military regime (May 30). Eric Rudolph, Olympic bombing suspect, arrested (May 31). International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) discovers Iran's concealed nuclear activities and calls for intensified inspections (June 18). The U.S. Supreme Court decisively upholds the use of affirmative action in higher education (June 23). Palestinian militant groups announce cease-fire toward Israel (June 29). Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announces price of Iraq war is about \$3.9 billion a month, nearly double the April estimate (July 9). Iraq's interim governing council is inaugurated (July 13). Saddam Hussein's sons killed in firefight (July 22). Mutinous troops attempt unsuccessful coup in Philippines (July 27). Terrorist bombing at Indonesian hotel kills ten (Aug. 6). Liberia's autocratic president Charles Taylor forced to leave civil war-ravaged country (Aug. 11). NATO assumes control of peacekeeping force in Afghanistan (Aug. 11). Libya accepts blame for 1988 bombing of flight over Lockerbie, Scotland; agrees to pay \$2.7 billion to the families of the 270 victims (Aug. 15). Suicide bombing destroys UN headquarters in Baghdad, killing 24, including top envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello (Aug. 19). Palestinian suicide bombing in Jerusalem kills 20 Israelis, including 6 children (Aug. 19). Venezuelan opposition files petition for referendum to recall President Hugo Chavez (Aug. 20). After Israel retaliates for suicide bombing by killing top member of Hamas, militant Palestinian groups formally withdraw from cease-fire in effect since June 29 (Aug. 24). Investigation into the loss of space shuttle Columbia cites egregious organizational problems at NASA (Aug. 25). Palestinian prime minister Mahmoud Abbas resigns; "road map" to peace effectively collapses (Sept. 6). California governor Gray Davis ousted in recall vote; actor Arnold Schwarzenegger elected in his place (Oct. 7). UN votes in favor of a resolution ordering Israel to end construction of security barrier dividing Israeli and Palestinian areas (Oct. 24). Bush signs bill banning so-called partial-birth abortion procedure (Nov. 5). President Bush signs \$87.5 billion emergency package for post-war Iraq reconstruction; this supplements \$79 billion approved in April (Nov. 5). New Palestinian prime minister Ahmed Qurei takes office (Nov. 12). Alabama chief justice Roy S. Moore forced from office after his refusal to remove monument of the Ten Commandments (Nov. 13). The Bush administration reverses policy, agrees to

transfer power to an interim Iraqi government sooner than originally planned (Nov. 14). Suicide bombers attack two synagogues in Istanbul, Turkey, killing 25 (Nov. 15). Massachusetts Supreme Court rules in favor of gay marriage (Nov. 18). Another terrorist attack in Istanbul kills 26; al-Qaeda suspected in both (Nov. 20). Georgian president Eduard Shevardnadze resigns after weeks of protests (Nov. 23). John A. Muhammad, convicted in the 2002 Washington, DC, area shootings, receives death sentence (Nov. 24). President Bush eliminates steel tariffs after WTO says U.S. violated trade laws (Dec. 4). Paul Martin succeeds Jean Chretien as Canadian prime minister (Dec. 12). Saddam Hussein is captured by American troops (Dec. 13). Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi announces he will give up weapons program (Dec. 19).

2004 Yellow

I was considering going to a clairvoyant because
I'm looking around me, at the people, the houses, gardens, the fields, the sheep
I'm making a breathing observation
The act of breathing in and perceiving the molecules of the world
Inhaling it in, exhaling it out
My dog smells me, he knows what I'm thinking
Will he be able to find me if I wear a new perfume?
Smile, smile and smile (gesture)
And I look at my sons who make the cat play and the dog smile
BUT! Money is now the measure of all things!
So I fall into my black hole
Margaret Atwood said that the well of inspiration
Is a hole that leads downwards
I NEED to learn to levitate on wings like a fairy.

2004

Former Enron CFO Andrew Fastow pleads guilty to defrauding Enron (Jan. 13). Bush proposes ambitious space program that includes flights to the Moon, Mars, and beyond (Jan. 14). Iraq weapons investigator David Kay resigns, says there's no evidence of weapons of mass destruction, one of the Bush administration's chief reasons for launching war in Iraq (Jan. 23). About one third of Iran's Parliament steps down to protest hard-line Guardian Council's banning of more than 2,000 reformists from running in parliamentary elections (Feb. 1). A.Q. Khan, founder of Pakistan's nuclear program, admits he sold nuclear-weapons designs to other countries, including North Korea, Iran, and Libya (Feb. 4). Armed rebels in Haiti force President Aristide to resign and flee the country (Feb. 29). John Kerry secures Democratic nomination after winning nine out of ten primaries and caucuses (March 2). Spain is rocked by terrorist attacks, killing more than 200. Al-Qaeda takes responsibility (March 11). Spain's governing Popular Party loses election to opposition Socialists. Outcome seen as a reaction to terrorist attacks days before and Popular Party's support of the U.S.-led war in Iraq (March 14). North Atlantic Treaty Organization formally admits seven new countries: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia (March 29). U.S. troops launch offensive in Falluja in response to killing and mutilation on March 31 of four U.S. civilian contractors. (April 5–May 1). Israeli prime minister Sharon announces plan to unilaterally withdraw from Gaza Strip (April 12). Greek Cypriots reject UN reunification plan with Turkish Cypriots (April 24). U.S. media release graphic photos of American soldiers abusing and sexually humiliating Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison. Images spark outrage around the world (April 30). Gay marriages begin in Massachusetts, the first state in the country to legalize such unions (May 17). Sudan rebels (SPLA) and government reach accord to end 21-year civil war. However, separate war in western Darfur region between Arab militias and black Africans continues unabated (May 26). U.S. hands over power to Iraqi interim government; Iyad Allawi becomes prime minister (June 28). In *Rasul v. Bush*, Supreme Court rules that "enemy combatants" held at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, are legally entitled to file petitions for writs of habeas corpus; and in *Hamdi v. Rumsfeld*, court rules that the detention of a U.S. citizen held as an enemy combatant is invalid, rejecting government's claim that the executive branch has unreviewable authority in time of war (June 28). Israeli Supreme Court orders removal of part of security barrier dividing Israeli and Palestinian lands (June 30). Senate Intelligence Committee reports that intelligence on Iraq's weapons programs was "overstated" and flawed (July 5). Sept. 11 commission harshly criticizes government's handling of terrorist attacks (July 22). Democratic National Convention in Boston nominates John Kerry for president (July 26–29). Security Council demands Sudanese government disarm militias in Darfur that are massacring civilians (July 30). Florida hit by hurricanes Bonnie (Aug. 12) and Charley (Aug. 13). Summer Olympics take place in Athens, Greece (Aug. 13–29). Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez survives recall referendum (Aug. 16). Pentagon-sponsored Schlesinger report rejects idea that Abu Ghraib prison abuse was work of a few aberrant soldiers, and asserts there were "fundamental failures throughout all levels of command" (Aug. 24). Republican Convention in New York renominates President Bush (Aug. 30–Sept. 2). Chechen terrorists take about 1,200 schoolchildren and others hostage in Beslan, Russia; 340 people die when militants detonate explosives (Sept. 1–3). Hurricane Ivan ravages U.S. south (Sept. 15). U.S.'s final report on Iraq's weapons finds no WMDs (Sept. 16). UN Atomic Energy Agency tells Iran to stop enriching uranium; a nascent nuclear weapons program suspected (Sept. 18). Bush eases trade restrictions on Libya (Sept. 20). Congress extends tax cuts due to expire at the end of 2005 (Sept. 23). Hurricane Jeanne hits Florida (Sept. 26). 380 tons of explosives reported missing in Iraq (Oct. 25). Bush reelected president (Nov. 2). U.S. troops launch attack on Falluja, stronghold of the Iraqi insurgency (Nov. 8). Yasir Arafat dies in Paris (Nov. 11). Ukraine presidential election declared fraudulent (Nov. 21). Red Cross alleges abuse at U.S.-run Guantánamo prison (Nov.

30). Hamid Karzai inaugurated as Afghanistan's first popularly elected president (Dec. 7). Missile test fails; setback for Bush administration's missile defense system (Dec. 15). Massive protests by supporters of opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko's lead to a new Ukrainian election; Yushchenko eventually declared prime minister (Dec. 26). Enormous tsunami devastates Asia; at least 225,000 killed (Dec. 26).

2005 Green

What separates the real from the unreal?

Why do I wake up before dawn with the sound of birdsong in my ears?

Before the birds awake, I hear sparrows, distant thrushes, songbirds.

You've probably heard it said that Love is blind? A blind friend told me that she can feel colours through the skin, can feel purple and mauve and deep blue on her skin, loves brilliant purple, loves looking at the sky and wants to run away and be there in the sky because she loves the colour purple.

Mauve for Proust felt slightly sad, and provocative of dreams.

I touch the light, as leaves touch light, it is heavy.

I hear the wind in the macrocarpas, but don't feel it. I am an animal, I hear intentions

P Diidy who was the designer of Unforgiveable said: "There are millions of men taking my lead, and I have to take them to the promised land of sexy."

Every garden has one special tree but mine is the vine with the raindrops that are a hundred eyes of the world . If I stand in front of them and they catch my reflection I will become part of them and will be taken up into the sky and send out signals to him as the rain falls to earth on his side of the world.

2005

Worldwide aid pours in to help the 11 Asian countries devastated by the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami (Jan.). Mahmoud Abbas wins presidency of the Palestinian Authority in a landslide (Jan. 9). The Sudanese government and rebels from southern Sudan sign a peace agreement to end a 20-year conflict that has claimed about 2 million people (Jan. 9). George W. Bush is officially sworn in for his second term as president (Jan. 20). Iraqi elections to select a 275-seat National Assembly take place despite threats of violence. A total of 8.5 million people voted, representing about 58% of those Iraqis eligible to vote (Jan. 30). In State of the Union address, President Bush announces his plan to reform Social Security; despite months of campaigning, his plan receives only a lukewarm reception (Feb. 2). Saudis (men only) are allowed to vote for the first time in municipal elections (Feb. 10). Former Lebanese prime minister Rafik Hariri > a nationalist who had called for Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon—is assassinated (Feb. 14). The Terry Schiavo case becomes the focus of an emotionally charged battle in Congress (March 20). Schiavo dies 13 days after a federal judge refuses to order the reinsertion of her feeding tube (March 31). Pope John Paul II dies (April 2). Violent protests follow March elections in Kyrgyzstan, which international monitors deem severely flawed. President Askar Akayev flees the country and then resigns (April 4). Benedict XVI becomes the next pope (April 24). The Syrian military, stationed in Lebanon for 29 years, withdraws (April 26). Tony Blair becomes first Labour Party prime minister to win three successive terms, but his party loses a large number of seats in the elections (May 5). South Korean scientist Hwang Woo-suk announces that he has devised a new procedure to successfully produce human stem cell lines from a cloned human embryo (May 20), but claim is discredited in Dec. 2005. The European Union abandons plans to ratify the proposed European constitution by 2006 after both France and the Netherlands vote against it (June 16). Former Tehran mayor Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, a hard-line conservative, wins Iran's presidential election with 62% of the vote. He defiantly pursues Iran's nuclear ambitions over the course of his first year (June 24). Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor announces her retirement (July 1). NASA's Deep Impact spacecraft hits comet Tempel 1 in effort to research primordial remnants of our solar system (July 4). London hit by Islamic terrorist bombings, killing 52 and wounding about 700. It is Britain's worst attack since World War II (July 7). Group of Eight industrial nations pledge to double aid to Africa to \$50 billion a year by 2010, cancel the debt of many poor countries, and open trade. (July 8). Federal appeals court upholds lower court decision that so-called Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act is unlawful because it fails to make an exception to the law for women whose health would be in jeopardy without the late-term procedure (July 8). Pentagon assessment finds Iraq's police force is, at best, "partially capable" of fighting the country's insurgency. The U.S.'s eventual withdrawal plan hinges upon Iraqi security forces replacing U.S. soldiers: "As Iraqis stand up, Americans will stand down," President Bush had stated (July 20). The Irish Republican Army announces it is officially ending its violent campaign for a united Ireland and will instead pursue its goals politically (July 27). President Bush signs the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), which will remove trade barriers between the U.S. and Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua (Aug. 2). The Indonesian government and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) sign a peace accord to end their nearly 30-year-long civil war (Aug. 15). Israel begins evacuating about 8,000 Israeli settlers from the Gaza Strip, which has been occupied by Israel for the last 38 years (Aug. 15). Hurricane Katrina wreaks catastrophic damage on the Gulf Coast; more than 1,000 die and millions are left homeless. Americans are shaken not simply by the magnitude of the disaster but by how ill-prepared all levels of government were in its aftermath. (Aug. 25–30). Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, who served on the U.S. Supreme Court for 33 years, dies (Sept. 3). John Roberts, Jr., becomes 17th chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court (Sept. 22). Another major hurricane, Rita, ravages the Gulf Coast (Sept. 23).

House majority leader Tom DeLay is accused of conspiring to violate Texas's election laws. He steps aside from his House leadership position (Sept. 28). A 7.6 earthquake centered in the Pakistani-controlled part of the Kashmir region kills more than 80,000 and leaves an estimated 4 million homeless (Oct. 2). President Bush selects Harriet Miers, White House counsel, to replace Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (Oct. 3). Angela Merkel, leader of the Christian Democratic Union, which narrowly prevailed over Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's Social Democratic Party in September elections, becomes the country's first female chancellor (Oct. 10). Millions of Iraqi voters ratify a new constitution (Oct. 15). Former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein goes on trial for the killing of 143 people in the town of Dujail, Iraq, in 1982 (Oct. 19). Number of deaths of U.S. soldiers in Iraq reaches 2,000 (Oct. 25). Harriet Miers withdraws her Supreme Court nomination after strong criticism from the president's conservative base (Oct. 27). Several weeks of violent rioting begins in the impoverished French-Arab and French-African suburbs of Paris after two boys are accidentally killed while hiding from police (Oct. 27). A federal grand jury indicts I. Lewis Libby, Vice President Cheney's chief of staff, with obstruction of justice and perjury in connection with a White House investigation (Oct. 28). Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf defeats soccer star George Weah in Liberia's presidential election. She becomes Africa's first woman head of state (Nov. 11). Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon quits as head of the Likud Party, which he founded, to start a new, more centrist organization, called Kadima (Nov. 21). California Republican congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham resigns after pleading guilty to taking at least \$2.4 million in bribes (Nov. 28). The Sept. 11 Public Discourse Project reports that the country is "alarmingly vulnerable to terrorist strikes" (Dec. 5). The New York Times reports that in 2002, Bush signed a presidential order to allow the National Security Agency to spy on Americans suspected of being connected to terrorist activity without warrants (Dec. 15). About 11 million Iraqis (70% of the country's registered voters) turn out to select their first permanent Parliament since the overthrow of Saddam Hussein (Dec. 15). Pennsylvania judge rules teaching of intelligent design in biology class is unconstitutional (Dec. 20).

2006 Red

Below the horizon is dark

So I will light a match

I want to see how it affects the sunset under which I move

But it will take some time to understand why

Why we hear our hearts beat in pillows.

I've heard that bees can be trained. Green turn right, red turn left! They can classify objects into plants, animals, people etc—that means that a bee wouldn't land on you just because you're wearing perfume.

I was standing on my head to ask my love about his telepathy

Can he predict the colour of a flower folded into a seed?

I will not dredge your river

Of whatever it is that drives you to smoke and smoke and seek your ecstasies

For what are my cues? Which are the landmarks?

Why do I feel like this

A fountain in my core that

lightens my gravity

And yet I know that love is as as unpredictable

As the birdsong that erupts

From this tree and that tree

During the daytime, walking

On the branch of each sound.

2006

Coalition forces battle insurgents on the streets of Iraq, as sectarian violence intensifies; see Iraq Timeline 2006 for details (all year long). Israeli prime minister Ariel Sharon suffers a massive stroke; Ehud Olmert is named acting prime minister (Jan. 5). Iran breaks the seals on three of its nuclear facilities, after stating that it plans to restart work on its "peaceful nuclear energy program." The U.S. and several European nations condemn the move (Jan. 10). After a year of silence, Osama bin Laden says al-Qaeda is planning to attack the United States. (Jan. 19). The Iraqi election results are released: a coalition of Shiites and Kurds wins 181 out of 275 seats in parliament, just shy of the two-thirds majority required to form their own government. Sunnis take 58 seats (Jan. 20). Militant Palestinian group Hamas wins 74 of 132 seats in legislative elections. Prime Minister Ahmed Qurei of the Fatah party resigns (Jan. 25). The U.S. Senate confirms Samuel Alito as a Supreme Court justice, and Ben Bernanke as chief of the Federal Reserve (Jan. 31). In his fifth State of the Union speech, President Bush denounces Iran, calling it a country "held hostage by a small clerical elite that is isolating and repressing its people" (Jan. 31). Republican John Boehner is elected House Majority Leader (Feb. 2). After a Danish newspaper prints cartoons depicting Muhammad in a negative light (later reprinted in several European countries), angry demonstrators throughout the Muslim world smash windows, set fires, and burn flags (Feb. 4 et seq.). Steven Harper becomes Canada's first Conservative prime minister in over a dozen years (Feb. 6). President Bush signs a law renewing the Patriot Act, including a signing statement stating that he does not consider himself bound by its requirement to tell Congress how the law is being used (Mar. 9). The Olympic winter games open in Turin, Italy (Feb. 10). House releases a report on the response to Hurricane Katrina, assigning blame on all levels of government (Feb. 15). The day after the Hamas-led Palestinian parliament opens, Israeli leaders vote to withhold \$50 million per month (Feb. 19). Former Yugoslavian president Slobodan Milosevic dies of a heart attack in his cell in the Hague. His four-year war-crimes trial had been nearing its end (Mar. 11). The U.N. Security Council calls on Iran to suspend its enrichment of uranium (Mar. 29). Jack Abramoff, a lobbyist with ties to several members of Congress, is sentenced to six years in prison by a Florida judge on fraud charges (Mar. 29). Saddam Hussein is charged with genocide by an Iraqi court for a campaign against Iraq's Kurdish population in 1988 (Apr. 4). Representative Tom DeLay (R-Tex.) announces he will leave Congress (Apr. 4). After weeks of crippling student-led protests, French president Jacques Chirac repeals a new labor law that would have made it easier for employers to fire workers under the age of 26 (Apr. 10). Nepal's King Gyanendra reinstates Parliament after more than two weeks of demonstrations involving over 100,000 people. It meets for the first time in four years (Apr. 28). The International Atomic Energy Agency confirms that Iran has enriched uranium (Apr. 28). A federal jury in Virginia sentences Zacarias Moussaoui to life in prison without the chance of parole for his role in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks (May 3). Bush administration announces plans to normalize relations with Libya (May 15). 55.4% of Montenegrins vote for independence from Serbia (May 21). George Bush and Tony Blair express regret for the abuse of prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison, for removing all Baathists from positions of power in Iraq, and for other missteps (May 25). The U.S. Senate rejects a proposed constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage (June 7). In response to an Israeli shelling of a Gaza beach that killed eight civilians, Hamas fires Qassam rockets into Israeli territory, ending a 16-month truce with Israel (June 10). Katharine Jefferts Schori chosen to be the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church; she will be the first woman to lead a church in the Anglican Communion (June 18). Warren Buffett announces that he will donate 85% of his \$44 billion fortune to five philanthropic organizations, with about \$31 billion going to the Gates Foundation (June 24). Palestinian militants tunnel out of Gaza and into Israel, killing two Israeli soldiers and kidnapping a third. Israeli troops move into Gaza, disabling its only power plant, destroying three bridges, and seizing Hamas political leaders

(June 25–29). The Supreme Court rules that military tribunals cannot be set up to try prisoners in the absence of Congressional authorization and that prisoners are entitled to fair trials under the Geneva Conventions (June 29). India test-launches a missile with a range of 1,800 miles (July 9). More than 200 people die and hundreds more are wounded when a series of bombs explode on commuter trains in Mumbai, India during the evening rush hour (July 11). Bush administration concedes that terror suspects are entitled to basic human rights and legal rights under the Geneva Convention (July 11). Hezbollah, a Lebanese militant group, fires rockets into Israel. In response, Israel launches a major military attack, sending thousands of troops into Lebanon. (July 13–Aug. 15). President Bush uses his veto power for the first time, striking down legislation that would have expanded the number of stem cell lines available for embryonic research using federal financing. (July 19). Former president Viktor Yanukovich is named prime minister of Ukraine (Aug. 4). The International Astronomical Union reclassifies Pluto as a dwarf planet (Aug. 24). Under pressure from members of his Labor Party, British prime minister Tony Blair says he will resign within a year (Sept. 7). Thai Gen. Sondhi Boonyaratkalin stages a bloodless coup and declares martial law (Sept. 20). U.S. Representative Mark Foley (R-Fla.) steps down from the House of Representatives after reports emerge that he had sent sexually explicit messages to teenage male Congressional pages. He had been the head of House Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children (Sept. 29). International outrage and condemnation follows the test of a nuclear missile in the mountains of North Korea (Oct. 9). U.N. Security Council unanimously passes a resolution banning the sale of materials to North Korea that could be used to produce weapons and allowing authorities of other countries to inspect cargo entering and leaving the country (Oct. 14). The U.S. population officially reaches 300 million (Oct. 17). Pakistan military fires missiles at an Islamic school on the Afghanistan border, killing about 80 people who government officials say were militants. Officials also claim the school harbored members of al-Qaeda (Oct. 30). An Iraqi court convicts Saddam Hussein of crimes against humanity and sentences him to death by hanging (Nov. 5). Democrats gain control of both houses of Congress in the midterm elections (Nov. 7). South African parliament votes to legalize same-sex marriage (Nov. 14). Lebanese cabinet minister Pierre Gemayel, a critic of Syria, is assassinated. His father, Amin Gemayel, is a former president of Lebanon (Nov. 21). John Bolton steps down as the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations when it becomes clear that he does not have enough votes in the Senate to win confirmation (Dec. 4). Ban Ki-moon of South Korea is sworn in as the secretary general of the United Nations. He replaces Kofi Annan (Dec. 14). U.N. Security Council resolution bans the Iranian import and export of materials and technology used to enrich uranium and freezes the assets of several individuals and companies that are active in nuclear and ballistic missile programs (Dec. 23). Gerald Ford, the 38th president, dies at age 93 (Dec. 26). Four days after an appeals court upholds his death sentence, Saddam Hussein is hanged in Baghdad (Dec. 30). On the final day of 2006, the number of U.S. soldiers killed since the start of the Iraq war reaches 3,000. Using the most conservative figures for confirmed deaths from Iraq Body Count, the number of Iraqi civilians killed since the start of the war exceeds 55,000; U.N. estimates are even higher. This summary omits most of the events in Iraq; those can be found at Iraq Timeline 2006.

2007 Orange

Apparently the scent of flowers triggers recall of colours for Honey Bees.

You could say that the people who dream up the molecules for happiness want to make a feeling of happiness like no-one has ever felt before. Burr, in the Perfect Scent, said that a specific molecule could be extracted to make something new that hasn't ever before existed in Nature. A molecule may be tweezered out and simplified so its not a synthetic, but not a natural either. They might do it by engineering molecules found in natural substances, like hay, or the molecules built into flowers by nature like jasmine or iris.

Before we met

Days stretched full of longing

I was looking everywhere, amongst the branches of trees

Under stones

Reaching into prayer

And watching for signs in the clouds

I was looking for you at parties

Events and on the way into town

And when I first heard your voice

I drew a seed waiting in

The dark grist between heaven and earth

Or was it a bomb that would explode

Into the most exotic and extraordinary flowers of every inconceivable colour

And whose fragrance was yours.

2007

U.S. Launches Air Strike in Somalia (Jan. 8): Navy gunship targets suspected al-Qaeda operatives as they flee Mogadishu following Ethiopian air strikes that routed Islamist militias. Standoff Follows U.S. Raid of Iranian Office in Iraq (Jan. 11): Troops storm an Iranian diplomatic office in Kurdish-controlled Erbil and detain five people. Kurdish officials are outraged at the move, and about 100 Kurdish troops stop U.S. troops from crossing a checkpoint. Bangladeshi Leader Declares State of Emergency (Jan. 11): Responding to claims of corruption on the electoral commission and threats by an alliance of political parties to boycott Jan. 22 election, President Iajuddin Ahmed also declares a state of emergency, resigns as head of the interim government, and postpones elections. Mistake Made in Execution of Iraqi Official (Jan. 15): Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti, the half-brother of Saddam Hussein who was also sentenced to death for his role in the 1982 execution of Shiites in Dujail, is decapitated by the noose during his execution. UN Announces Iraqi Civilian Death Toll (Jan. 16): Tally of death certificates and reports from morgues, hospitals, and other institutions indicates more than 34,000 Iraqi civilians died in 2006. Toll High in Baghdad Violence (Jan. 16): At least 70 people die when two car bombs explode in suicide attacks at the mostly Mustansiriya University. (Jan. 21): Some 27 U.S. soldiers die over a two-day period in Iraq. (Jan. 22): Nearly 90 people are killed when two car bombs explode in a crowded market at lunchtime. The neighborhood is dominated by Shiites. Israeli President Suspends Himself (Jan. 25): Parliamentary committee approves Moshe Katsav's request to suspend himself after Israel's attorney general announces that he would indict Katsav on charges of rape, sexual harassment, abuse of power, and other charges. Katsav denies the charges, calling them part of a "witch hunt." (Jan. 25): At a meeting in Paris, 30 countries promise about \$7.6 billion in aid for Lebanon. The conference coincides with deadly violence in Beirut that kills four and wounds about 150 people. Feb Violence Escalates Between Palestinian Factions (Feb. 2): At least 17 people are killed as members of Hamas and Fatah fight in the Gaza Strip. Massive Bomb Kills Dozens in Baghdad (Feb. 4): At least 130 people die when a truck bomb explodes in a crowded Shiite market. U.S. and Iraq Begin a New Offensive (Feb. 7): Troops attempt to increase security in Baghdad to stem increasingly deadly attacks by insurgents and militias. (Feb. 18): At least 60 people die when a bomb tears through a crowded market in Baghdad. The attack comes two days after Iraqi prime minister Nuri al-Maliki called the security offensive a "dazzling success." (Feb. 25): A bomb explodes at Baghdad's Mustansiriya University, killing about 40 people, mostly students. Palestinian Factions Agree to Form Coalition Government (Feb. 8): Leaders from Hamas and Fatah, two Palestinian factions that have been engaged in deadly violence, meet in Mecca and reach deal to end the fighting and to form a unity government. U.S. Military Officials Say Iran is Supplying Weapons to Shiites in Iraq (Feb. 11): Officials show weapons, including mortar shells, rocket-propelled grenades, and explosively formed penetrators that they say were manufactured in Iranian factories. They also say that Iranian government officials sanctioned the transfer of the weapons to Iraq. President of Guinea Declares Martial Law (Feb. 12): President Lansana Conté declares martial law in response to a wave of anti-government protests and a general strike that has paralyzed the country. Demonstrators are demanding that Conté resign. (Feb. 27): The strike ends as President Conté agrees to name diplomat Lansana Kouyaté as prime minister. More than 100 people have died in battles with security officials during the strike. Dozens Die in India Train Bombing (Feb. 18): Some 70 people die when two homemade bombs explode on a train headed for Pakistan from India. Southern Thailand Rocked by Bombs (Feb. 18): Some 30 coordinated bombs explode at bars, hotels, and electricity transmitters in Pattani Province, killing or wounding 60 people. International Court Calls Bosnian Massacre Genocide (Feb. 26): International Court of Justice rules that the slaughter of some 8,000 Bosnian Muslims by Bosnian Serbs in Srebrenica in 1995 was genocide, but stops short of saying Serbia was directly responsible. The court's president,

Judge Rosalyn Higgins, criticizes Serbia for not preventing the genocide. Court also orders Serbia to turn over Bosnian Serb leaders, including Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic, who are accused of genocide and other crimes. Cheney Escapes Assassination Attempt in Afghanistan (Feb. 27): A suicide bomber attacks a United States base near Kabul, about a mile away from where the vice president was staying. The Taliban claims responsibility for the attack which killed more than 20 people. Court Names Suspects in Darfur Atrocities (Feb. 27): International Criminal Court at the Hague names Ahmad Harun, Sudan's deputy minister for humanitarian affairs, and Ali Abd-al-Rahman, a militia leader, as suspects in the murder, rape, and displacement of thousands of civilians in the Darfur region of Sudan. March U.S. Troops Kill Several Civilians in Afghanistan (March 4): After a suicide attack near Jalalabad, American soldiers open fire on a road filled with civilians and kill 16 of them. Dozens of Shiites Are Killed (March 6): Sunni insurgents attack pilgrims as they make their way to a religious ceremony in Karbala, killing about 120 people and wounding as many as 200. Iran Detains British Sailors (March 26): Iranian troops claim that the Britons, eight sailors and seven marines, were in Iranian territorial waters. British officials deny the allegation, saying they were in Iraqi waters. (March 28): Britain suspends all "bilateral business" with Iran in response to the crisis. in late 2006. Hicks had trained at an al Qaeda camp. Dozens Are Killed in Iraq (March 29): Sectarian violence escalates as some 60 people are killed in a suicide attack in a Shiite neighborhood in Baghdad. More than 30 others die in coordinated attacks in Khalis, a Shiite town. The attacks follow intense violence in Tal Afar, which claimed about 140 people in two days. April British Sailors Captured in Iran Are Freed (April 4): The 15 sailors and marines who were seized in disputed waters on March 23 by Iranian troops are freed. Iran claimed the sailors illegally entered Iranian waters, while British officials maintained they were in Iraqi territory. Serbian Court Convicts Four of War Crimes (April 10): Four Serbs—former paramilitary officers—are found guilty of executing six Bosnian Muslims from Srebrenica in Trnovo. Bombs Kill Dozens in Algeria (April 11): Some 35 people are killed and hundreds are wounded when suicide bombers attack a government building in the capital, Algiers, and a police station on the outskirts of the capital. Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb claims responsibility for the attack. Iraq Parliament and Beloved Bridge Are Attacked (April 12): Eight people, including two Iraqi legislators, die when a suicide bomber strikes inside the Parliament building, which is located in Baghdad's fortified International Zone. An organization that includes al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia claims responsibility for the bold attack. In another attack, the Sarafiya Bridge that spans the Tigris River is destroyed. Bombs Kill Nearly 200 in Baghdad (April 18): Five bombs targeting Shiite neighborhoods ravage the Iraqi capital in the worst violence U.S. Squadron Hit by Suicide Bombers in Iraq (April 24): Nine U.S. soldiers are killed and at least 20 are wounded by two bombers attacking an American post in Diyala. May Senior Sunni Insurgent Is Killed in Iraq (May 3): Muharib Abdul Latif al-Jubouri, a leader of al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia, dies in a raid north of Baghdad. U.S. officials say that Jubouri was involved in the kidnapping of American reporter Jill Carroll. Protests Over Suspended Judge Turn Deadly (May 12): Thirty-nine people are killed in Karachi when dueling rallies—those in support of ousted Supreme Court chief justice, Iftikhar Mohammad Chaudhry, and others of the government—turn violent. U.S. Soldiers Are Abducted after an Ambush in Iraq (May 12): Four soldiers die and three are captured in an attack near Mahmudiya, a mostly Sunni area. The Islamic State of Iraq, an insurgent group that includes al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia, says it is holding the soldiers. (May 23): The body of one of the missing soldiers, Pfc. Joseph Anzack, is found in the Euphrates River. Top Taliban Leader Is Killed in Joint Operation (May 13): Mullah Dadullah, an operational commander who has organized assassinations and abductions, dies in a raid in Helmand Province carried out by Afghan security forces, NATO troops, and American soldiers. Israelis, Palestinians Trade Rocket Fire (May 18): Seven Palestinians are killed when Israeli troops fire on Hamas in the Gaza Strip in retaliation for strikes on Israel by Hamas. The violence caps a week in which some 40 Palestinians die in factional

fighting between members of Hamas and Fatah. (May 24): Israel officials arrest 33 West Bank Palestinians, including seven public officials, claiming they are involved in terrorism against Israel. Fighting in Lebanon Kills Dozens (May 20): About 60 people are killed in battles between government troops and members of Islamic militant group Fatah al-Islam, which is based in a Palestinian refugee camp near Tripoli. The group is similar in philosophy to al-Qaeda. Former Serb Officers Convicted in Killing of Prime Minister (May 23): Serbian court convicts 12 Serbs, including former paramilitary police officers, in the 2003 assassination of pro-reform prime minister Zoran Djindjic. Britons Are Abducted in Iraq (May 29): Five British civilians are abducted from the Finance Ministry by masked gunmen in Baghdad. June Former Liberian Dictator Refuses to Appear at Trial (June 4): Charles Taylor, the former president of Liberia, boycotts the first day of his trial at the International Criminal Court. He's facing trial on charges of crimes against humanity for supporting rebel troops in Sierra Leone's brutal civil war that claimed the lives of about 300,000 people in the 1990s. Putin Proposes Joint Missile Shield with the U.S. (June 7): Russian president introduces plan during a meeting with President Bush at the G8 meeting in Germany. The proposal calls for using an early warning radar system in Azerbaijan as part of a missile defense system to protect against an attack by Iran. World Leaders Reach Agreements at the G8 Conference (June 7): Leaders of the eight industrialized nations meeting in Heiligendamm, Germany, agree to consider ways to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In a nod to President Bush's recent proposal, the leaders endorse his plan to have the world's top polluter set their own goals for reducing emissions. Bush also agrees to participate in negotiations to establish a new global climate policy by 2009, a potential successor to the Kyoto Protocol. (June 8): G8 meeting participants promise to spend \$60 billion to treat AIDS and other diseases in the third world. Critics say the plan is weak because it does not include a definitive timetable and falls short of the actual need. Fighting Escalates Among Palestinian Factions (June 12): About three dozen Palestinians die in battles between members of rival parties Hamas and Fatah. The homes and offices of Prime Minister Ismail Haniya and President Mahmoud Abbas are attacked. Both sides accuse each other of coup attempts. (June 13): Hamas succeeds in taking control of much of the Gaza Strip. With Fatah holding sway over the West Bank, many fear a civil war is imminent. Shiite Shrine Is Attacked in Iraq (June 13): The revered Shiite Askariya mosque at Samarra is bombed for the second time in 16 months. Sunni militants connected to al-Qaeda are suspected in the attack. (June 15 and 16): Shiites blow up two Sunni mosques in retaliation. Former Israeli Prime Minister Is Elected Leader of Labor Party (June 13): Former prime minister Ehud Barak returns to politics, defeating Parliament member Ami Ayalon in the race to head the Labor Party. In addition, Shimon Peres, of the Kadima Party, is elected president by Parliament. Deaths Mount in Afghanistan (June 17): Thirty-five people, mostly police academy instructors, are killed when a suicide bomber attacks a police bus in Kabul. (June 18): Seven children die during an airstrike by U.S.-led forces in eastern Afghanistan. The attack was targeting what officials say was an al-Qaeda compound. (June 22): At least 25 civilians are killed when NATO forces respond with an airstrike to an attack by the Taliban in Helmand Province. (June 30): Dozens of civilians die in U.S.-led airstrikes in Helmand Province. Dozens Die in Attack on a Shiite Mosque (June 19): Nearly 80 people are killed and more than 130 are wounded when a suicide bomber drives an explosive-filled truck in front of the Khalani Mosque in central Baghdad. Three Are Sentenced to Death for Role in Anfal Campaign (June 24): Three Iraqi army officials, including Ali Hassan al-Majid, a cousin of Saddam Hussein who was known as "Chemical Ali," are convicted for carrying out the murder of about 50,000 Kurds in 1988—what was called the Anfal campaign. Peacekeepers Are Killed in Lebanon (June 24): Five UN peacekeepers—three from Colombia and two from Spain—die when they are attacked in southern Lebanon. They were stationed at the border with Israel. Several Sunni Sheiks Die in Attack (June 26): The victims were among a group of sheiks from the troubled Anbar Province who had been helping U.S. troops in their fight against al-Qaeda. July: U.S. Official

Says Iran Trained Iraqi Soldiers (July 2): Brig. Gen. Kevin Bergner, a military spokesman, accuses Iran's Revolutionary Guards of helping Iraqis plan and execute an attack in Karbala in January 2007 in which five American soldiers were killed. Pakistani Government and Militants Face Off at Mosque (July 3): Government security officers, radical Islamist clerics, and students at Islamabad's Red Mosque exchange gunfire. The militants advocate the imposition of Shariah, or Islamic law, in Pakistan. (July 10): After negotiations between government officials and mosque leaders fail, troops storm the compound and kill Abdul Rashid Ghazi, who took over as chief of the mosque after the earlier capture of Maulana Abdul Aziz, his older brother. More than 60 people die in the violence. Suicide Bomber Kills 150 in Iraq (July 7): A truck filled with explosives destroys dozens of homes and shops in Amerli, a Shiite village north of Baghdad. Hundreds are wounded in the attack. About 250 people are killed in three days in Iraq by insurgent attacks. Dozens Die in Attack in Kirkuk (July 16): A suicide bomber drive a bomb-laden truck into a compound that housed offices of Kurdish politicians, killing 85 people. Victims include shoppers at a nearby market. Euphoria Over Soccer Win Gives Way to Grief (July 25): Iraqis take to the streets to celebrate the national team's win over South Korea in the semifinals of the Asian Cup soccer match. The festivities give way to panic after two suicide bombers attack crowds in Baghdad, killing at least 50 people and injuring about 140. Security Council Approves Resolution on Darfur (July 31): Votes unanimously to deploy as many as 26,000 peacekeepers from the African Union and the United Nations forces to help end the violence in Darfur that has killed about 200,000 people since 2003. The operation, the world's largest, will cost some \$2 billion. Tribunal Charges Khmer Rouge Figure (July 31): Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch, who ran the notorious Tuol Sleng prison, is indicted for crimes against humanity. The Khmer Rouge rule from 1975 to 1979 led to the state-sponsored extermination of between one million and two million. Independence Hero Named Prime Minister of East Timor (Aug. 6): President Ramos-Horta names independence activist Xanana Gusmão as prime minister. Violent protests led by supporters of the Fretilin party, the former governing party, follow. Fretilin won the most seats in elections, but Gusmão formed a majority coalition, called the Alliance of the Parliamentary Majority (AMP). UN Passes Resolution on Iraq (Aug. 10): Security Council resolution, passed unanimously, expands the UN's role in Iraq to help promote reconciliation, safety of citizens and workers, and civil rights. Taliban Releases Two Hostages (Aug. 13): Two female hostages are released to the Red Cross following days of talks between the Taliban and South Korean negotiators. The women were members of a group of 23 church volunteers abducted from a bus on July 19. Two male hostages have been shot, and the Taliban has threatened to kill more if their demands for a prisoner exchange are not met. Fourteen women and five men are still being held. (Aug. 29): After South Korea agrees to withdraw its 200 troops from Afghanistan and end any future evangelical work in the country, the Taliban releases 12 of the 19 remaining hostages. (Aug. 30): The Taliban releases the last seven hostages. Quadruple Bombing Leaves at Least 500 Dead in Iraqi Villages (Aug. 14): Two pairs of truck bombs explode about five miles apart in the remote, north-western Iraqi towns of Qahtaniya and Jazeera. At least 500 members of the minority Yazidi community are reported killed and hundreds more are wounded, making it the single deadliest insurgent attack of the war. Deadly Violence Breaks Out Among Rival Shiite Groups (Aug. 28): More than 50 people are killed and hundreds are wounded when members of the Mahdi Army, the militia loyal to radical Shiite cleric Moktada al-Sadr, and the Badr Organization, a group of fighters that supports Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, battle in the streets of Karbala during a pilgrimage celebrating the birth of Muhammad al-Mahdi. (Aug. 29): Moktada al-Sadr announces that he has ordered the Mahdi Army to suspend its military operations for six months.

2008 Turquoise

Fear and Happiness

With arms of lapis lazuli, embrace us

Everything is getting more expensive. Cheese has tripled in price this year. People used to say the moon was made of cheese and each one of them wanted to know why the moon followed each one of them, everywhere.

My grandmother used to say that it follows me because it thinks

I am so beautiful. One day Narcissus stooped down to drink from a fountain and saw a beautiful youth there. He fell in love with this being and wanted to possess him, however, each time he tried to kiss the image, it disappeared in ripples.

I would like a genie lamp to grant my wishes of love and happily ever after

But I must ask for less, not more, so I ask you: what am I thinking? Cat? Dog? Rat?

Brown? Grey? Celedon?

Salt? Sweet? Sour? Bitter?

i am like the sea down where the ferries unload and load their passengers

my attention brushed in every direction like the coat of a brumby

no longer smooth like a wild, veined, purebred,

a woman on a bus told me that love is not on the lips

its in the heart, its what you do that counts

i just need to breathe i need the space to breathe and i must study the love of the human beings breathing in our local area more than the knowledge about it.

2008

January Hundreds Die in Tribal Violence in Kenya (Jan. 1-4): After incumbent president Mwai Kibaki is declared the winner in the presidential election over opposition candidate Raila Odinga, who had a wide lead in preliminary results, about 50 Kikuyu who sought refuge in a church in Kiambaa die when a mob of mostly Luo burn down the church. Odinga is Luo, and Kibaki is Kikuyu. Nearly 500 people die in fighting across the country. (Jan. 8): Odinga refuses Kibaki's invitation to discuss the political crisis after Kibaki appoints his cabinet, which does not include any members of Odinga's Orange Democratic Party. (Jan. 29): Melitus Mugabe Were, a member of Parliament representing the Orange Democratic Movement who worked to mend the ethnic strife in Kenya and help the poor, is dragged from his car, shot, and killed. Members of the opposition said the killing was a political assassination. The ethnic violence that has dragged on for a month since President Mwai Kibaki was narrowly re-elected in a race deemed tainted by international observers, has spun out of control throughout the country. (Jan. 31): A second member of the Orange Democratic Movement, David Kimutai Too, is shot and killed by a police officer. His supporters say his death was a political assassination. The police, however, call it a "crime of passion," saying the police officer who shot Too was upset that Too was traveling with his girlfriend. Suicide Bomber Kills Dozens in Baghdad (Jan. 1): In the worst attack in Iraq in months, a suicide bomber kills 30 people at a home where mourners were paying their respects to the family of a man killed in a car bomb. The Iraqi military blames the attack on al-Qaeda in Iraq. War Crimes Trial of Former President of Liberia Reopens (Jan. 7): The trial of Charles Taylor, who's charged with crimes against humanity for supporting rebel troops in Sierra Leone's brutal civil war that claimed the lives of about 300,000 people in the 1990s, resumes at the Hague. Insurgents Kill Several U.S. Soldiers in Iraq (Jan. 9): Six soldiers die in Diyala Province when they enter a home that had been booby-trapped. U.S. Drops Dozens of Bombs Near Baghdad (Jan. 10): Air attacks, in which about 40,000 pounds of bombs are dropped, target insurgents linked to al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia on the outskirts of southern Baghdad. Suicide Bomber Targets Police in Pakistan (Jan. 10): Attacker blows himself up outside a courthouse in Lahore, where a rally of opposition lawyers was set to occur. About 25 people, mostly police officers, are killed. Iraqi Parliament Passes Law to Allow Some Baathists to Resume Jobs (Jan. 12): Measure creates a new committee to determine if lower-level Baathists, former members of Saddam Hussein's party, are eligible to be reinstated to their government jobs. It also will pay pensions to many former Baathists who will not be permitted to return to their positions. Most Baathists lost their posts after the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. If passed by the presidential council, it would be the first major benchmark of political progress reached by the Iraqi government. The law, called the Justice and Accountability Law, was criticized for being vague and confusing, and its many loopholes may exclude more Baathists from government jobs than it allows. Israeli Strike Kills Several Palestinians in Gaza (Jan. 15): As many as 20 Palestinians, many member of Hamas, die in the attack. The Israeli operation was in retaliation to the firing of Qassam rockets and mortar bombs into Israeli towns by Palestinian militants. (Jan. 18): Israel closes all border crossings into the Gaza Strip in response to the Palestinian attacks. Aid and fuel shipments are affected by the border closing. (Jan. 22): Facing criticism for shutting off fuel deliveries to Gaza, Israel resumes oil shipments. Palestinian Militants Break Through Border Fence (Jan. 23): After members of Hamas destroy parts of a wall that separates the Gaza Strip from Egypt, tens of thousands of Palestinians pass into Egypt to buy food and supplies that are either unavailable in Gaza or are exorbitantly priced. U.S. Strike Kills al-Qaeda Leader (Jan. 31): The United States announces that Abu Laith al-Libi, a senior commander of al-Qaeda who recruited and trained operatives, was killed in a missile strike in northwest Pakistan. February: Dozens Die in Suicide Bombing (Feb. 1): Nearly 100 people die when two women suicide bombers, who are believed to be mentally impaired, attack crowded pet markets in eastern Baghdad. The

U.S. military says Al-Qaeda in Iraq has been recruiting female patients at psychiatric hospitals to become suicide bombers. Israel Hit By First Suicide Bomb in Over a Year (Feb. 4): The militant groups Hamas and Al Aksa Martyrs Brigades claim responsibility for the attack that kills one person in Dimona. A second attacker is shot and killed by police. U.S. Director of National Intelligence Warns of Al Qaeda Threat (Feb. 5): Mike McConnell tells the Senate Intelligence Committee that al-Qaeda has improved its recruiting and training techniques and has produced a new group of Western operatives that could carry out an attack in the U.S. Bomb Kills Top Hezbollah Leader (Feb. 12): A top Hezbollah military commander, Imad Mugniyah, who is thought to be behind a series of bombings and kidnappings in the 1980s and 1990s, is killed in a car bombing in Damascus, Syria. Mugniyah was one of America's most wanted men with a price tag of \$25 million on his head. Hezbollah accuses Israel for arranging his death. Panamanian Investigators Release Report on Mass Poisoning (Feb. 14): The Panamanian government reports a precise death toll for the 2006 poisoning for the first time. Investigators conclude that at least 174 people were poisoned resulting in 115 deaths. The death toll may be higher, however, since many cases in remote areas of the country were probably not reported. Dozens Die in Suicide Bombing in Afghanistan (Feb. 17): About 80 people are killed and nearly 100 injured when a suicide bomber attacks at a crowded dogfight near Kandahar. A local police chief Abdul Hakim Jan is among the dead. It is the worst suicide attack since 2001. The Taliban denies responsibility for the attack, but Afghan officials express skepticism about the claim. Dozens of Shiite Pilgrims in Iraq Are Killed in Suicide Attack (Feb. 24): At least 52 people, who were headed to the shrine of Imam Hussein in Karbala to celebrate Arbadeen, are killed in the attack at a rest stop. (Feb. 25): In the second day of attacks against Shiite pilgrims, at least four people are killed by suicide bombers. Fighting in Gaza Intensifies (Feb. 27): An Israeli airstrike into Gaza kills five members of Hamas, which then launched rockets into southern Israel, killing a civilian. Back-and-forth strikes continue throughout the day. March: Colombian Forces Kill Rebel Leader in Ecuador (March 1): Colombian troops cross into Ecuadorean territory and kill FARC's Raúl Reyes and 23 other rebels. In response, Venezuela and Ecuador break off diplomatic relations with Colombia and send troops to the Colombian border. Fighting Between Israel and Hamas Continues (March 2): More than 100 Palestinians are killed in five days as members of Hamas and the Israeli military trade rocket fire. The violence intensifies after Hamas begins to launch longer-range rockets at Israel and as the fighting enters the West Bank. In response to the mounting civilian deaths, Palestinian prime minister Mahmoud Abbas suspends peace talks with Israel. Eight Students Killed at Jerusalem Seminary (March 6): A Palestinian gunman from East Jerusalem fires hundreds of rounds of automatic weapons fire at the Mercaz Harav yeshiva in Jerusalem, killing eight students. The attack is the most deadly on Israeli citizens in two years. China Cracks Down on Protests by Monks in Tibet (March 10): Some 400 Buddhist monks participate in a protest march in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, to commemorate the failed uprising of 1959, that resulted in the Dalai Lama fleeing to India. (March 14): The protests, the largest in two decades, turn violent, with ethnic Tibetans reportedly attacking Chinese citizens and vandalizing public and private property. Chinese police use force to suppress the demonstrations. Tibetan leaders say that more than 100 Tibetans are killed, but Chinese officials say there are only 16 fatalities and deny that police had used lethal force. The demonstrations and violence spill into Gansu, Qinghai, and Sichuan Provinces in western China. Chinese officials accuse the Dalai Lama of masterminding the protests, a charge the spiritual leader denies. Body of Iraqi Archbishop Is Found (March 13): Paulos Faraj Rahho, who led Mosul's Chaldean Catholic Church, had been kidnapped in February. His remains were recovered in Mosul. U.S. Suffers 4,000th Death in Iraq (March 23): A roadside bomb in Baghdad kills four U.S. soldiers, bringing the death toll of American troops to 4,000. Iraqi Troops Attack Militants in Basra (March 25): About 30,000 Iraqi troops and police, with air support from the U.S. and British military, attempt to oust Shiite militias, primarily the Mahdi Army led by radical cleric Moktada al-

Sadr, that control Basra and its lucrative ports in southern Iraq. Sadr declared a cease-fire in August 2007, but has allowed his forces to fight in self defense

Zimbabwe Votes in Presidential Election (March 29): President Robert Mugabe, who has been in power since 1980, faces his toughest challenge yet from Morgan Tsvangirai, of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change. Zimbabwe has been in economic collapse since 1980, with an inflation rate of more than 100,000%.

April: Dozens Are Killed in Suicide Attacks in Iraq (April 15): As many as 50 people die in a car bombing in Baquba, a northern city formerly under the control of Sunni insurgents that U.S. troops say they had won control of. An additional 13 are killed in a suicide attack in Ramadi in Anbar Province, another city that was once a Sunni stronghold.

Afghan President Survives Assassination Attempt (April 27): Three people are killed and about a dozen are wounded when suspected Taliban militants attack President Hamid Karzai, who was taking part in a parade to celebrate Afghan national day.

May : U.S. Missile Kills Top Militia Leader in Somalia (May 1): American officials say Aden Hashi Ayro, leader of Shabab, an Islamic militant group with ties to al-Qaeda, was killed in a missile attack. U.S. intelligence officers had been tracking him for several weeks.

Hezbollah and Government Supporters Battle in Beirut (May 7): Members of Hezbollah, a Shiite militia backed by Iran, block city streets to support a labor union strike and to fight against supporters of the pro-Western government in Lebanon.

(May 9): Hezbollah takes control of large swaths of western Beirut, forces a government-supported television station off the air, and burns the offices of a newspaper loyal to the government. The government accuses Hezbollah of staging an “armed coup.” The fighting is mainly sectarian, with Shiites fighting against Sunnis.

(May 14): In an attempt to end the violence and the threat of a civil war, the government rescinds plans to shut down a telecommunications network run by Hezbollah and backs off attempts to dismiss a Hezbollah-backed head of airport security. In return, Hezbollah agrees to dismantle roadblocks that have paralyzed Beirut’s airport. The decisions are seen as a major victory for Hezbollah.

(May 21): After several days of negotiations, Hezbollah and the government reach a deal that ends the violence in Beirut and calls on Parliament to move toward electing Gen. Michel Suleiman, the commander of Lebanon’s army, president; the formation of a new cabinet, which gives Hezbollah and other members of the opposition veto power; and a discussion of a new electoral law.

(May 25): Lebanon’s Parliament elects Gen. Michel Suleiman as president, filling the position that had been vacant since November. Suleiman, the consensus candidate, is considered neutral.

June U.S. Casualties in Iraq Reach Lowest Point (June 1): The U.S. military announces that fatalities in Iraq in May dropped to 19, the lowest level since the war began in 2003.

Sept. 11 Suspects Are Arraigned (June 5): Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, who has claimed to have organized the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks against the U.S., and four others involved in the planning, face a tribunal for the first time at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. All five defendants say they will defend themselves.

U.S. Attack Kills Several Pakistani Soldiers (June 10): U.S. soldiers launch an air strike aimed at Taliban militants who had crossed the border from Pakistan into Afghanistan and fired on American-led troops. Eleven members of a Pakistani paramilitary force die, angering Pakistani officials and increasing tension between the U.S. and Pakistan.

Taliban Masterminds Brazen Jailbreak (June 13): Fighters attack guards outside a prison in Kandahar and then launch a rocket-propelled grenade at a fuel tanker parked outside the prison. The blast kills several guards and opens a hole in the prison wall. About 900 inmates escape, including 350 members of the Taliban.

Bombings Kill Dozens in Iraq (June 17): At least 60 people are killed and about 75 are wounded when an explosive-laden minibus explodes at a bus terminal near a crowded market in a Shiite district of Baghdad. The blast causes an apartment building to burst into flames.

(June 18): The U.S. military attributes the bombing to a Shiite militia leader, Haydar Mehdi Khadum al-Fawadi, saying he orchestrated the bombing to incite sectarian violence between Sunnis and Shiites.

(June 26): At least 30 people are killed in two separate attacks in Anbar Province and the city of Mosul. The suicide bombing in Anbar occurred at a

meeting of the Awakening Council, an alliance of moderate Sunnis who support the U.S. July: Violence Is on the Upswing in Afghanistan (July 1): According to the Pentagon and icasualties.org, June 2008 was the deadliest month for U.S. and coalition troops since the American-led invasion began in 2001. Forty-six troops were killed even though the number of coalition troops reached a high point. (July 7): More than 40 people are killed and about 130 wounded in a suicide bombing outside the Indian Embassy in Kabul. Two Indian diplomats died in the blast. It is the deadliest suicide bombing since the U.S.-led invasion began in 2001. Hostages Are Freed in Colombia (July 2): After being held for six years by FARC rebels, 15 hostages, including three U.S. military contractors and French-Colombian politician Ingrid Betancourt, are freed by commandos who infiltrated FARC's leadership. Peacekeepers Are Attacked in Sudan (July 8): Seven UN peacekeepers die and 22 are wounded in Darfur when their convoy is ambushed by men in trucks and on horseback. Iran Test Fires Missiles (July 9): The Revolutionary Guards fire nine long- and medium-range missiles, which could reach parts of Israel. A commander of the Revolutionary Guard says, "The aim of these war games is to show we are ready to defend the integrity of the Iranian nation." The United States and Israel both condemn the move. Gunmen Attack U.S. Consulate in Turkey (July 9): Four gunmen open fire on security guards outside the consulate. Three police officers and three attackers are killed in a gun battle. Several U.S. Troops Are Killed in Afghanistan (July 13): Nine U.S. soldiers and at least 15 NATO troops die when Taliban militants boldly attack an American base in Kunar Province, which borders Pakistan. It's the most deadly against U.S. troops in three years. International Court Issues Arrest Warrant for Sudanese President (July 14): Luis Moreno-Ocampo, the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, formally charges Sudan's president Omar Hassan al-Bashir, with genocide for planning and executing the decimation of Darfur's three main ethnic tribes: the Fur, the Masalit, and the Zaghawa. Moreno-Ocampo also says Bashir "purposefully targeted civilians" and used "rapes, hunger, and fear" to terrorize civilians. Many observers fear that Bashir will respond to the charges with further violence. Israel and Lebanon Carry Out Prisoner Exchange (July 16): Israel releases five Lebanese prisoners, including Samir Kuntar, who killed an Israeli policeman, a man, and his young daughter in 1979. Lebanon, in turn, returns to Israel the bodies of two soldiers who were captured in a 2006 cross-border raid into Israel. The raid, carried out by the militant group Hezbollah, resulted in what is now considered a disastrous invasion of Lebanon. Serbian Leader Is Arrested After 13-Year Manhunt (July 21): Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb president during the war in Bosnia in the 1990s, is charged with genocide, persecution, deportation, and other crimes against non-Serb civilians. Karadzic orchestrated the massacre of almost 8,000 Muslim men and boys in 1995 in Srebrenica. He was found outside Belgrade. He altered his appearance and had been openly practicing alternative medicine in Serbia. The arrest will likely bring Serbia closer to joining the European Union. (July 30): Karadzic is transferred to The Hague to await trial. (July 31): Karadzic appears before the war crimes tribunal for the first time. Two Bombs Explode in Istanbul (July 27): At least 15 people die and more than 100 are wounded in a double bombing in a crowded neighborhood in Turkey's largest city. Terrorism is suspected. Dozens Die in Ethnic Fighting and Suicide Attacks in Iraq (July 28): As Kurds in Kirkuk protest part of an election law that they fear will dilute their political power in the city, a female suicide bomber kills 17 people and wounds dozens. Kurds blame Turkmen militants for the bombing, and in response began attacking Turkmen. About a dozen people die in the violence. In Baghdad, two female suicide bombers kill 32 Shiite pilgrims. August . Policemen Are Killed in Terrorist Attack in China (Aug. 4): Chinese officials say two members of the East Turkestan Independence Movement, a Muslim group based in western China, drive a truck into a group of police officers who were jogging, then throw explosives and stab them. Sixteen police officers die and another 16 are wounded. The attack raises concerns about the upcoming Summer Games. Suspect Convicted in First Military Trial at Guantánamo (Aug. 6): Salim Ahmed Hamdan, who was Osama bin Laden's driver, is

convicted of providing material support for terrorism. He's acquitted, however, of the more serious charge of conspiracy to kill Americans. It is the first military trial held at Guantánamo. (Aug. 7): Hamdan is sentenced to 66 months in prison. He may, however, spend more time in jail, as the Bush administration has the authority to imprison detainees during the war on terror.

Violence Breaks Out in Breakaway Region in Georgia (Aug. 7): Fighting breaks out after Georgian soldiers attack South Ossetia, a breakaway enclave in Georgia that won de facto independence in the early 1990s. Separatists in South Ossetia retaliate, and about a dozen troops and civilians die in the battles. Fighting between the two sides has been sporadic since Mikheil Saakashvili was elected president of Georgia in 2004 and sought to resume control over the region. (Aug. 8): Russia enters the fray, with troops and tanks pouring into South Ossetia to support the region. (Aug. 9 and 10): Russia intensifies its involvement, moving troops into Abkhazia, another breakaway region, and launching airstrikes at Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. In addition, Russian airstrikes in Gori, Georgia, kill about 1,500 civilians. The fighting prompts thousands of people in South Ossetia to flee their homes. (Aug. 11): Russian troops enter Georgian territory and briefly take control of a military base in Senaki. (Aug. 12): Russian president Medvedev orders an end to military action in Georgia, although sporadic fighting continues. Saakashvili also says he will withdraw Georgian troops. Leaders of EU nations, the United States, and NATO have warned Russia to end the conflict in Georgia. (Aug. 13): France brokers a deal between Russia and Georgia that calls on both sides to end the fighting and use of force, open routes in the battle areas for the flow of humanitarian aid, and withdraw troops to the positions they held before the conflict. Later in the day, President Bush sends U.S. troops on a humanitarian mission to Georgia. He also warns Russia that if it doesn't observe the cease-fire, the country risks its standing in "the diplomatic, political, economic, and security structures of the 21st century." In addition, Russian tanks occupy Gori, a strategic town 40 miles from Tbilisi, and hundreds of Russian soldiers cross the border into South Ossetia. (Aug. 14): Poland, after months of stalling, agrees to allow the United States to install an anti-missile system on its soil. The move by Poland is seen as a strategic one intended to defend itself from the threat of a similar incursion by Russia and to establish closer ties with the West. Russia says that Poland now risks retaliation. (Aug. 16): Russian president Dmitri Medvedev signs a revised cease-fire, but Russian troops remain in Georgia. Georgia demanded that a provision in the original agreement be amended to allow only those Russian peacekeepers who were in Georgia before the hostilities began to remain. The deal is tentative at best. (Aug. 19): Russian troops slowly begin to withdraw from Georgia. (Aug. 20): U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Poland's Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski sign the deal in Warsaw. Rice stresses that the missile system, which is scheduled to be in operation by 2012, is "defensive and aimed at no one." (Aug. 25): Russian president Medvedev unilaterally recognizes South Ossetia and Abkhazia as independent regions. The U.S. and its allies denounce the decision. (Aug. 29): Russia and Georgia sever diplomatic ties from each other. It is the first time Russia has done so with one of its former republics, which gained independence in 1991.

Al-Qaeda Increases Its Strength and Threat (Aug. 12): Ted Gistaro, the U.S. government's senior terrorism analyst, says that by forging closer ties to Pakistani militants, al-Qaeda is more capable of launching an attack in the United States than it was a year ago. The Pakistani militants have given al-Qaeda leaders safe haven in remote areas to train recruits.

Several Lebanese Soldiers Are Killed in Bombing (Aug. 13): A bomb left on the street explodes and tears through a bus carrying Lebanese troops, killing 15 people, nine of them soldiers. No one claims responsibility for the attack, but in 2007, the army fought an al-Qaeda linked Islamist group in Tripoli.

Shiite Pilgrims Are Targeted in Several Attacks (Aug. 14-16): About two dozen worshippers are killed in three separate attacks as they make their way toward Karbala to celebrate the birthday of 9th-century imam Muhammad al-Mahdi. Iraqi officials blame al-Qaeda in Iraq for the attacks.

Taliban Launches Major Attack in Afghanistan (Aug. 18 and 19): As many as 15 suicide bombers backed by

about 30 militants attack a U.S. military base, Camp Salerno, in Bamiyan. Fighting between U.S. troops and members of the Taliban rages overnight. No U.S. troops are killed. In another brazen attack, 10 French paratroopers are killed and more than 20 are wounded in an ambush by about 100 militants about 30 miles east of Kabul. Dozens Die in Bombs in Algeria (Aug. 19): At least 43 people are killed when a suicide bomber drives an explosives-laden car into a police academy in Issers, a town in northern Algeria. (Aug. 20): Two car bombs explode at a military command and a hotel in Bouira, killing a dozen people. No group takes responsibility for either attack, Algerian officials say they suspect Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb is behind the bombings. Taliban Launches Double Suicide Bombing in Pakistan (Aug. 21): More than 60 people are killed in a twin suicide bombing at the Pakistan' Ordnance Factories, a complex of 16 buildings in the town of Wah that employs 20,000. The Taliban says the attack is in retaliation for the military's recent campaign against militants in the region of Bajaur. Coalition Airstrike Kills Dozens of Civilians in Afghanistan (Aug. 22): As many as 90 Afghan civilians, 60 of them children, die in an attack in the western village of Azizabad. It is one of the deadliest airstrikes since the war began in 2001, and the deadliest on civilians. The U.S. military refutes the figures, however, which were confirmed by the UN, claiming that the airstrike, in response to an attack by militants, killed five civilians and as many as 25 members of the Taliban. North Korea Announces It Has Stopped Disabling Nuclear Reactor (Aug. 26): The country says that it will also resume work at the complex in Yongbyon unless the United States remove North Korea from its list of nations sponsoring terrorism. The U.S. says that North Korea will remain on the list until it gives inspectors access to locations suspected of being nuclear sites. September: U.S. Transfers Control of Once Troubled Province to Iraq (Sep. 1): The Iraqi military and police assume responsibility for maintaining security in Anbar Province, which was until recently the cradle of the Sunni insurgency. More than 1,000 members of the U.S. military have been killed in the province. Thai Government Declares State of Emergency When Protests Turn Violent (Sep. 1): One person is killed and dozens are wounded in fighting between supporters of an opposition group and pro-government demonstrators. For more than a week, thousands of protesters, called People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD), have staged a sit-in outside the government buildings in Bangkok, calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej. Pro-government launched counterdemonstrations. (Sep. 2): Prime Minister Samak declares a state of emergency. (Sep. 3): The military and police do not enforce the state of emergency. In a press conference, army commander Gen. Anupong Paochinda declares neutrality in the conflict. "We are not taking sides," he says. "If the nation is the people, we are the army of the people." (Sep. 9): Samak is forced from office when Thailand's Constitutional Court rules that he violated the constitution by being paid to appear on the cooking show "Tasting and Complaining." Somchai Wongsawat, the first deputy prime minister, becomes acting prime minister. (Sep. 14): Acting prime minister Somchai ends the state of emergency, which has disrupted the tourism industry. U.S. Troops Attack Militants in Pakistan (Sep. 3): In its first acknowledged ground attack inside Pakistan, U.S. commandos raid a village that is home to al-Qaeda militants in the tribal region near the border with Afghanistan. The number of casualties is unclear. Governing Party Wins Parliamentary Elections in Angola (Sep. 5): In the country's first elections in 16 years, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) wins about 82% of the vote in the legislative election. The opposition, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), takes 10%. Bhutto's Widower Is Elected President of Pakistan (Sep. 6): Asif Ali Zardari, leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party, wins 481 out of 702 votes in the two houses of Parliament to become president. Zardari, who served 11 years in prison on charges of corruption, faces the overwhelming task of rooting out members of al Qaeda and the Taliban, who control much of the country's tribal areas. He also promises to improve the relationship between Parliament and the presidency. Three Convicted in Plot to Blow Up Planes (Sep. 8): Three men, out of eight who were on trial, are found guilty in a British court of conspiracy to

commit murder. The defendants were arrested in 2006 for trying to use liquid explosives to blow up seven planes that were traveling from the UK to the U.S. and Canada. They are acquitted of the more serious charge of preparing acts of terrorism. Several Bombs Tear Through Indian Capital (Sep. 13): Over the course of 25 minutes, five bombs explode in crowded markets in New Delhi, killing 22 people and injuring dozens. The Indian Mujahideen claims responsibility for the attacks.



fig 2.1 Turner, R. Found domestic stain. May 2008. Digital photograph
One of a sequence of digital images of found stains in the environment.



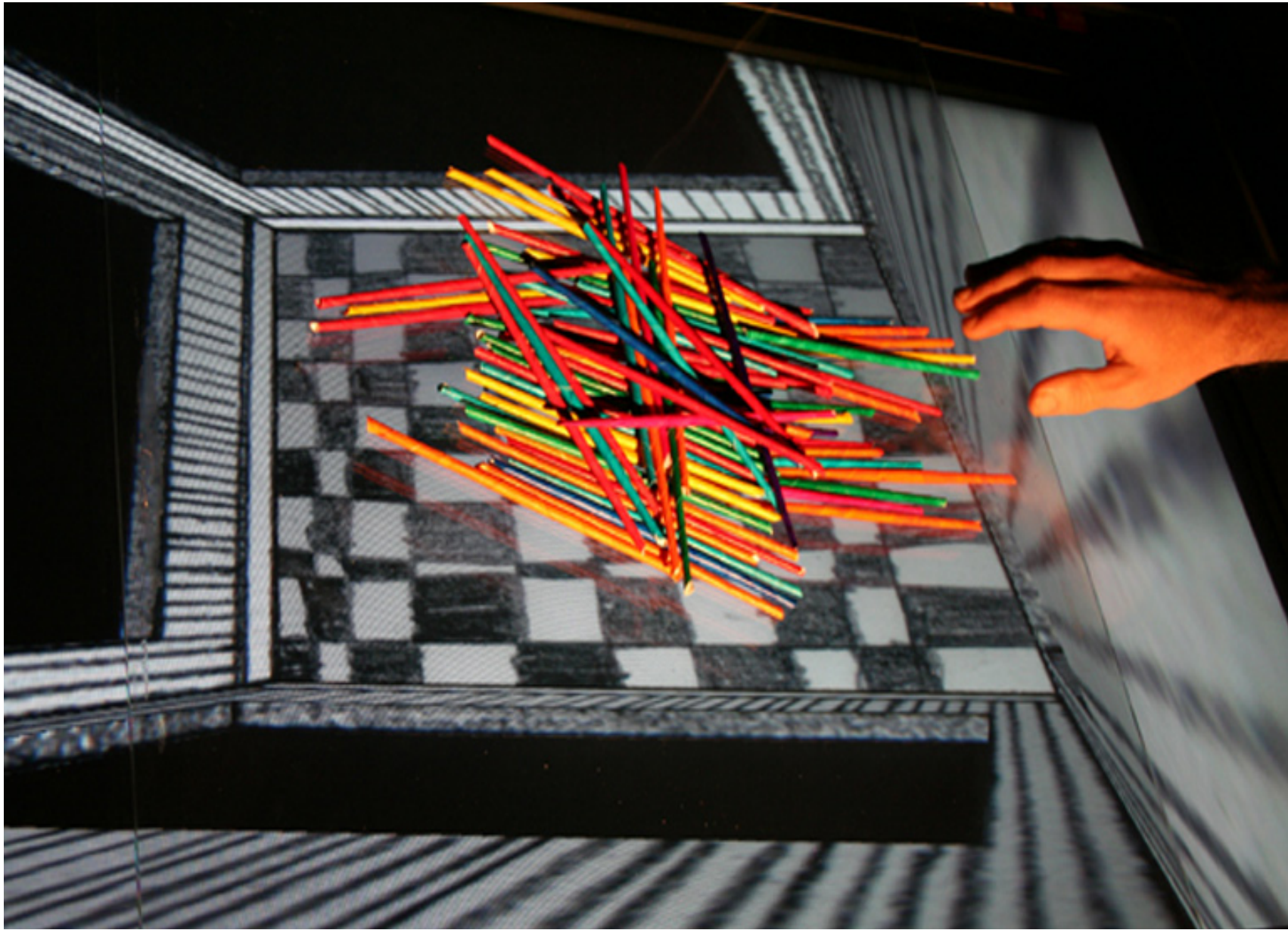


fig 2.2 Turner, R & Newell, K. Pick Up Styx. June 2008. Touch screen test performance at HITLab NZ. Digital photograph.

abstract

The work in progress, Pick Up Styx, investigates re-sensing and extra-sensing of the world. It is an exploration of communications with reference to quantum theory which challenges current sense perceptions, while engaging and exploring the notion of communications as signals. The methodology is a winding, coiling motion between research and creative practice based on the way my grandmother used to wind wool from a skein into a ball. The project investigates the game as a tool to examine the cyphers of perfumes that have been designed for love and happiness since 2001.

The project aims to develop aesthetic pleasure in gameplay beyond the industry focus on games technology. Picking up the sticks and experiencing the perfumes in them is procedural to encountering the War on Terror, and the perfumes that have accompanied its progression over the last 8 years.

In a materialist culture where technologies are enabling psychokinesis, via the transmission of information signals, and where thought can influence matter in a variety of ways, we are training ourselves out of separatist thinking and fixation on the Western scientific paradigm. This project has grown from my curiosity regarding anomalous forms of cognition and paranormal perception, motivated by the need to address current issues of human relationship and environmental concerns.

chapter 1.introduction to the exegesis

This exegesis circles around the development of a work in progress, Pick Up Styx, brought into focus as the primary art work of Skein, which enquires into the notion of signals as communication. In my cross- sensory work, I'm exploring dreams, precognition, and technologies that might employ psi or parapsychology.

Skein is the seeding field of my investigative enquiries and encompasses several concurrent projects in progress which all contribute to each other as a field of various experiments and which may spontaneously emerge as independent creative works.

Skein grows out of a notion that, like the bandwidths of light and sound that are beyond unaided human perception, many signals presented to our senses remain mainly beyond comprehension because of a culturally prescribed short focus.

Although the constrictions of the contemporary and culturally prescribed sensing belong to a dominant mechanistic world view which has long been outdated , they have been philosophically and scientifically questioned, and creatively challenged for more than two centuries. Meanwhile a newly iconoclastic sensing of communicating signals from animate and inanimate matter is being enabled by new technologies for all senses, encouraging re-sensing and extra-sensing in general. Technological tools may enable us to eventually transfer information and explore the paranormal unaided because of their agency in shifting and changing human sensory perspective.



fig 2.3. Turner, R. Double vortex, April 2007. Metal on paper
From a series of small signal transmitting devices made from found materials.

The exegesis begins with a direct sensory experience, flanked by the pages of world events. These two elements which are central to the work are intended to attune the senses for the transfer of feelings, images, concepts and ideas in the remainder of the thesis.

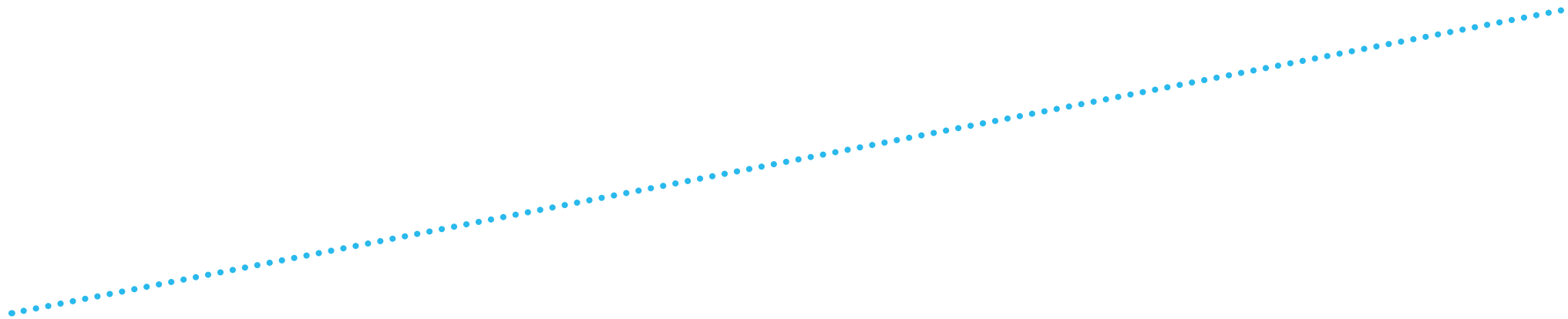
The prologue combines world events from 2001-2008, and the celebrity perfumes released to the marketplace during those years, in a documentation of annual events, along with my personal love diaries. These same perfumes are also presented within the pick up sticks.

In Pick Up Styx, olfactory elements have been introduced into a tabletop game, which is played by two or more people who engage in a dialogue while playing the game. The game has formal rules but what happens in the performance and dialogue is an open-ended process. The visuals triggered in the tabletop are non-narrative; they are simply, to date, manipulating libraries of collections of images in response to the players' body movements in playing the game and sharing the perfumes. The playing of Pick Up Styx also becomes an illustration of extracting order out of chaos, and to consequently experience the essential collective relationship of perfumes to the period of 2001 to 2008.

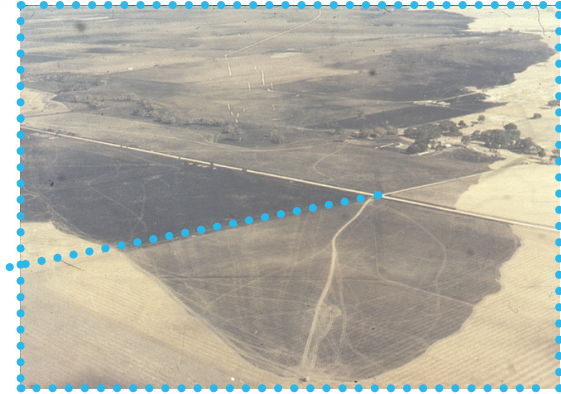
A phenomenological methodology has been used to examine context and extract meaning from a combination of scientific, technological, and philosophical frameworks to create a performative iteration of anxiety, love, security, and mediated perception.

My exegesis draws from quantum theory, cognitive and sensory perception theory, dialogue and open source technology, interactive design, games with social political content, diary and blog writing, technology and communication, and performance. It is firmly based in art practice research, and its attendant experimentation, reflection and adjustment.

I will discuss the context and frameworks for the multidisciplinary work, followed by the methodology and strategies employed in creating the work, along with experiments carried out, tests and studies along the way, concluding with my evaluation of the project.



foreword



If I were to metaphorically map the course of my process in this work and thesis, it would take the form of circling and spiralling in on the core question, in the manner that some winged creatures set their flight paths to alight in an unknown, uncharted land.

Consciousness

studies

P e r f o r m a n c e

P h i l o s o p h y

M e t h o d o l o g y

N e u r o s c i e n c e

Quantum

theory

C h e m i s t r y

Responsive

Technology

Fiction

and

poetry

Social

Critical

theory

F e a r

chapter 2. context and content

2.1 introduction

2.2 context

2.2.1 the signal

2.2.2 tools of perception

2.2.3. disability and the senses

2.3 content

2.3.1 materials

2.3.2 olfaction signals and ciphers

2.3.3 the fragrant emotional window

2.3.4 new technologies and games

2.3.5 audience participation

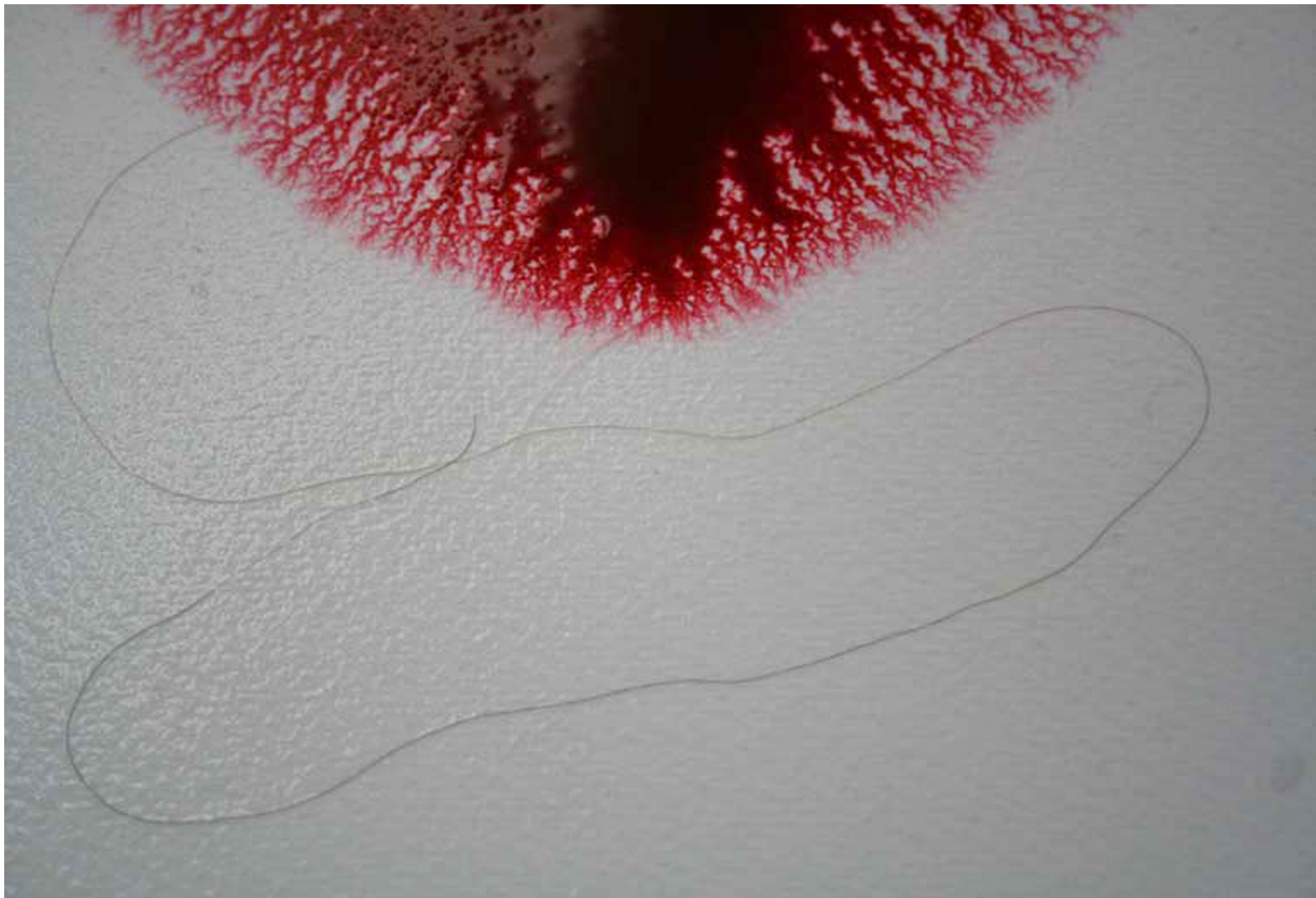


fig 2.4.a Turner, R. Red stain. May 2008. Watercolour and hair. Digital photograph
One of a sequence of digital images of stains created for animation for the interactive screen.

2.1 introduction

The view of the world in which I was educated was one where matter on the space of earth was separate from the spiritual realm. This Cartesian dualism along with its mechanical nature of reality, has been subsumed as scientific fact, even though the most fundamental features of science do not endorse it. Bohm (1985). As Bohm pointed out, from this framework 'we are affecting our whole way of approaching the world and ourselves'.

In his 'mechanical philosophy' of Nature, Rene Descartes, (1596-1650), a key figure in the promotion of the mechanical philosophy, proposed a dualism of a split between mind and matter. It was extended to body and soul as a doctrine of separation of the physical from the spiritual, by the Catholic Church. The philosophy of materialism, where the mind is nothing but inside of, and configured by, the physical matter of the brain, has evolved into the tacit knowledge which is that consciousness does not have any effect and merely accompanies, and is confined to, the physical activities of the brain. Sheldrake (2003, p13). This has been named 'The Astonishing Hypothesis', by Francis Crick, who won the Nobel prize in 1962 for 'discoveries concerning the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significance for information transfer in living material'. He writes: 'You, your joys and your sorrows, your memories and ambitions, your sense of personal identity and free will, are in fact no more than the behaviour of a vast assembly of nerve cells and their associated molecules'. Crick, (1994). Crick's way of thinking has its roots deep in our culture and is supported by our technological triumphs, for example, our flights around the earth, to the moon, and return journeys into outer space.

It seems to me that materialist culture stands as a sensory barrier. That sensory barrier could be scratched, disturbed or engineered

using technologies (tools) with the intention of disrupting the fixation of subject-object observation, to explore the possibilities of retraining extra sensory perception. As Bohm (1996) points out, the dominant thinking which embraces the separation of subject and object has contributed to a pervasive perception of the world in a fragmentary way, one disparate of nations economies, religions, value systems, and individuals, despite topically successful attempts to impose social order.

According to Merleau-Ponty, tools are man made and belong to technological structures that are placed on the world. Could I develop a tool as a handle for a new *sense*? The question implies an inquiry into the notions of sensory expansion, to disrupt subject/object fixation, and to wedge open the current social political framing of the senses.

The temporal context of this project is the first eight years of the 21st century, and the empirical simultaneous sensory signals that have been introduced to our senses and which have occupied us.

Could we better understand our times if we could navigate these signals by a sense that lacks a language, and which implies an embodied perception? The cultivation of an awareness of feeling and sensation can be used to evaluate the environment as well as an awareness of our cultural, social and temporal constructions of reality. It may answer why, for example, does moon dust purportedly smell like spent gunpowder—which we use to kill animals and other humans?

Could we re-inscribe the anxieties provoked by mediated perceptions of the war, anxiety, and security?

In this project I will attempt to address the point of view that my direct experience of my body is not only inside my head, but is also in my body experience, and that direct, subjective experience is knowledge.



fig 2.4.b Turner, R. Red stain. May 2008. Watercolour and hair, Digital photograph
One of a sequence of digital images of stains created for animation for the interactive screen.

2.2. context

2.2.1 the signal

The signal, as I understand it, is motion. Signal is a *doing word* a verb, meaning to communicate, gesture, indicate, motion, nod, wave, whereas signification means the message that is intended or expressed (Merriam Webster online dictionary). In discussing the relationships between motion, stability, thresholds and change of state, Davidson (1989) notes that motion is essential at the subatomic level in the existence of that particle...manifesting polarised properties eg. electrical charge, magnetic polarity and mass. (p275)

Furthermore, signification in the context of cognitive research, is a movement at once scientific, technological and philosophical, which takes as its object the global study of signification, and is understood as the signifying or indication of something. (figs 2; 2.3; 2.7) Borillo (2007) writes that something emanating via a signal, is meaning itself, which indicates perception by the body, or as Bohm calls it, *soma*. (p.32) 'The aspect of soma cannot be divided from the aspect of significance. Whatever meanings there may be in our minds, these are....inseparable from the totality of our somatic structures and therefore from what we are. So what we are depends crucially on the total set of meanings that operate within us. Any fundamental change in meaning is a change in being for us...' Bohm (1985) p 92

2.2.2 tools of perception

Ascott, British artist and theorist, who works with cybernetics and telematics. suggests that surrendering to the inherent understanding in quantum mechanics of notion of the 'primacy of the inseparable whole' (not the 'separate wholes, but the zero states') may possibly break the Western fixation on the persisting reductivist world view of classical physics.

In bringing attention to where contemporary quantum physics fits within the mystic apprehension of reality, Davidson (1989) refers (p279) to Nobel Laureate Paul Dirac's (1951) metaphor which has become an important catalyst for my exploration of ways that those zero states may be observed, extra-sensed. Or disrupted.

space might have such a charge but which is so ubiquitous that we cannot ordinarily notice its effects.

This is like a bird sitting upon a high tension cable who feels no ill effects because it is itself at the same high potential as the wire. No current, therefore, (ie, electrons, charged mass) actually flows through it. (p.279)

All the space which we occupy is at the same high absolute potential. This we experience as zero because it all appears to be the same. The potential states of the metaphor of the bird and the high tension wire displaying the zero difference could therefore be disturbed, or engineered, to become observable. (Davidson)

This metaphor has become an important catalyst for my exploration of ways that those zero states could be re-observed, extra-sensed, and disrupted.

Dirac's metaphor suggests the creation of a more sensitive epidermis as a starting point to investigate cultural and sensory framing and reframing of perception of the 'objective whole' that we experience.

The feelings contained under our skins are analogous to the power surging through the wire under the bird's feet. In his working notes in *Visible and Invisible*, Merleau-Ponty, (1961, p. 254) illustrates



fig 2.4.c Turner, R. Red stain. May 2008. Watercolour and hair. Digital photograph
One of a sequence of digital images of stains created for animation for the interactive screen.

that things do not coincide in observation and self observation, that one sees but does not see oneself; in movement, one does not move away from oneself, and in touching one does not feel the other's feeling of being touched; the untouchable of the touch, the invisible of vision, the unconsciousness of consciousness....is the other side or the reverse (or the other dimensionality) of sensible Being; 'something else than the body is needed for the junction to be made; it takes place in the untouchable'...

2.2.3 disability and the senses

I am interested in the sensory perceptive worlds of the *other*, of blind/deaf persons, of insect and animal, of hearing, of breathing in, and of visualising the world. By working with disabled people and effective new technologies that allow them to express themselves in whichever way they can, we may gain an 'other' sense which is to break the hold of the contemporary sensory paradigms. Ascot (2007) in *Terror Incognito: Steps toward an Extremity of Mind*, writes that altered states of consciousness pose a threat to the orthodoxies of being and the stabilities of social norm, despite technology attempting to parallel the phenomenology of psychic agency. This fear prevents research into the mind at anything beyond the crudest form of reductionism. He argues that because of the encouragement by our scientists and institutions of learning, to fear the extreme conditions of mind, our materialist culture is *dis*-abled.

Along with Ascott, Bec's related interests and writings in disability, cross-sensing and enabling technologies are important to my research because Bec stresses the importance of questioning what normality and abnormality are in terms of disability which will also establish a 'cultural expansion in the anthropological, ethnic and political senses of the term.' (p.24) He directs attention to the development of the Cognitive Tool as 'the artefact that informs matter' which is very relevant to my concept for creating a tool.

2.3 content

2.3.1 materials

I refer to Merleau-Ponty's meditation on the relation between speech and silence, and the indeterminacy of language to express all the truth of experience. The experience is its own language. Two mediums, olfaction, and new technologies, may be suitable materials for my inquiry. Both are pre-reflective and without words. The language of smell is in metaphors, and similes, not dissimilar to quantum physics which is without an adequate language to express its concepts. (Hardison 1989)

According to Hardison, a horizon of invisibility cuts across the geography of modern culture.

Those who have passed through it cannot put their experience into familiar words and images because the languages they have inherited are inadequate to the new worlds they inhabit. They therefore express themselves in metaphors, paradoxes, contradictions, and abstractions rather than languages that "mean" in the traditional way--in assertions that are apparently incoherent or collages using fragments of the old to create enigmatic symbols of the new. The most obvious case in point is modern physics, which confronts so many paradoxes that physicists like Paul Dirac and Werner Heisenberg have concluded that traditional languages are, for better or worse, simply unable to represent the world that science has forced on them.

New technologies, similarly, are creating new languages that are often without words, for example, the visual language of 3D graphical communications technology software. Smart materials, mixed reality and responsive environments not only offer a telepathic-digital perception and active interaction with matter, but

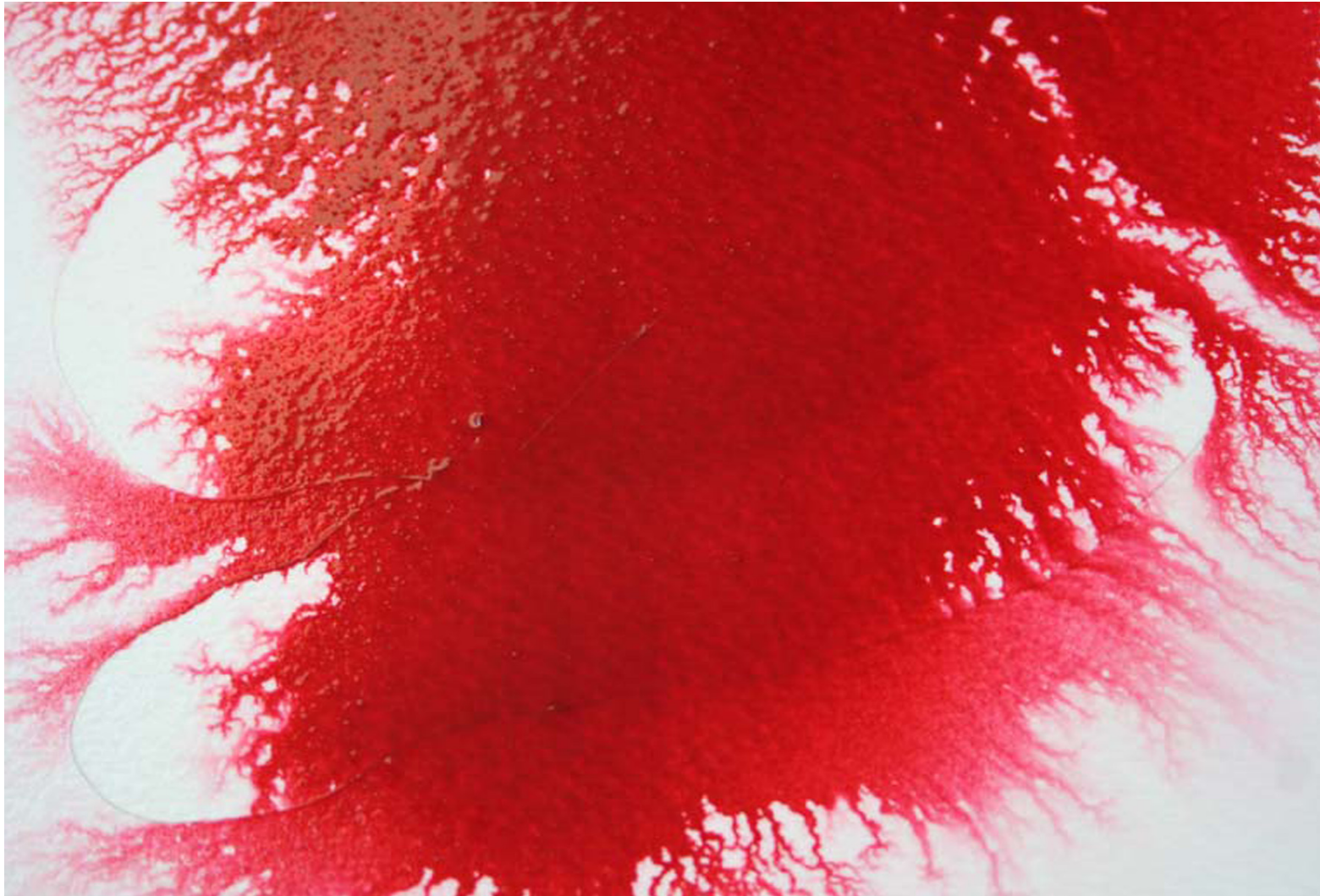


fig 2.4.d Turner, R. Red stain. May 2008. Watercolour and hair. Digital photograph
One of a sequence of digital images of stains created for animation for the interactive screen.

they are potential psychic agents which could train us to realise our interconnections with all that we sense, and consequently a re-appraisal of how we live in the world and our influence within it via our attention, intention, dreams, plans and rituals.

2.3.2 olfaction signals and cyphers

According to Merleau-Ponty (see introduction) tools are man made and belong to technological structures that are placed on the world.

The countenance of perfume is an olfactory technological structure, and therefore I propose it as a tool because it is designed to trigger an emotion, specifically love, for the perceiver, the person wearing it, and for those around the user. (Kerleo, 2007) The Société Française des Parfumeurs created a fragrance classification for the perfume industry in 2001 : 'fragrances are three branches of perfumery that together form a whole: the creation of a moment of *PLEASURE*, *BEAUTY* and *HAPPINESS*'. Paradoxically, the happiness factor is the force driving all fragrance and flavour creations. Rather than being an altruistic drive, it is rigorously commercial. From 1500 new molecules created per year, five are presented to market, and the remaining 1445 are discarded because the range is culled to meet economic costs and consumer desires. (Firmenich, personal communication, July 2007).

Perfume embodies the social, political and scientific architecture of its time. My research engages the arenas of olfaction and war; the molecular compositions, alongside mechanisms of security and combat, are both exerting an impact on our lives. Discussing the truism 'all's fair in love and war' Wagoner (1997) proposes that love can be as all encompassing and "absolutely as ruthless as war....what we desire most intensely is love and what we fear most seriously is the loss of love. Hence, love is like war in that it is the

struggle for something even as important as life itself."

Perfumes created during times of national and international trauma could therefore be considered a tool to create a disruption or interruption to sensory precepts. I propose that a collective and mediated memory may be evoked by simulated game warfare and chemical fragrant compositions. Perhaps it would be a category of *morphic resonance* as it was termed by Rupert Sheldrake (1981) who proposes that organisms are subject to an influence from previous similar organisms. Through morphic resonance, he writes, 'each member of a species draws upon, and in turn contributes to, a pooled or collective memory.' Sheldrake gives the ant colony as an example of morphic fields where ants inform each other by leaving behind a chemical trail, which, in turn, provides a stimulus to other ants.

Like the signal of the chemical trail for the ants, the signal of smell can be considered of great significance due to its direct and unique pathway to the brain in contrast with other senses which pass first through filters, on their way to the amygdala which is also known as 'the eyes of the emotional system' (McGaugh, 2003). The amygdala is associated with fear, pleasure and aggression (Bloom et al., 1985; Diamond et al., 1985; Nolte, 1981; Restak, 1984). Despite this, and the multinational multi-billion dollar flavour and fragrance industry, smell has been largely excluded as a rational logical form of communication because it is regarded as subjective and experiential..

Perfume is a constructed form of informational content created especially for love. Love in our culture and times, however, turns on the dilemma of the isolated self. The prominence of love in Western culture which values individuality is, paradoxically, to address the isolated, separateness of the self. Wagoner. (1997)

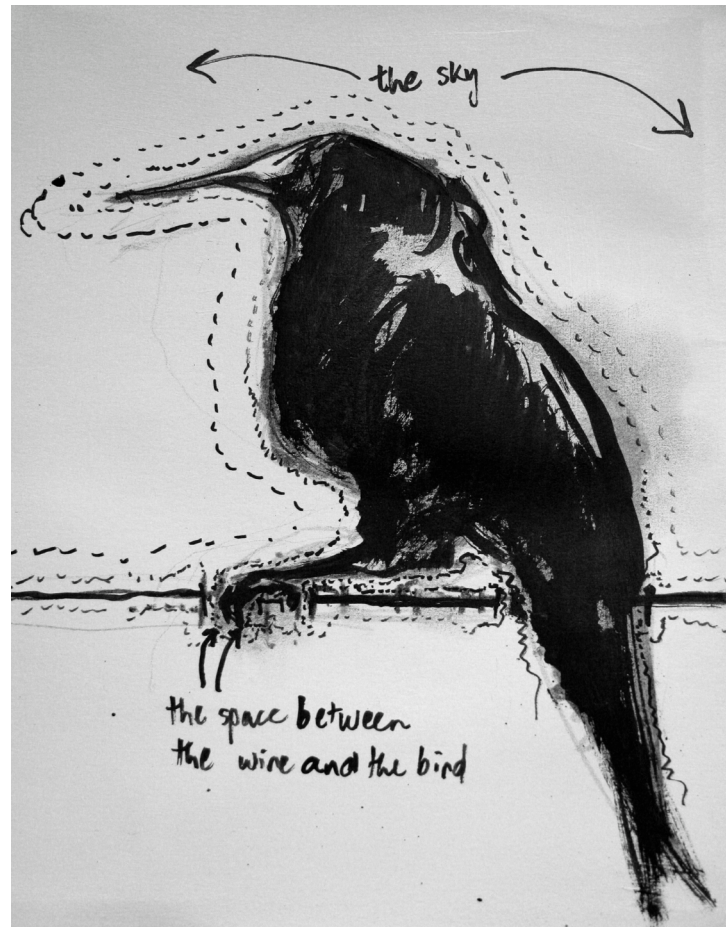


fig 2.5 Turner, R. Bird on wire. April 2007. Charcoal on A4 paper
Exploring Dirac's metaphor.

2.3.3 the fragrant emotional window

Within the fragrance of our particular civilisation and time an emotional window of associative conditioning is being created. (Dozier, Rush W. Jr, 1998) I explore the synaesthetic potential of smell, as a reservoir of emotional meaning capable of relaying information about time, local culture and environment and a passage through it.

If in the future we were to consider the fragrance of this period, would it be a perfume or the smell of trauma? Sixty years after the Second World War, for example, I experienced the smell of a concentration camp at Terrezin, Prague (2007). A fetid and nauseating smell of urine, and illness, remained in several rooms. I ask if it is possible to acquire second hand memories, through empathy and a feeling of stress when experiencing the sillage in places where trauma has taken place? (*si arge* is the French term for the trail of scent left by a perfume, and also the wake of a ship).

Fear distorts the thought process, and when the brain is disturbed by fear, thought is impaired. All the chemistry is wrong. Bohm; (1985, p 116) but the combat game zone has no pain or suffering : "you get to kill things, find your way through darkness, and execute smart manoeuvres" (Rayner, 2007).

Death and suffering in combat game zones are trivial because the soldier's body can be respawned to continue fighting. As Moulthrop (2004) says, 'it is very hard these days to defend digital gunplay, even in overtly antiterrorist scenarios like Counter-Strike. Less militant offerings come under suspicion as well, for instance, when we learn that earlier versions of Microsoft's Flight Simulator could be used to re-enact the attacks on the World Trade Center...'

2.3.4 new technologies and games

Many new and developing technologies, for example the iPod, mobile phone, ethernet, bluetooth, satellite, etc. are designed to assist the transfer of information. Smart materials and responsive environments offer the possibility of a participatory and active interaction with matter, suggesting a telepathic-digital, and cross-sensory perception, with a promise, as I see it, of training humans to transfer information without them.

Gameplay suggests to me a non-narrative way of experiencing space, interaction and dimension which may be of use to a mixed performance, and which may address the separations inherent in creating illusory dramatic spaces. In '*The Heart*', Prague Quadrennial 2003, Dorita Hannah states: 'Descartes proposed a false dichotomy which we have been fighting ever since. The Prague Quadrennial (performance symposium) has always suffered a kind of Cartesian dualism separating the process from the product; the scenography as somehow separate from performance.' Moulthrop (2004) discusses how participation is intrinsic to unfolding the play, suggesting that process and implementation will ultimately count more than polemics and theory.

'We do not yet know in material, social terms how work in configurative media can best contribute to molecular culture and the reformation of the social bond.' (p. 61)

He argues for a shift from interpretation to configuration, which would probably require modifying or supplementing the old concept of literacy, to develop configurative thinking.

Games - computer games in particular appeal because they are configurative, offering the chance to manipulate complex systems within continuous loops of intervention, observation, and response...If we conceive of configuration as a way of engaging not just immediate game elements, but also the game's social and material conditions

and by extension, the conditions of other rule-systems such as work and citizenship then it may be very important to insist on the difference between play and interpretation, the better to resist immersion.

Bertolt Brecht's drama challenged the Aristotelian theatre that keeps the audience immersed without giving them a chance to have a critical distance. (Frasca 2004) constantly reminded the spectator that they were watching and experiencing a representation, and encouraged performers to understand and to be constantly aware of their acting role.

Brazilian dramatist Augusto Boal (1971) extended Brecht's ideas even further by creating the "spect-actor", which gave the audience active participation in the play. This technique supports critical player engagement, which is an aspect important to the concept of Pick Up Styx.

2.3.5 audience participation

Our society has traditionally nurtured the notion of the individual artist in control, whereas collaboration, and especially with the public, throws open the doors of dynamics on aesthetic control.

In its presentation the work attempts to question the notion of control in the arena of art production offering an experimental mode of experience and participation in order to unfold the work. The collaboration with the audience would include both playing the game as well as participating in dialogue: 'A dialogue doesn't mean just between two people; but rather the root of meaning of 'dia' in Greek means 'through'. And the general picture it suggests is a stream running between two banks. It's the stream that counts' (David Bohm, 1985)

Both games and dialogue are audience participation activities. Neitsch (2007) points out that the possibility of shaping culture through games is immense because of the natural tendency of people to engage with games and play.

'Like a game, the nature of Dialogue is exploratory, continuing to unfold its meaning and its methods. No firm rules can be laid down for conducting a Dialogue because its essence is learning - not as the result of consuming a body of information or doctrine imparted by an authority, nor as a means of examining or criticizing a particular theory or programme, but rather as part of an unfolding process of creative participation between peers'. (Bohm, 1996)



fig 2.6 Turner, R. Birds on wire. May 2007. Digital photograph
Exploring Dirac's metaphor.





fig 2.7 Turner, R. Signal. June 2007. Wire
From a series of small signal transmitting devices made from found materials.

chapter 3. methodology

3.1 introduction

3.2 phenomenology of sensing

3.2.1 the signals

3.2.2 technology, signals and machines

3.3 approach

3.3.1 philosophy of love, art, magic and mathesis

3.4 process

3.4.1 designing performance

3.4.2 the stage and the theatre

3.4.3 visuals

3.4.4 onstage action

3.4.5 olfaction research

3.4.6 fragrance release

3.4.7 the perfume category

3.4.8 the performance

3.5 collaboration



fig 3. Turner, R. 2008. ANNO 1651 - 1733, Svatá Hora u Píbrami: The Provost Church of the Assumption of Our Lady Svatá Hora (Holy Mountain), Czech Republic .Paintings adorning 30-40 cuppolas in the cloisters, depicting 'signals'.

3.1 introduction

The SKEIN title refers to a process of inquiry that traverses both forwards and backwards in a winding motion. The inquiry and the work are interpretive using the hermeneutic paradigm to probe phenomenological experience and subjective sensory construction. Both method and material are manifested in a direct and discontinuous manner in the underpinning concept of an exploratory research.

The signals of our times inhabit us and occupy our collective *worldviews*. The absorption, into daily practices and responses, of an anxiety engendered by the perception of terrorism and its perceived dangers initiated my interest in developing an extrasensory or subsensory awareness, to disrupt the general consensus of how these relationships are experienced. My experience of signal reception, visualised as a living, growing tapestry of networks woven from numerous interconnected skeins of communication, may reveal the relationships between thoughts, emotions and assumed ideas about our times. Built around notions of interpretation of multisensory signals, my research uses experiential reflection on *received signals* as a means to explore and identify the broader issues of a paradox in contemporary patterns.

The repetitive pattern of heightened mediated anxiety since 2001 is constantly unfolding in our thought and actions. 'Every thought unfolds into images and feelings which operate the same way as perception would. The thought of danger will produce the same emotions as the perception of actual danger. And the same chemical behavior....' (Bohm, 1985) p.46

My process of investigation via numerous experiential, contemplative, active, woven threads, aligns with phenomenology which is a process of enquiry that reveals knowledge by the immediate engagement of a person with his or her surroundings as defined by Seamon (2008) who, in writing about phenomenology which emerged at the end of the 1800s with Husserl, said

Husserl's notion was of consciousness as intentional, that is, directed at content and studying the flow of consciousness directed at the perceived phenomena to yield knowledge of essential structures in reality as the exploration and description of phenomena, where phenomena refers to things or experiences as human beings experience them... Any object, event, situation or experience that a person can see, hear, touch, smell, taste, feel, intuit, know, understand, or live through is a legitimate topic for phenomenological investigation

What means should I employ to explore and to encourage an extrasensory perception for understanding the meaning of the pattern in and between the threads of this tapestry ?

3.2 phenomenology of sensing

My multisensory art practice engages the use of a phenomenological investigation because of the potential of that particular methodology to effect discovery by directed perception and direct experience. Phenomenological notions like Husserl's, and later, Heidegger's 'being in the world', provide important insights into changed physical-perceptive capacities. Heidegger was concerned that philosophy should be capable of telling us the meaning of Being, of the where and what Dasein is (Hornsby, Roy).

Merleau-Ponty (1962) expanded on Heidegger's ideas to include the active role of the body in human experience. Merleau-Ponty sought to re-interpret the division between body and mind common to most conventional Western philosophy and psychology (Seamon, 2000). Merleau-Ponty's notion was of perceptual unfolding, in which a thing (or object) is not given in perception; it is internally taken up by us, reconstituted and experienced by us in so far as it is bound up with the world, the basic structures of which we carry with us.

My investigation is grounded in the movement of the unfolding and enfolding of my thinking and research, and therefore I consider the phenomenological process of great significance in maintaining a rigorous but interpretive and playful inquiry.

Seamon writes: 'According to Franck (1987) a key reason for (the) discomfort (around phenomenological enquiry) was the unwillingness of social scientists to 'understand or accept the [more intuitive] strategies and priorities of the design professions' (ibid).p65. Franck emphasizes that one of the greatest values of phenomenology is its potential for providing a place for dialogue between designers and social scientists because it gives attention 'to the essence of human experience rather than to any abstraction of that experience and because of its ability to reconcile, or perhaps

to bypass completely, the positivist split between objective and subjective.' (pp. 65-66)

Despite New Zealand's relative isolation from international military interventions and tensions, increased security around the risks associated with terrorist activities has been accentuated by a constant and escalating stream of media since 2001. I attempted to approach this material with an exploration of particular categories of signals that I have been receiving and interpreting over the past eight years.

3.2.1 the signals

My initial investigations were into the nature of the signal and its visual depictions. I found at least 60 paintings adorning 30-40 cuppolas in the cloisters of Svatá Hora u Píbrami: The Provost Church of the Assumption of Our Lady Svatá Hora (Holy Mountain), Czech Republic. (fig 3.2.1) Painted in the 1600's they depict signals visually similar to lightning strikes or electrical charges connecting the space between sky and earth. The signals, similar to lightning strikes or electrical wires connecting the space between sky and earth, drew lines from Mary in the sky to animals and people on the earth. These paintings are significant to my project because they simplify the concept of the signal as being a charge that erupts between two potential zero states through space.

They are diagrammatic of the clear idea of the object and subject and of the prejudices arising from the objective concept of an energy charge that flows between the invisible world and the earthly one. These works directed my research towards an earlier period of time before 1600, before Descartes introduced dualism and the separation of body and spirit. The signal, as I currently understand it, is an expression of meaning, issuing out of its context. The meaning is our consciousness, and it feeds back into the soma or the body which acts on the world. This constitutes a flow of energy

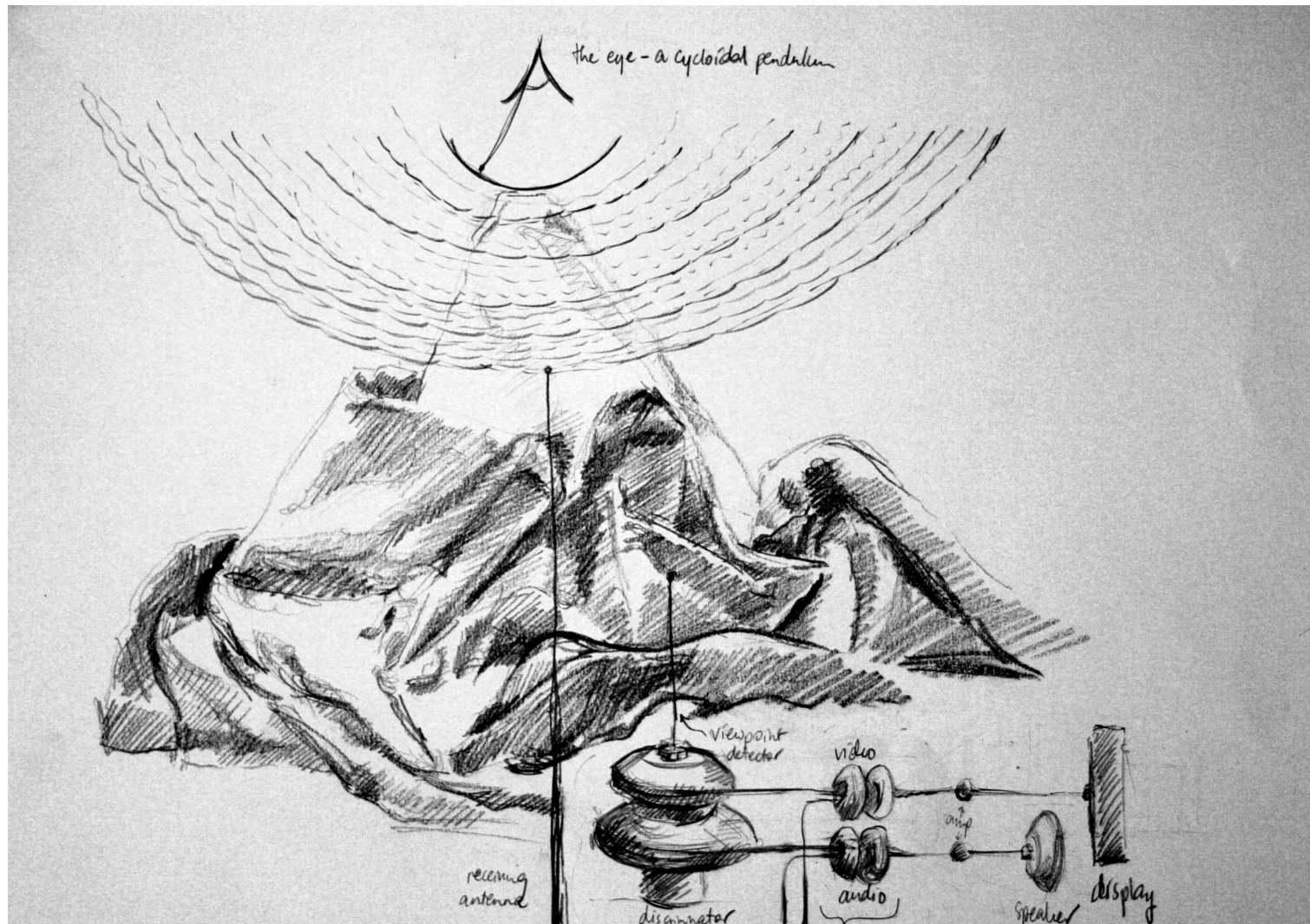


fig. 3.1 Turner, R. The eye is a cycloidal pendulum. May 2007. Pencil on paper.
Study and elaboration of Reproduction Device and Reproduction Method.

between matter and the mind. 'In the older view, however, meaning and reality were sharply separated. Reality was not supposed to be changed directly by perception of a new meaning.' (Bohm, 1985) p 94. Bohm's concept supports my intention to closely observe several signals of our times for their meaning. His view of soma-significance is where the deep change of meaning is a change in the deep material structure of the brain as well, describing how this unfolds into further changes in a flowing field of mental and physical change. 'In this way, something unfolds and has a significance, and as a result something else unfolds, (p 86) and in effect, meaning pervades being.'

3.2.2 technology, signals and machines

I began my investigation of designs for technologies for utilising the power of PSI, and psychokinesis. A patent search for applications disclosed Sony's multi-million dollar research program to investigate X-ray vision, telepathy and other paranormal phenomenon. A patent application named Reproduction Device and Reproduction Method, (World Intellectual Property Organisation, WO/2004/091199) by SONY corporation, revealed design diagrams and descriptions of remote control switching devices operated by attentive focus.

I explored the concept of the proposed apparatus by elaborating on these diagrams. Making drawings that interpreted the patent designs, I reconstructed the designs to gain an understanding of the systems that were being proposed to employ *intention* as a signal of agency. (figs 3.1; 3.2) In the process of working on the drawings I began thinking that they were similar to designs for machinery to assist teleportation as used in science fiction, and thus echoed the mechanical concept of the world. Although quantum teleportation has been performed both for photons and for systems with electrons for the purposes of my project research I directed my attention towards an earlier period of time before Descartes introduced dualism and the separation of body and spirit.

3.3 approach

3.3.1 philosophy of love, art, magic and mathesis

In *The Art Of Memory*, British Historian Yates writes that Giordano Bruno (1548 -1600) an Italian philosopher, was preparing the way for the finding of a Great Key towards creating the new religion of 'Love, Art, Magic and Mathesis.' Giordano Bruno founded universal memory systems on magic images which he thought of as directly in contact with reality (p.364) to arrive at universal knowledge through combining significant images of reality. Bruno's cosmology was that of a dynamic universe.

Around the same time, Leibnitz was creating a universal calculus for an encyclopedia which was to bring together all the arts and sciences known to man. 'When all knowledge was systemised in the encyclopedia, *characters* could be assigned to all notions, and the universal calculus would eventually be established for the solution of all problems. It followed that the search for *images for things*, when transferred to mathematical symbolism, would result in the discovery of new and better mathematical or logico-mathematical, notations, making possible new types of calculation.

The idea of creating a representative notation system in signs, notions and characters, led me to the the idea that such a multisensory system for the world may be readily available in new technologies to 'arrive at universal knowledge through combining significant images of reality'. Cyphers and symbols of things 'in the language of Adam', can be directly expressed by digital technologies as *the thing or notion itself*, in simulations or synaesthetic substitutions to create mirrors of contemporary reality.

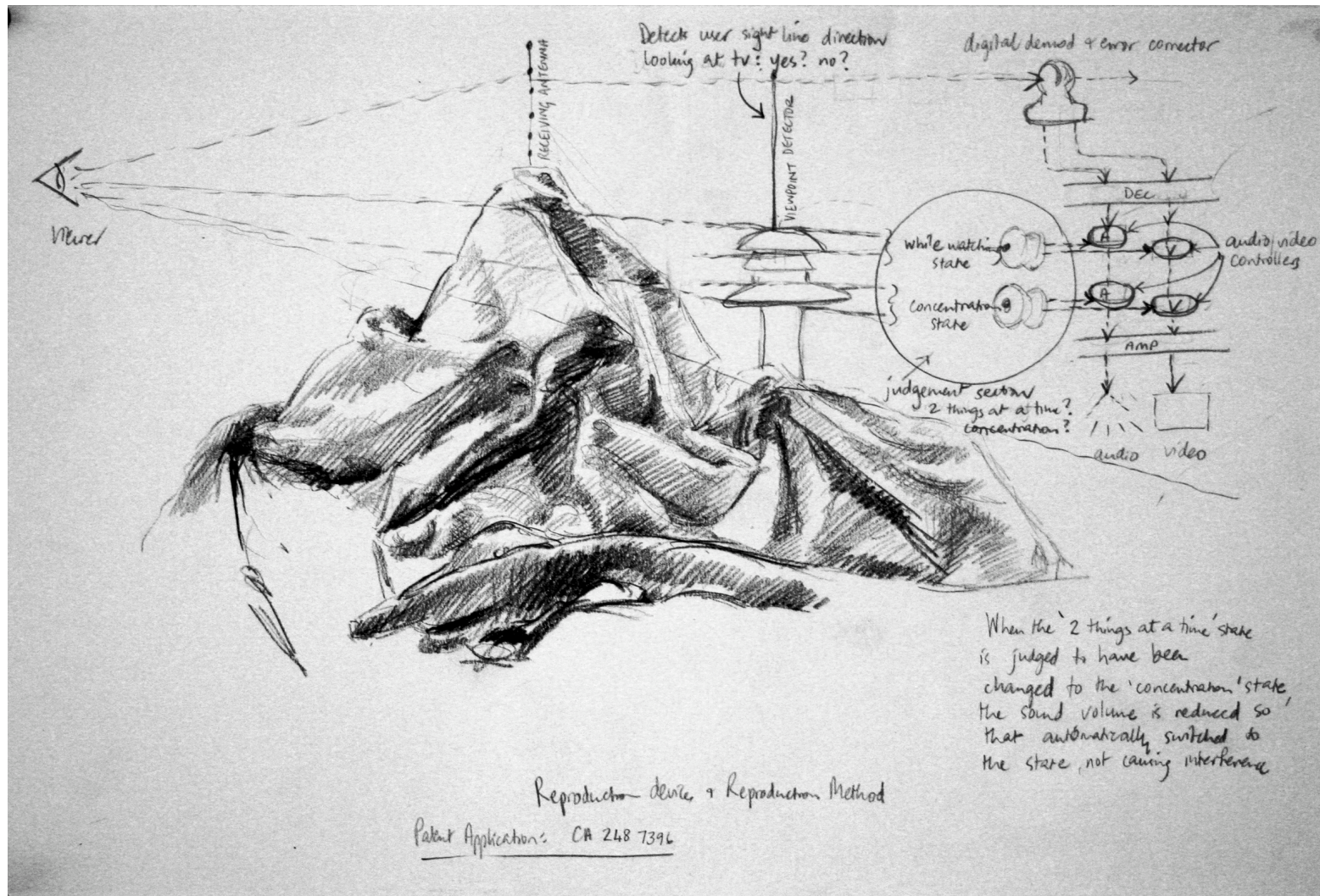


fig 3.2. Turner, R. Eye detection May 2007. Pencil on paper.
Study and elaboration of Reproduction Device and Reproduction Method.

3.4 process

3.4.1 designing performance

Towards creating a representative notation system in signs, cyphers and characters, I focused on what might be represented in such a multisensory system. The two mediums have accompanied each other's progression over the last eight years, and are readily available to 'arrive at universal knowledge' are perfume and media.

I anticipate the audience participating intimately in meaning making. The audience would experience the perfumes intentionally created for love during the last eight years and participate in a dialogue during the game. Their movements would be watched with surveillance technology, translated and projected back simultaneously into the tabletop upon which they are playing, as well as on screens in the room.

My focus is directed towards creating an experience in live performance using immediate and sensate mediums. Pick Up Styx is an intimate audience performance work and I use various technologies to effect a simultaneous experience.

3.4.2 the stage and the theatre

In a performance event where the actors and the audience are one, their response to each other may provide insight into how we perform ourselves from within our world view and our thoughts.

By compressing the performance to an arena where the audience are the actors, and where both viewing and acting take place, the performance becomes condensed and framed on a small screen. Of relevance to this concentration into a small space, is Virillio's description of the miniaturisation of war, where he says that in making total war 'intensive' and no longer 'extensive', postmodern man has now managed to reduce the format of violence to its simplest expression: *an image*. Virillio's (2000) protest at the framing of images as 'consumer' information is also at the control of information, and therefore of the framing of meaning. (pg 25) He speaks of the common practice of government control by limiting operations to a miniscule area and to the shortest possible time, so that the most watchful observers (journalists and others) would never see a thing.

This fits well with my original idea for the players' actions to move them unsuspecting through a landscape of a first person shooter game, on a small screen. This, however, would necessitate the use of weapons and stereotyped environment to give the appearance of a war game.

Like the observers of Virillio's televisual horizon, the horizon is not the background of the image, but its delimitation: the frame of the screen, the framing of the broadcast, and, especially, the duration...(p 46)



fig 3.3 Turner, R. Evidence, June 2008. Digital image.
I used the forensic guidelines as a framework to source material with the idea of disturbance and contamination.

3.4.3 visuals

The word 'Styx' in Pick Up Styx refers to the River Styx and the river of sorrow must appear as a stygian background in the work. Featured in the hell of Christianity as well, in Dante's *The Divine Comedy* and also Milton's *Paradise Lost*, generally the River Styx refers to anything that is dark, dismal or gloomy. Virillio's visions in *Landscape of Events* are particularly potent to my research and selection and collection of visuals and sound for the work. In his foreword to *Landscape of Events*, Tschumi speaks of looking at a reversal situation in which 'fear of the future is outstripped by fear of the past, as though the past, far from disappearing, from being erased by the present, continues to weigh it down, worse, to secretly contaminate it'. His delineation liberates me from the use of images of war, poverty, and human vulnerability, to symbolically depict a river of pain, fear and sorrow.

Local disruptions and violent events thrown together in the media are often experienced as empirical evidence of the war on terror.

The landscape is a passage, but it is no longer the big events that make up the fabric of the landscape of time. It is in the notion of the myriad incidents, minute facts either overlooked or deliberately ignored, that I see the symbolic fragments discarded in the gutters of the everyday consumer world. I eschew the use of mediated images images of war, for example, soldiers, bombers, and guns, for stains to signify the idea of ruined and ruining surfaces.

In directing my vision towards fragments and discarded evidence left at the sites of violence, I found I required information about the forensic systems and methods used to search for evidence of terrorist activity. (fig 3.3) Part of this research includes conversations with a Senior Chemist of Counter Terrorism, Victoria Police Forensic Services Centre. I have used several of her guidelines and instructions as a framework to source material with the idea of disturbance and contamination.

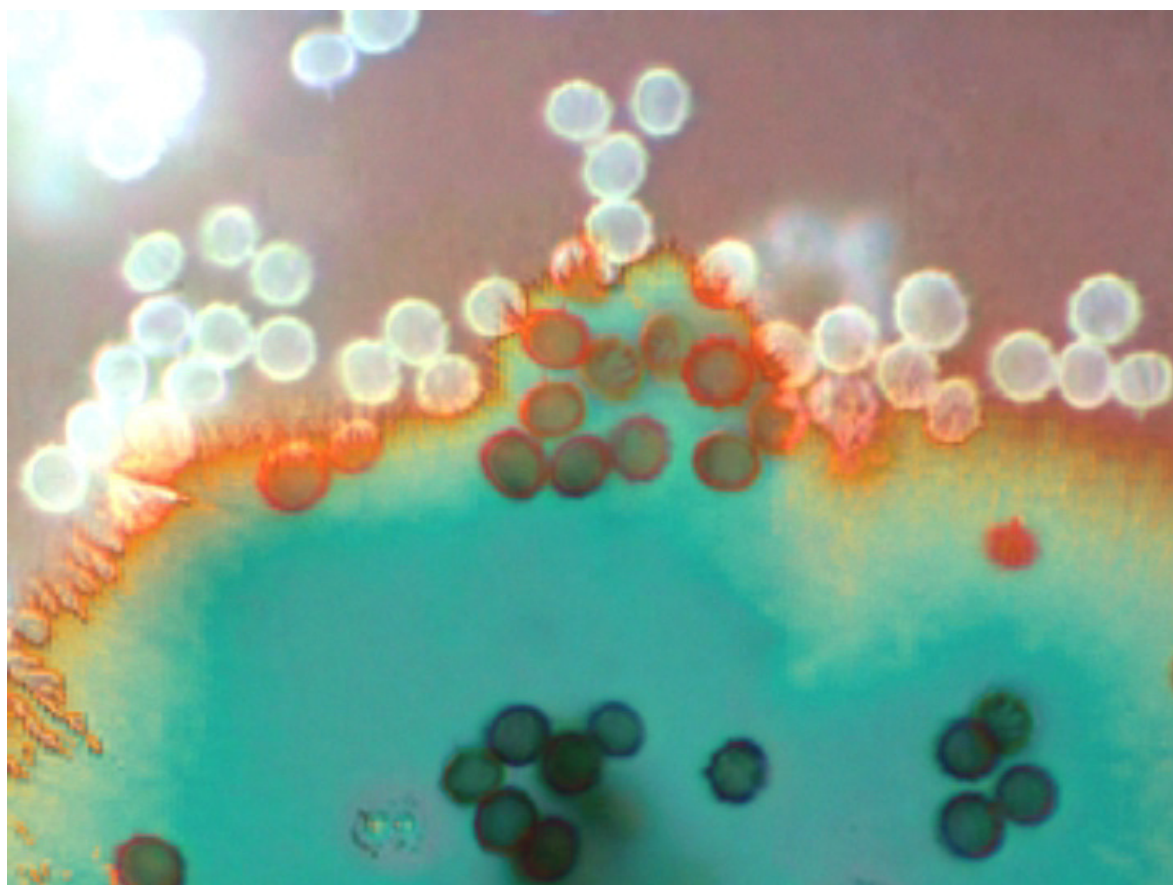


fig 3.4. Turner, R. The players' movements control the stage visuals. June 2008. Digital image.

3.4.4 onstage action

The players' movements control the visuals, but instead of playing out a narrative as in a game, the visuals are more like an optic flow or image velocity. (fig 3.4) Similarly, the exertions and activities of everyday life are also brought into the performance space, as the participants' close proximity to each other would also subject them to each other's scent and smell. I refer to Kozel (2007), who in *Closer* writes about the social choreographies that result from listening and sharing techniques, in her work, *whisper(s)* 'Amplifying the poetic capability of our mobile devices and their convergence with our bodies, both in what they convey and how they are worn, are two of the goals of the whisper(s) project...as with dance, techniques for listening and expression that animate the whisper system result in gestural and choreographic patterns across clusters or networks of bodies.'

3.4.5 olfaction research

My intention is for the work to be as radically empirical for the audience as was my experience of Henri Almeras's *Le Fruit Defendu* (*Forbidden Fruits*), launched at the end of the First World War in 1914 for Paul Poiret, as an expression of sorrow and sympathy. It was considered a *condolence perfume*. World War Two saw *Iris Gris* by Jaques Fath (Coty) which proved too expensive to continue production, and was subsequently discontinued after Coty's death; the Vietnam War produced Paco Rabanne, in 1969, by Calandre. My research into perfumes created during wartimes subsequently included the categorisation of a particular type of perfume that has escalated in production since the year 2001 and the War on Terror. During a conversation with Turin, in 2007, he praised the escalation in quality and quantity of 'celebrity perfumes.'

3.4.6 fragrance release

The delivery of smell in live performance needs careful attention because the audience cannot block it out like visuals or sound, and this is one of the reasons why the use of smell in performance has been very slow to develop. Polymer release and microencapsulation techniques propose alternative methods of working with smell in performance. In 2007 I visited Osmothèque in Versailles where I had requested samples of perfumes created during wartimes; Firmenich in Geneva, in 2007 to research polymer release systems; and Luca Turin, who is a biophysicist with a long-standing interest in the sense of smell, the art of perfume, and the fragrance industry. Turin stated that the technology for a digital interaction release system is not yet sufficiently developed, and Firmenich reiterated that currently the best, and only way to emit smell as a *spiked event* is through pressure or force to crush the micro "eggs" containing the encapsulated fragrance; however, the smell will remain thereafter. My subsequent experiments with perfume release involved paper touche sticks, which are traditionally used for sampling perfumes.

3.4.7 the perfume category

My attention was drawn to the specific category of celebrity perfumes by Luca Turin. I have decided not to examine the culture of the celebrity. The online home page of osMoz, a thematic website dedicated to perfume, in October 2007, is dedicated to Celebrity Perfumes. Although the apparent pinnacle of celebrity life is to achieve a publicly celebrated life rather than an uncelebrated one, the condolence of celebrity is insufficient to appease the world's troubles.

Information about the celebrity perfumes was gathered from various Internet sources, including department stores and pharmacies and their availability in New Zealand.

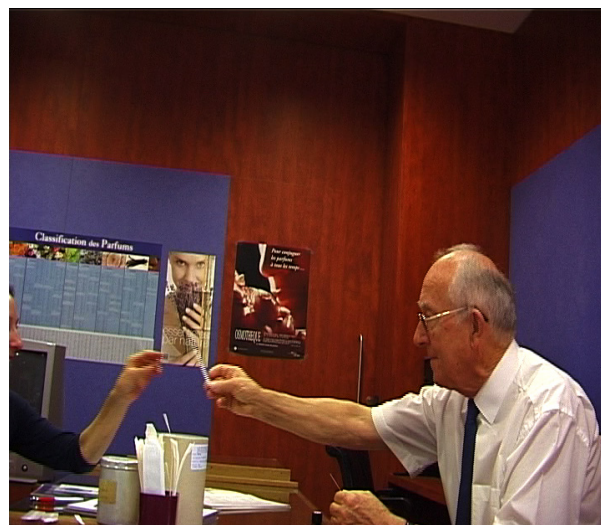


fig 3.5. Turner, R. Perfume sampling. June 2007. Jean Kerleo, Creator of Osmotheque, Versailles. Video still.

3.4.8 the performance

The performance of the work draws from aspects of Jean Kerleo's performance. The creator of Osmotheque, Kerleo, also a perfumer for Jean Patou, invited me to participate in the traditional mode of sampling the perfumes with him, using two paper touches. (Fig 3.5) Kerleo emphasised that the specific intention of creating a perfume is to trigger an emotion—LOVE—for both the person wearing it, and the people around the user. He impressed upon me that, above all, a perfume must smell good, to send and receive love, in the form of a fragrance, or various fragrances.

Initiated by Kerleo's performance, my formulation of the introduction and question for the audience actors participating in the dialogue. was also guided by the suggestions for initiating dialogue by 'Raise Your Voice', Brown University.

3.5 collaboration

Our society has traditionally nurtured the notion of the individual artist in control, whereas collaboration and especially with the public, throws open the doors of dynamics on aesthetic control. Collaborative technological experiments often yield a combination that neither of us would have dreamt up alone. I'm a practicing artist and for many years have worked solo, as well as working in collaboration with musicians for seven and a half years, dance, theatre and orchestral performance. My experience has taught me that what can be achieved by a few is much greater than the sum of a few. I wanted the project to include audience participation so that they too, would contribute to its development.

chapter 4. method

4.1 introduction

4.2 method, media and materials

- 4.2.1 collaboration
- 4.2.2 the sticks
- 4.2.3 creation and collection of visual materials
- 4.2.4 creation and collection of audio
- 4.2.5 interactive technologies
- 4.2.6 the stage and the theatre
- 4.2.7 perfumes
- 4.2.8 dialogue
- 4.2.9 test performances



fig 4. Turner, R. Drawing for intended motion in screen. October 2008. Ink on paper.

4.1 introduction

The previous chapter has clarified the key issues which emerged from this project. The following development of sketches, design elements, photographs, and artefacts, is based on creating a cohesive performative intervention.



fig 4.1. Turner, R. Games Modification and Machinima workshop, June 2007. TanslSTor and CIANT, Prague.

4.2. method, media and materials

Towards creating works that combine real actions with computer generated material, in July 2007, I participated in the Games Modification and Machinima workshop by TansISTor and CIANT, and the Isadora workshop by its designer, Mark Coniglio, for interactive performance. (fig 4.1) Both workshops were held while I was in Prague exhibiting in the 11th Prague Quadrennial of Scenography and Theatre Architecture 2007, Prumyslový Palace, Prague.

4.2.1 collaboration

I invited artist Kim Newell to collaborate with me on the 3D visuals and real time animation and interaction of the visuals. Kim and I met every four to six weeks from January, 2008, and discussed progress, tested our latest findings, and took notes for research in preparation for further development. Our initial objective in redesigning a game was 'to map the body and movement of the player and save it onto the virtual characters through the game engine.' (Nitsche, F, 2007)

This, however, would necessitate the use of images of weapons and stereotyped environments to give the appearance of a war game. Because war games and their genre of adventure games demand increasingly photorealistic 3D graphics, Kim experimented with using a war game engine, modifying it to move characters around using a player's gestures, but we encountered the problem of repetition, directionless movement, accessing levels, and being tied into a story-game and figuration.

Prior to collaboration, the images were generated by the Isadora patches which I was building. (figs 4.2; 4.2.1, 4.2.2) These were flat and were presented in many transparent layers. Kim and I worked on the idea of creating a 3D screen environment which would accommodate an array of images which could be changed, magnified, distorted, and folded over. Kim created a hand-drawn 'room' which behaves like an 'animal' appearing to shiver its skin in a controlled animism, as it responded in unexpected ways. We worked together until August when Kim's professional duties became too pressing for him to continue. In the course of this research, Kim and I have had many stimulating discussions, as well as our excursion to HITLab NZ to work on the project.

I decided to develop my technical expertise in the project and I returned to my collections of imagery and stains and further developed 'patches' (series of commands) in a graphical programming environment for interactivity of the sound and visuals.(fig 3.4)

The resultant imagery is different to that which Kim and I developed (figs 4.2.3 to 4.2.7), and no longer 3D.

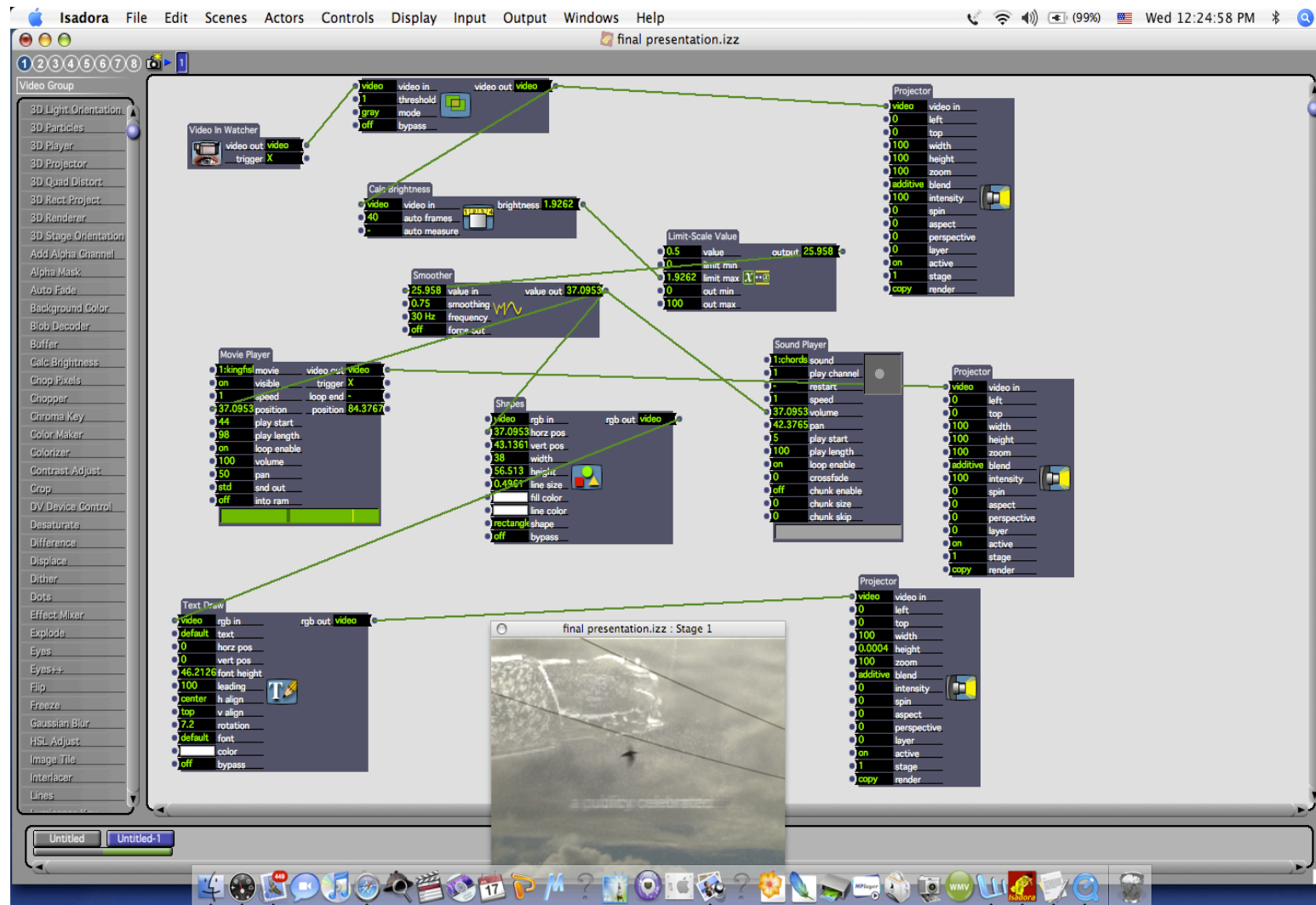


fig 4.2. Turner, R. September 2007. Screen shot. Isadora patch : live video test
 I built this patch (a series of commands) in Isadora so that ,the movement of my hand would initiate the flight of the bird from the wire. The sound of my voice activates the text.



fig 4.2.1. Turner, R. September 2007. Screen shot. Isadora patch :recorded video test:

My first experiment with the graphical programming environment, Isadora. The movement of my hand initiates the flight of the bird from the wire. The sound of my voice activates the text.

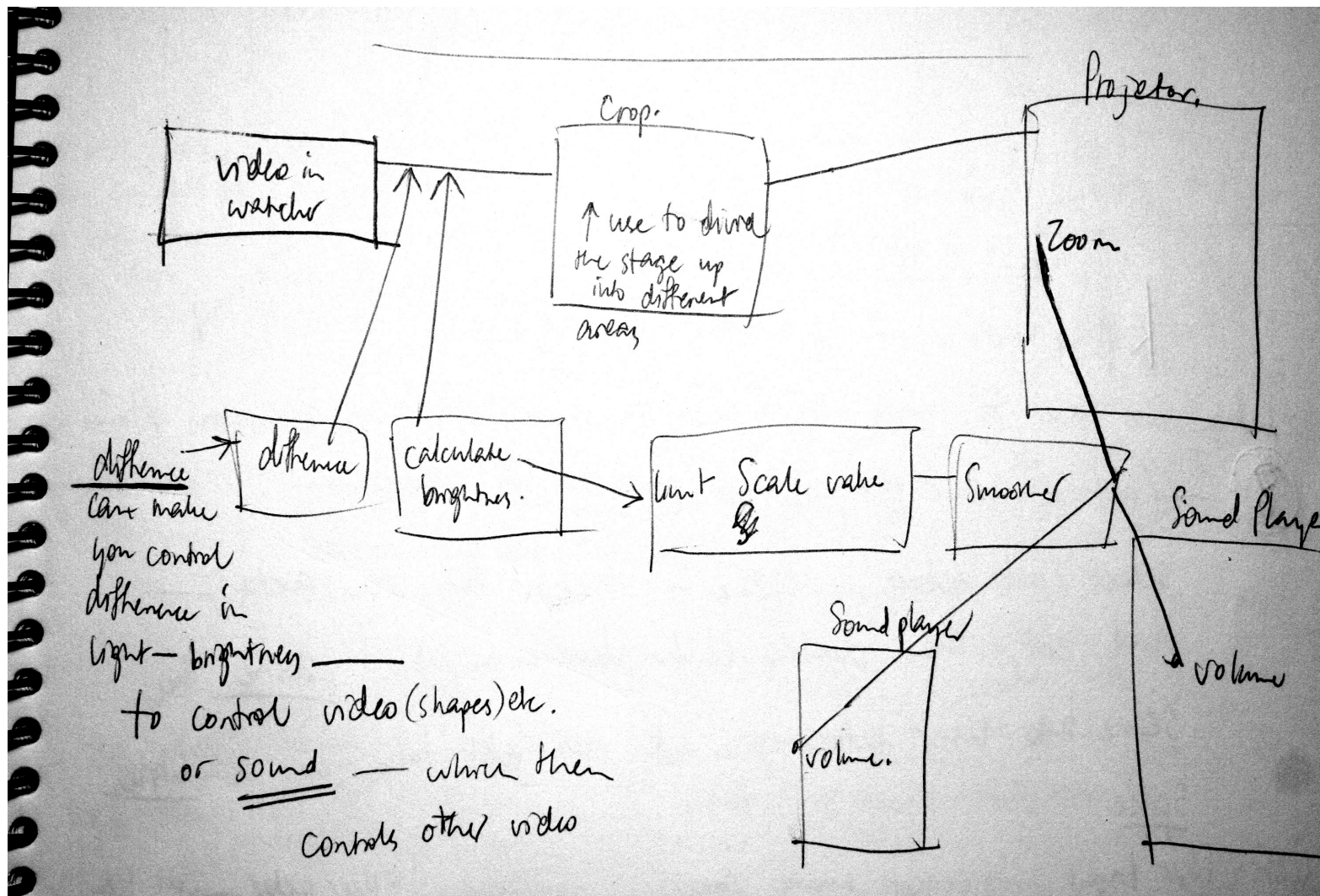


fig 4.2.2 Turner, R. Patch design. October 2008. Pencil on paper

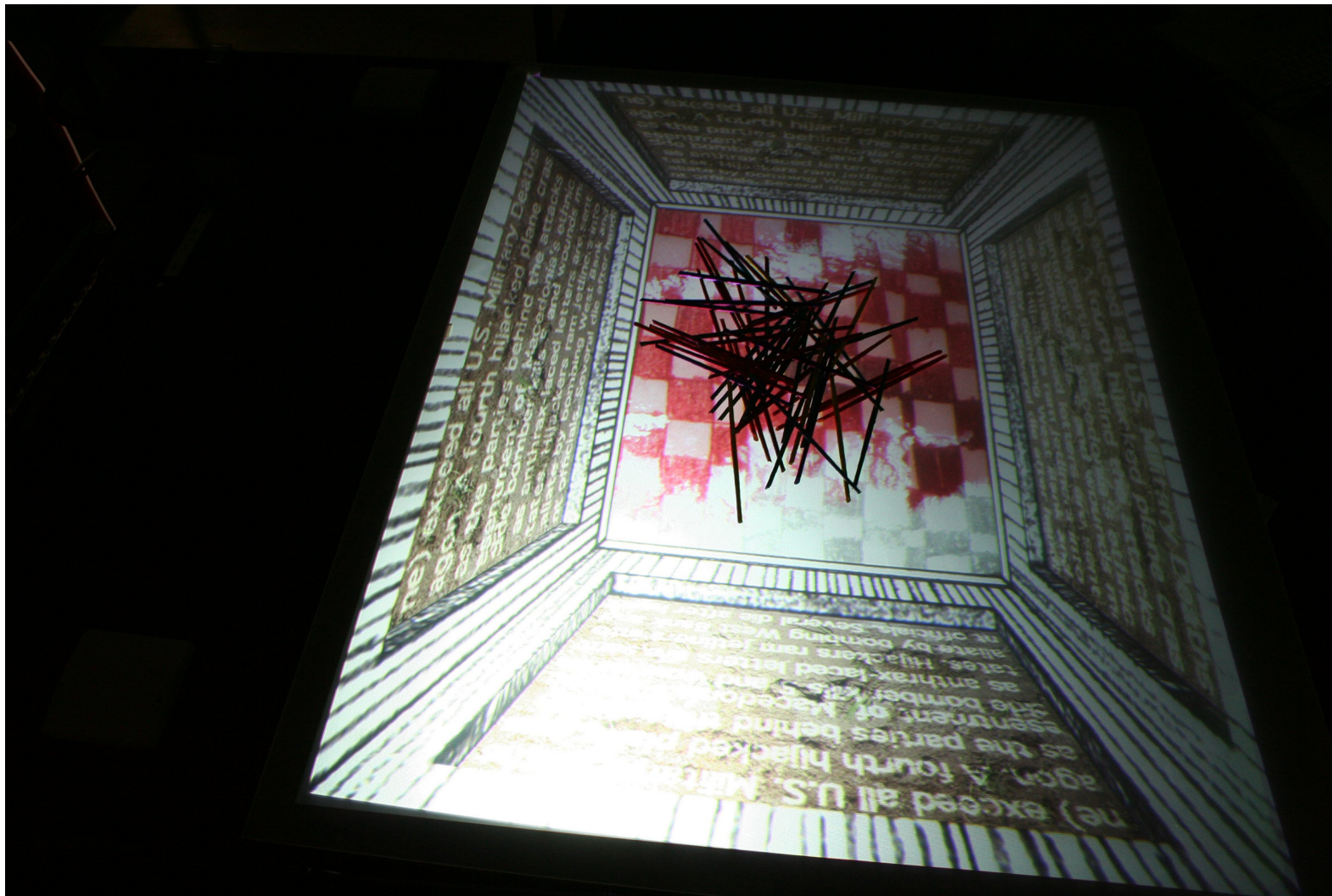


fig 4.2.3 Turner, R & Newell, K. 3D visuals. March 2008. Digital photograph

The rear projected 3D environment. The text generated by my voice is combined into Kim's hand-drawn 3D environment. The sticks sit on the surface of the screen. The images that we worked on with the plasma screen that we began our experiments with, was visually uncomfortable in close proximity.

ates. Hijackers ram jetliners into twin towers of New York
de Center and the Pentagon. A fourth hijacked plane crashes
from diamond-fueled Civil Wars (in Angola, Liberia, and
nation, as anthrax-laced letters are sent to various media
-simmering resentment of Macedonia's ethnic Albanian
camps in Afghanistan. Bombings continue on a daily basis
n suicide bomber kills 5 and wounds more than 100 in a
militant Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaeda terrorist network
e alone) exceed all U.S. Military Deaths in the last 70 years
ent officials. Several die after handling the letters (October
mail, Israeli warplanes retaliate by bombing West Bank
ies with leader Yasir Arafat following mounting violence

fig 4.2.4 Turner, R. Voice generated text. March 2008. Digital image created in Isadora
I had built a patch in the software program of Isadora to generate text files from annual world events, triggered by sound.
The sound of my voice during the game triggered the pre-programmed text relating to world events from the past 8 years.

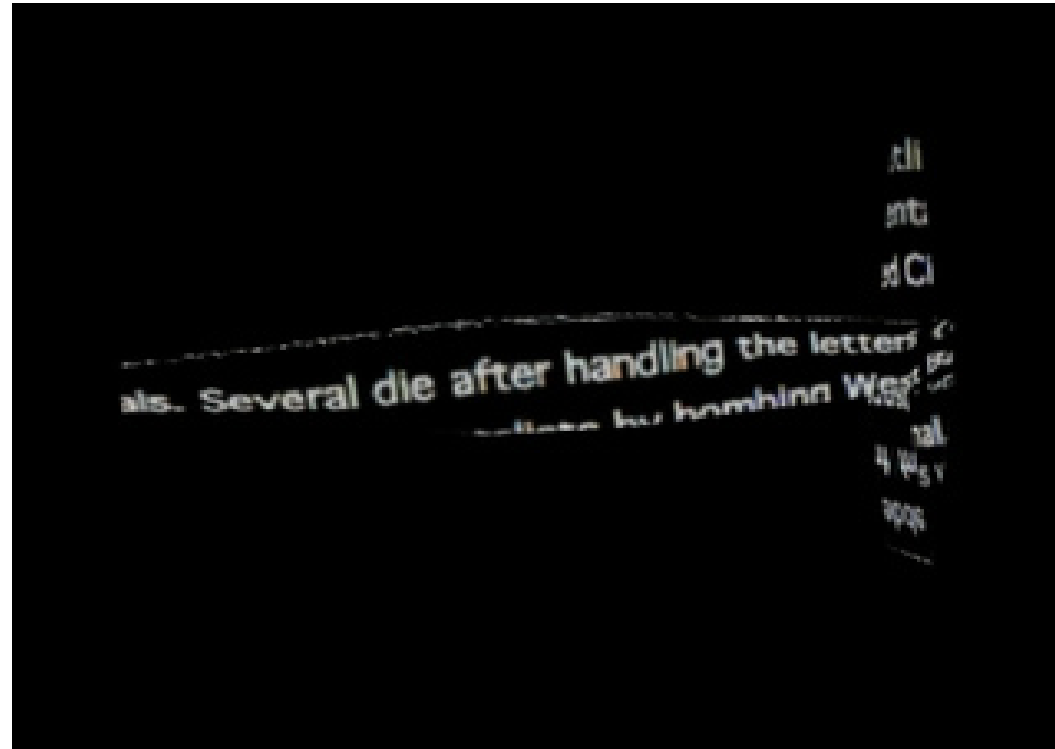


fig 4.2.5 Turner, R & Newell, K. May 2008. Digital image

Kim wrapped the text activated by my voice around a 3D object. The icepick is one of many items banned from aeroplanes since 2001. The objects are categorised by the year in which they were banned. (McLellan, 2008)

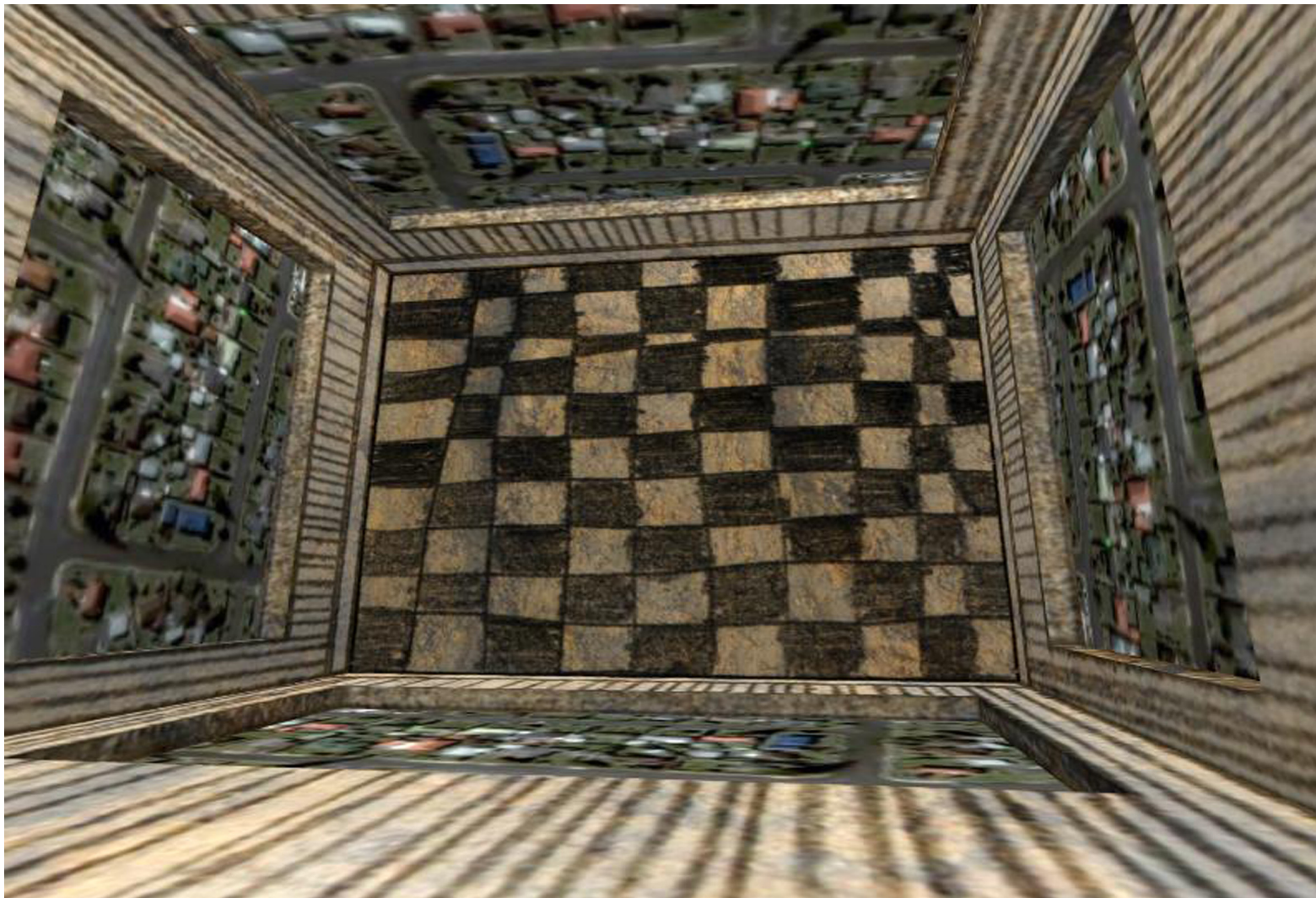


fig 4.2.6 Turner, R & Newell, K. 3D interactive screen. July 2008. Digital image



fig 4.2.7 Turner, R & Newell, K. 3D interactive screen. July 2008. Digital image



fig 4.2.8 Turner, R. Laser cut touche stick March 2008

4.2.2

sticks

Traditional touche sticks suggest an efficient and precise method for a non-invasive delivery of 65 individual celebrity perfumes. The chaotic fall of the sticks presents a structure for sampling the perfumes in a random sequential order, one at a time, and thus frees the players from an infinite variety of choices.

A commercial perfumer sent a packet of sticks for the first gathering of the perfumes which I carried out in 2007. She advised me that the material that is traditionally used for the sticks is acid free, unsized, and uses bleach free paper cut into strips.. The initial designs which incorporated a date for the year of release of each perfume, were to be laser cut. The nine semi-circular lines on them were symbolic for the nine times that the River Styx circles Hades. (Encyclopedia Mythica, 2008)

After I had created the files in Illustrator as instructed, Brett Orams made several attempts to laser cut the paper without burning it, as the burnt paper smell would contaminate the perfume sample on the stick.(Fig 4.2.2) The tests proved unsuccessful and resulted in disintegration of the paper. I subsequently hand painted the flat sticks, leaving an unpainted end. (Fig 4.2.2.2)

These were visually pleasing but they lacked an interesting system of delivery, and left one with too much choice.

I decided to create rolled paper sticks inspired by small paper rolls which were traditionally created from the pages of magazines for threading onto bead curtains during the Second World War. After a series of experiments with various papers including newspaper, magazines and origami papers, I made the sticks by painting, perfuming and hand-rolling them. (Fig 4.2.2.a)

The sticks are colour - coded, by year of release of the perfumes to the market. Each colour, when it is moved over delineated areas of the table, would trigger images and sounds particular to the year for which it was colour coded. The eight-colour tracking was to control the videos, images, sounds, 3D objects, and text which are activated by the players' movement, gestures and voices.

Kim and I had discussed how we might give the players meaningful interaction with a very simple spatial device, and Kim experimented with an aerial view of a room with which the players could interact through simple movements, intentional and unintentional. We then designed the colour coding of the sticks so that the players would be moved at greater or lesser heights of aerial perspective in the room by the agency of the colour-tracked sticks as well as moving through images related to those years, thus moving the players through various non-repetitious scenarios.

The colour tracking presented an area of difficulty. Tracking, in this situation, as a professional lighting technician advised me, is contingent upon the important factors of uniform colouration of the stick, difficult unless the object is flat: finely tuned colour coding is dependent upon available suitable paint; and omni-directional lighting also creates a problem with video feedback from the camera picking up the projected image in the screen.

The problems of handtracking that we encountered at length encouraged us to reconsider the temporal display of images in the performance. Consequently we decided to limit the possibilities and to provide objects that are both generated by the players' voices, and manipulated by their actions. Changes in perspectives of the room happened according to the players' positions and the velocity of their hand movements.

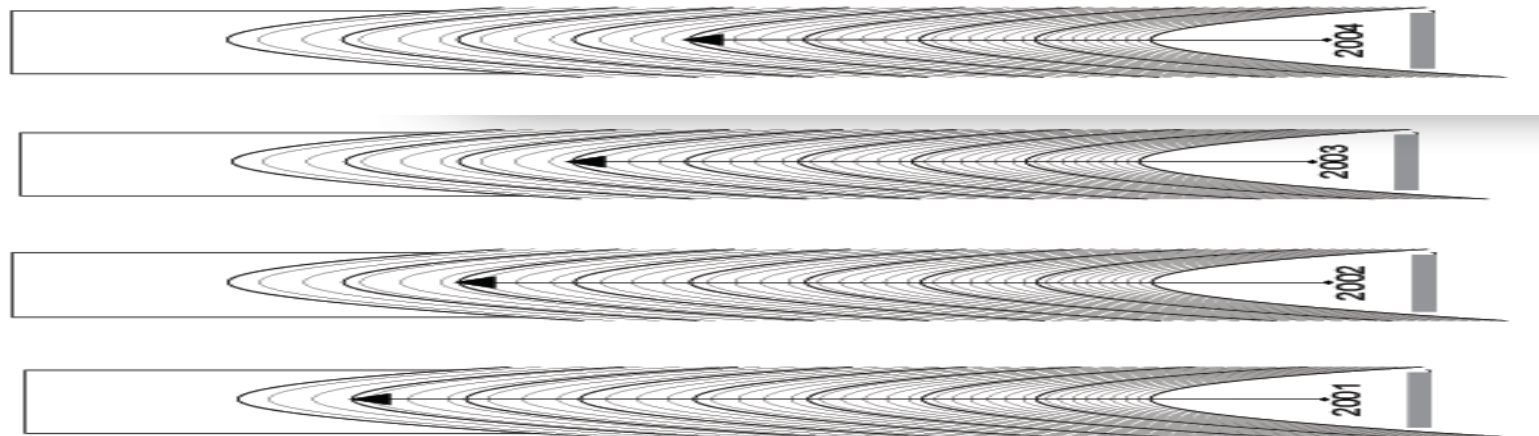


fig 4.2.9 Turner, R. Design for laser cut touche, March 2008. Created in Photoshop: Nelson Rayner



fig 4.2.10. Turner, R. Hand-painted touche sticks. February 2008. Watercolour on paper.



fig 4.2.11. Turner, R. Handpainted rolled sticks. February 2008. Watercolour on paper



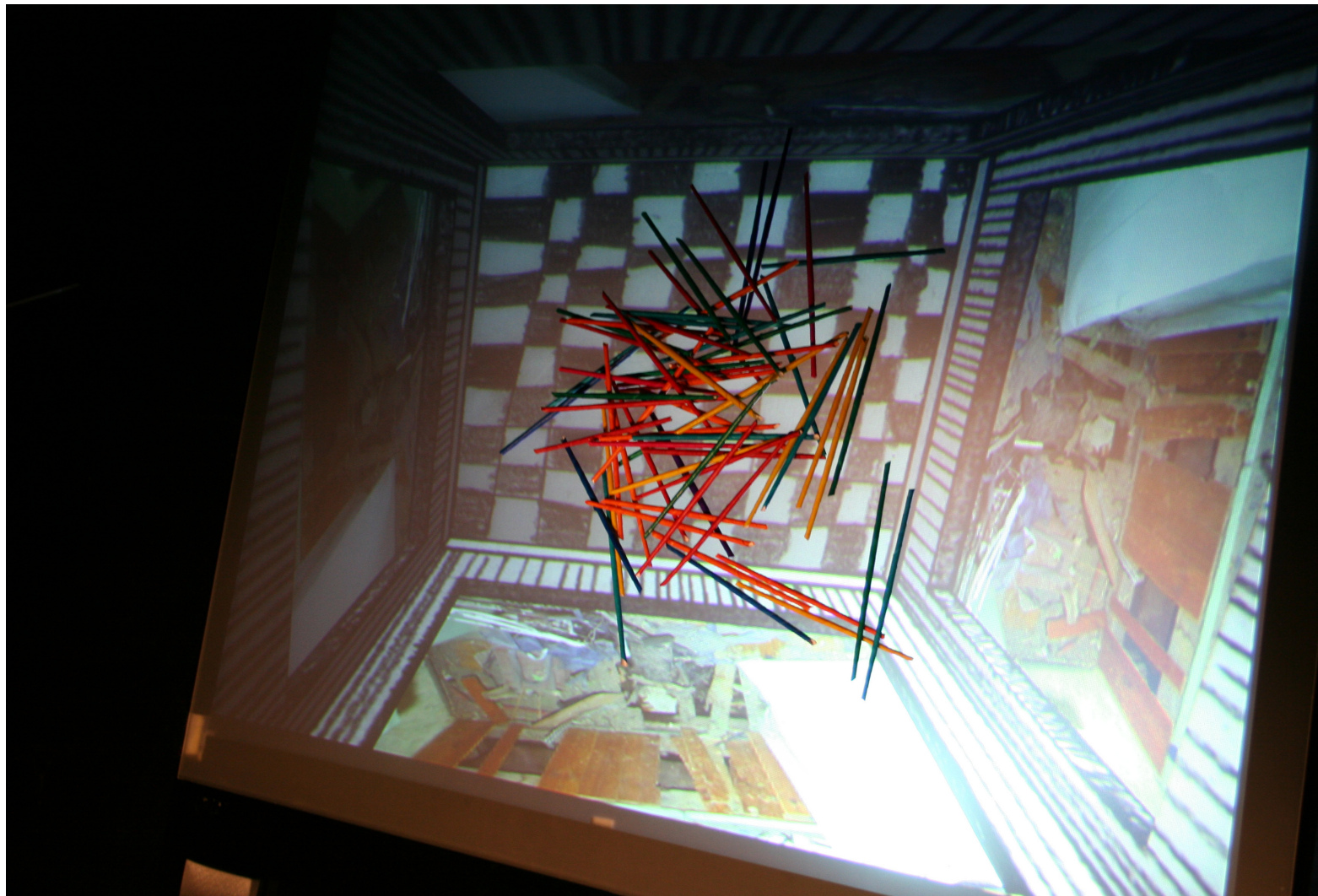


fig 4.2.12 Turner, R & Newell, K. 3D interactive screen. June 2008. Digital photograph
We created a focus for the sticks with the floor of the room

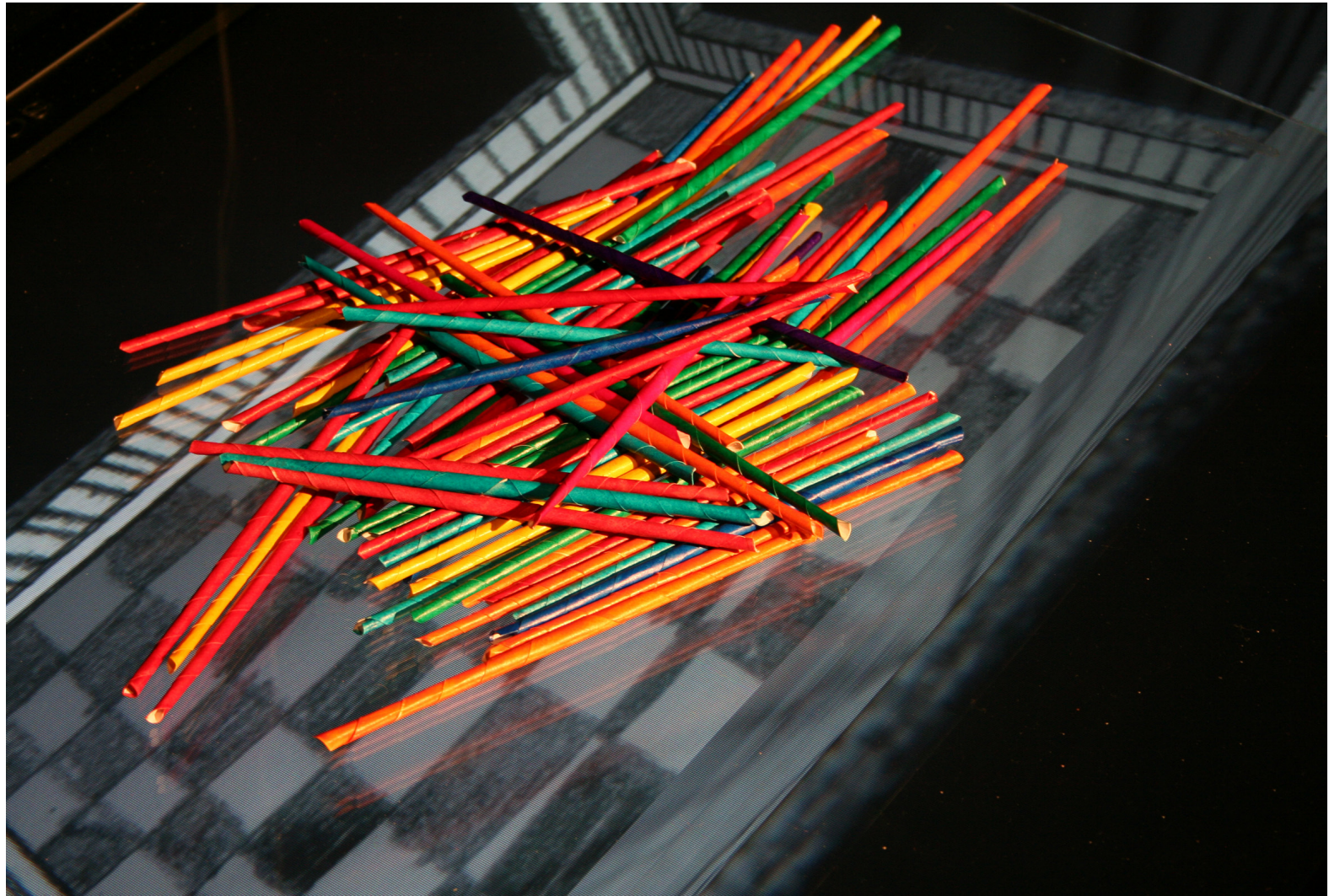


fig 4.2.13 Turner, R & Newell, K. 3D interactive screen. June 2008. Digital photograph

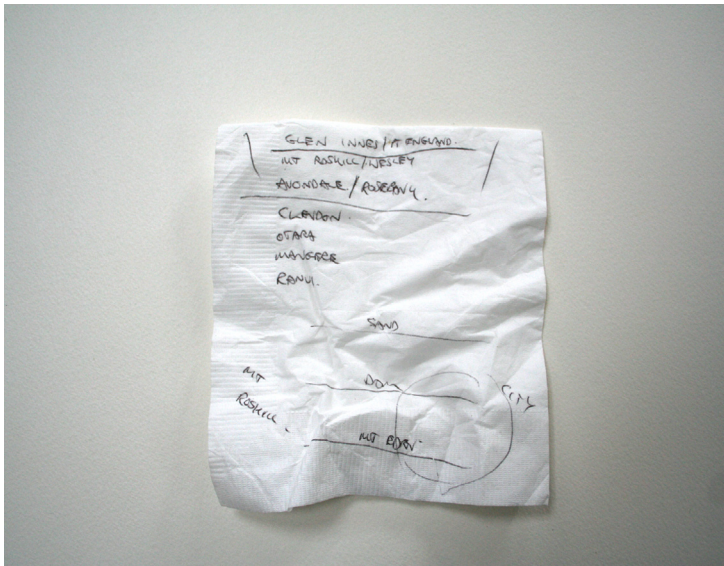


fig 4.3 Turner, R. Map. 2008.
Sketch by a police officer regarding the patrolled areas within the Auckland district.



fig 4.3.1 Turner, R. 2008. Video still image.
Interview with an ex-police sergeant about sites and zones of terror in NZ. It was the notions of prejudice, race, exclusion and assumptions which surfaced.

4.2.3 creation and collection of visual materials

Guided by my interest in the manifestations of local disturbances, I collected a wide variety of images from various sources. This raw material included soils and dust, public and domestic found stains, burning clothes, fallow fields, watercolour stains. Employing basic forensic guidelines which are used in searching for evidence of terrorist activity, I searched for evidence of debris, plant and soil disturbance, (figs 4.2.3, 4.2.3.1) invisible aflatoxin spores and contamination. I made a series of still images and collected video. These are material for manipulation in the graphical programming environment. (figs 4.2.3 -- 4.2.3.13)



fig 4.3.2 Turner, R. Evidence: activity. 2008. Digital photograph.
Debris in the patrolled areas within Auckland.



fig 4.3.3 Turner, R. Evidence : soil disturbance. 2008. Digital photograph.
Debris in the patrolled areas within Auckland.



fig 4.3.4 Turner, R. Evidence: found stain. 2008. Digital photograph
I photographed stains on footpaths, roadways, forecourts and in parking lots.



fig 4.3.5 Turner, R. Evidence: found stain. 2008. Digital photograph



fig 4.3.6 Turner, R. Evidence: debris from occupation. 2008. Digital photograph
Stains and debris on footpaths, roadways, forecourts and in parking lots.



fig 4.3.7 Turner, R. Evidence: soil disturbance. 2008. Digital photograph

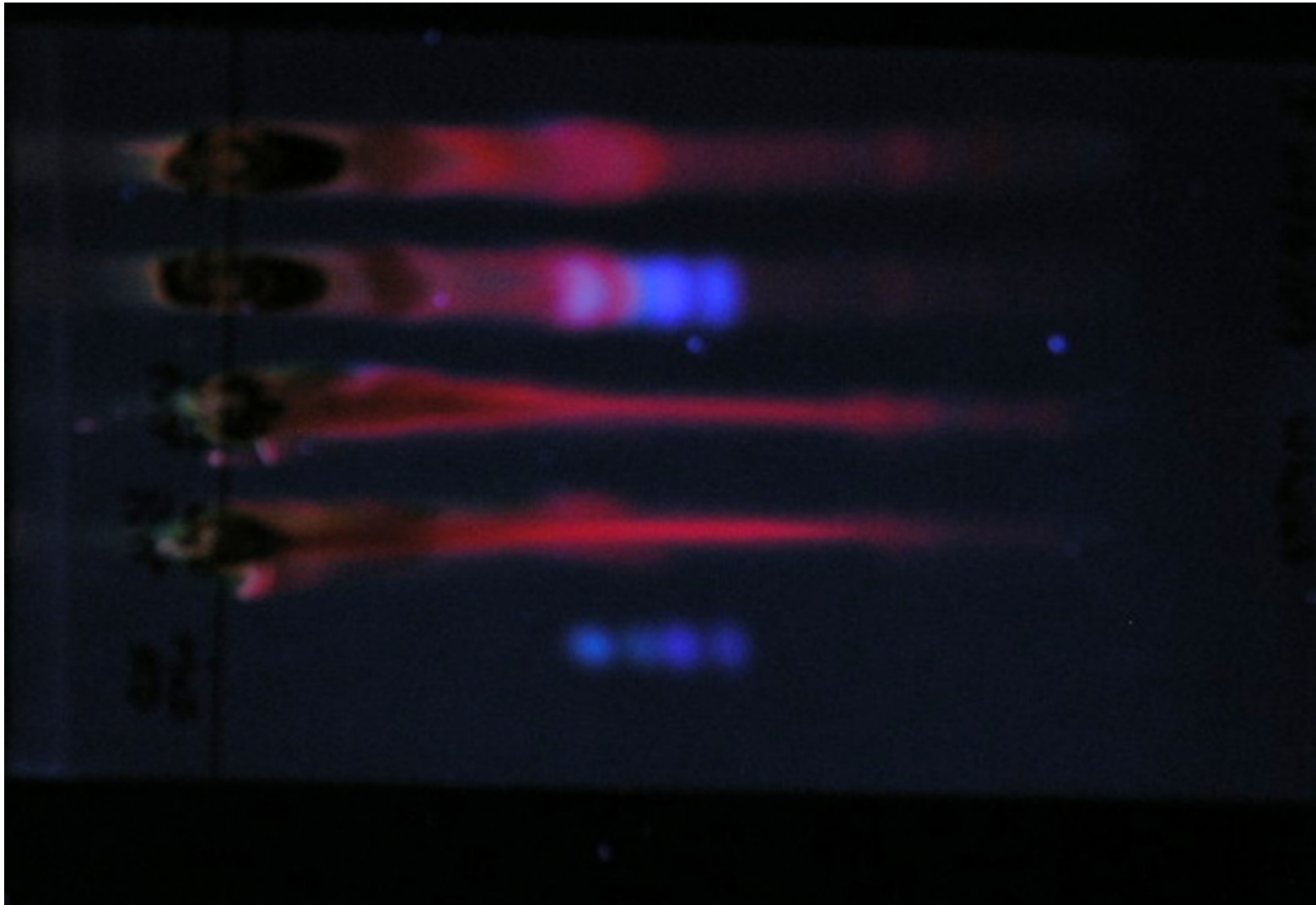


fig 4.3.8 Turner, R. Animated still image series of aflatoxin spores. 2008. Raw photograph Rush, M. The contamination spores viewed in ultraviolet light.

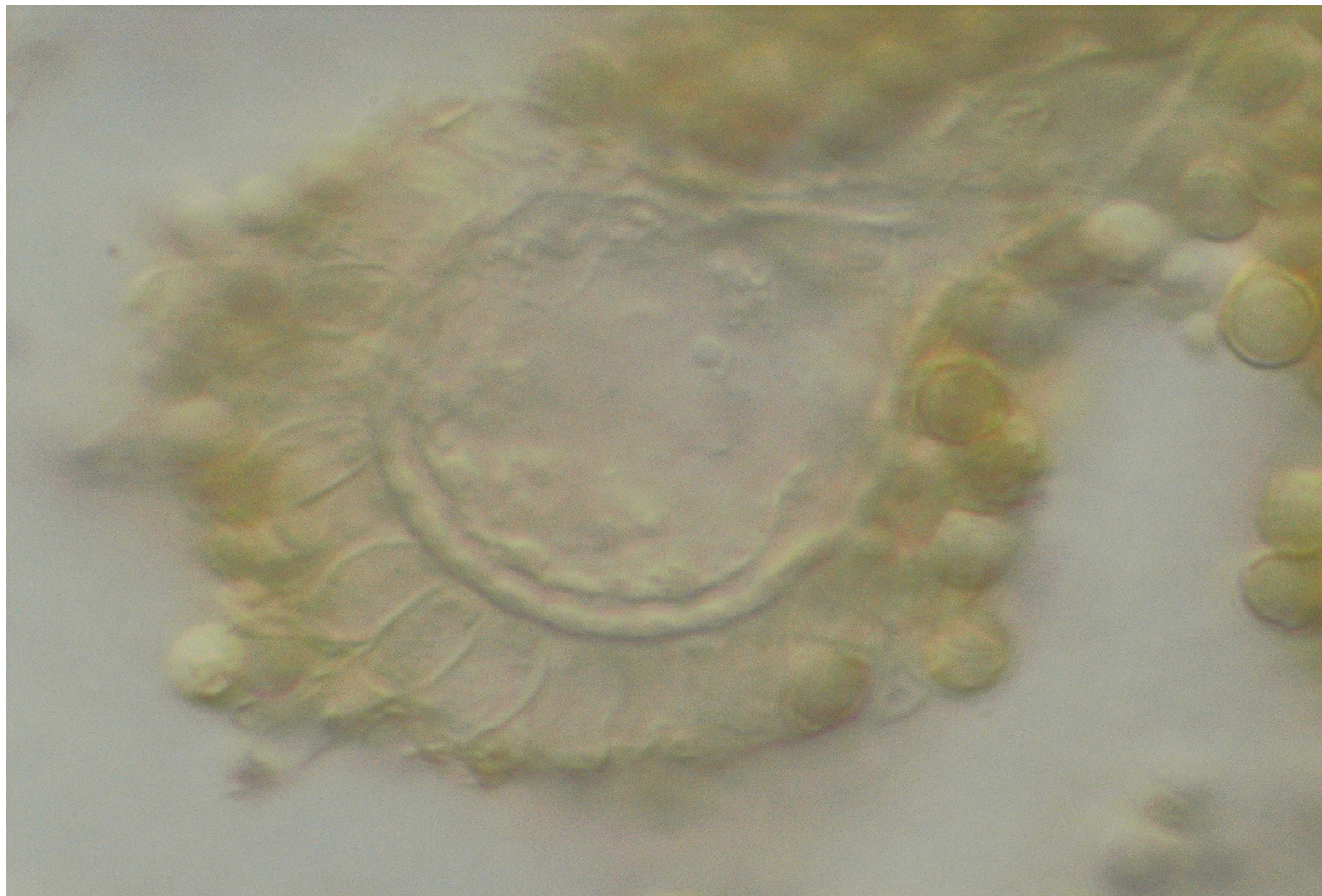


fig 4.3.9 Turner, R. Animated still image series of aflatoxin spores. 2008. Raw photograph Rush, M. Contamination spores.



fig 4.3.10 Turner, R. Burning clothes. 2008. Digital photograph

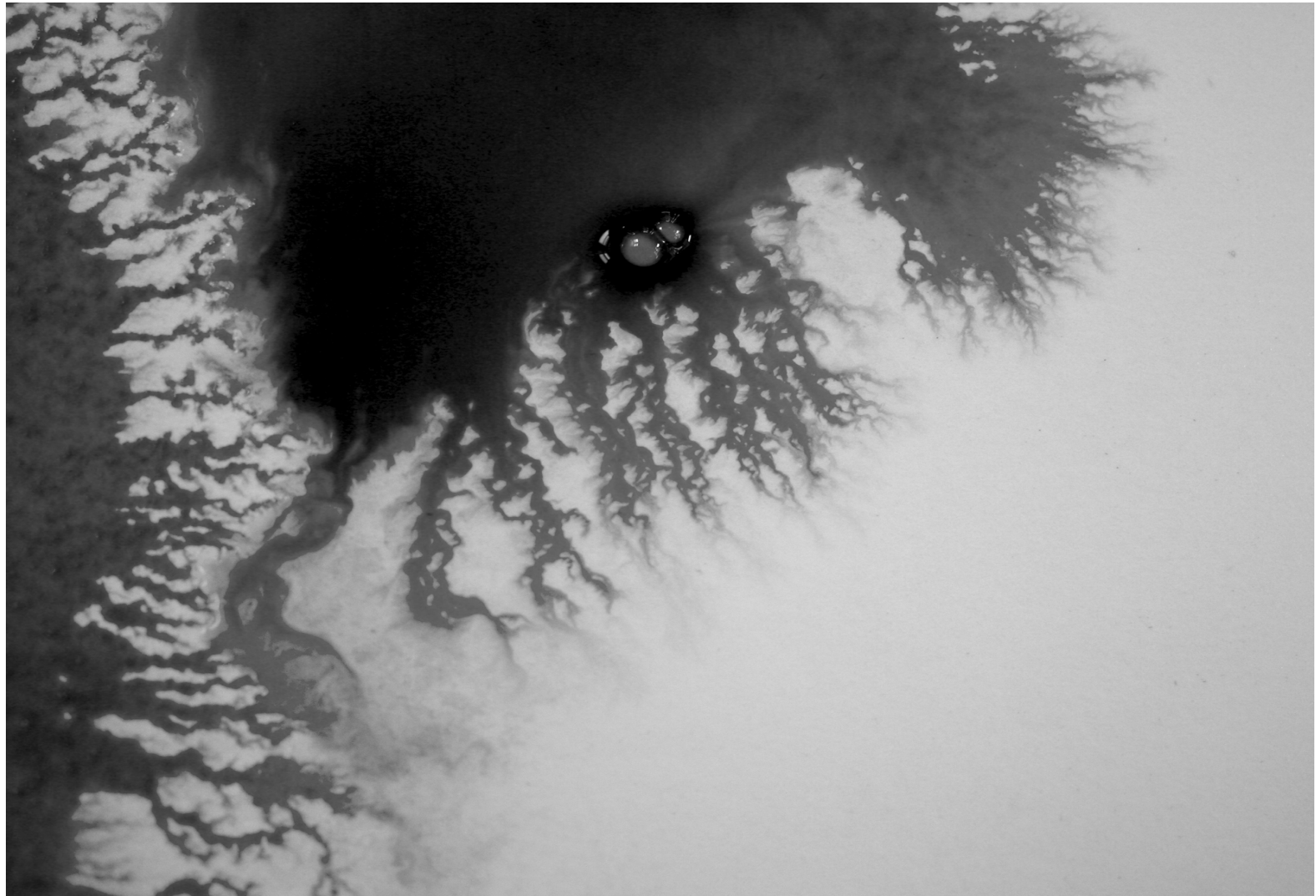


fig 4.3.11 Turner, R. Stains. 2008. Shellac watercolour on paper. Digital photograph

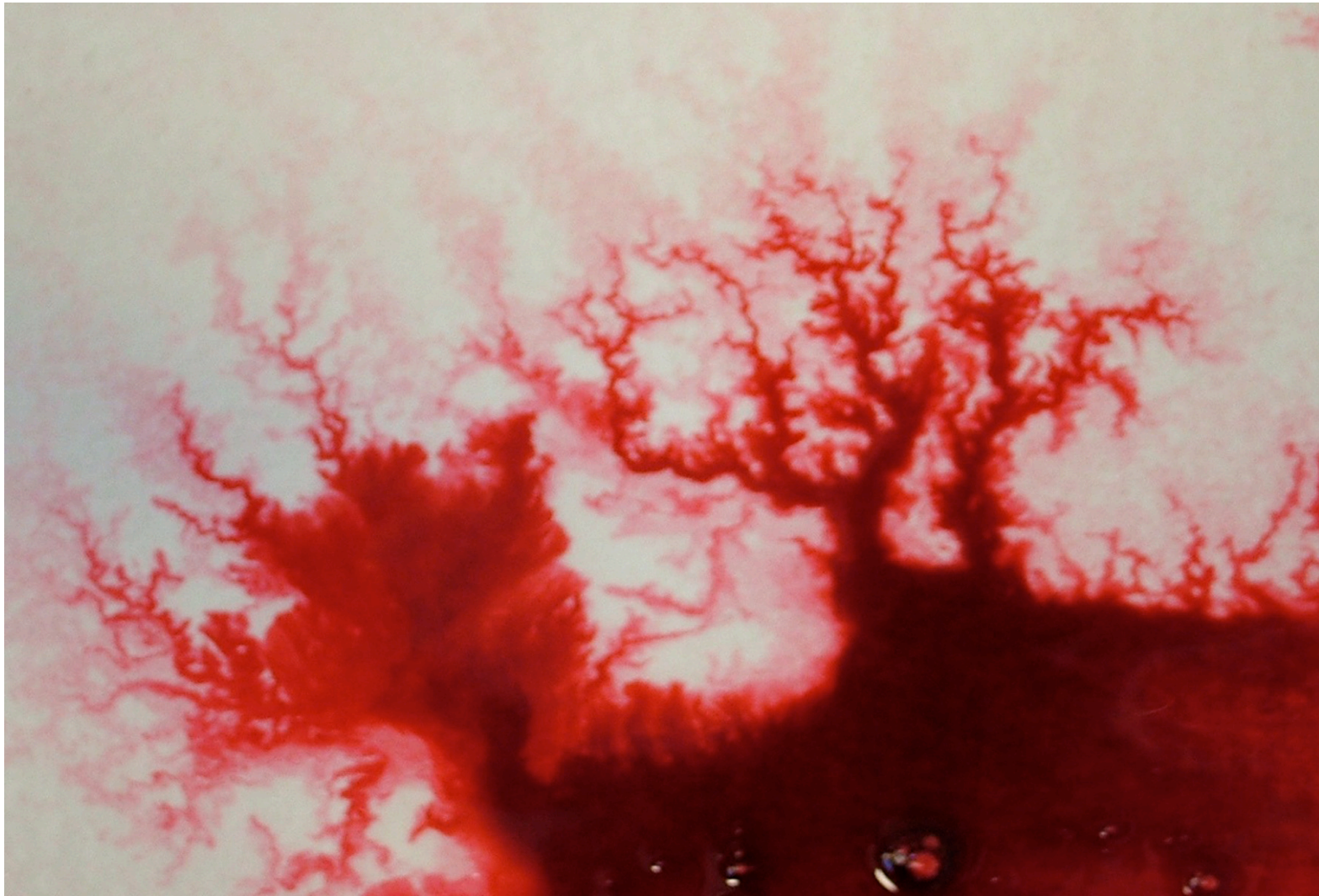


fig 4.3.12 Turner, R. Stains. 2008. Shellac watercolour on paper. Digital photograph

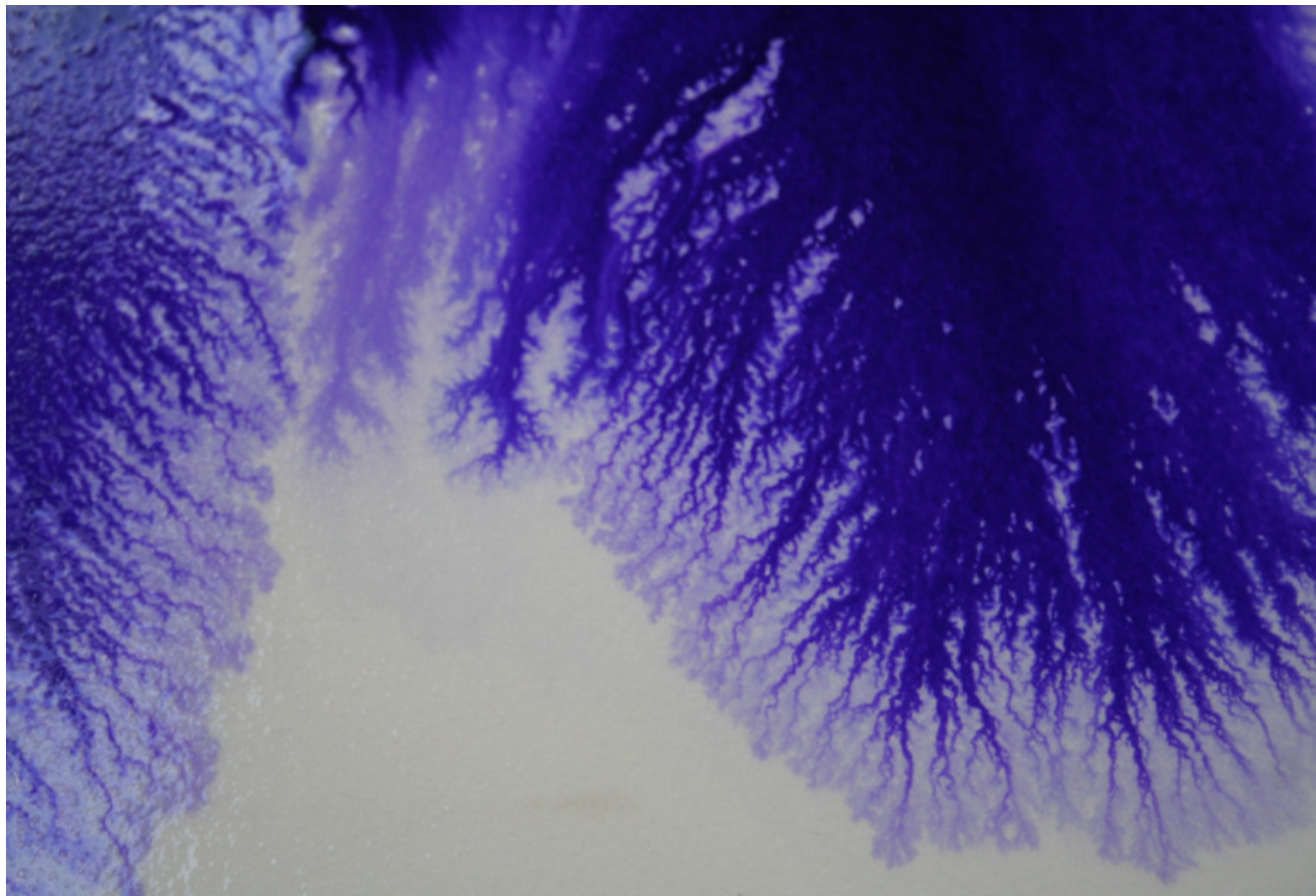
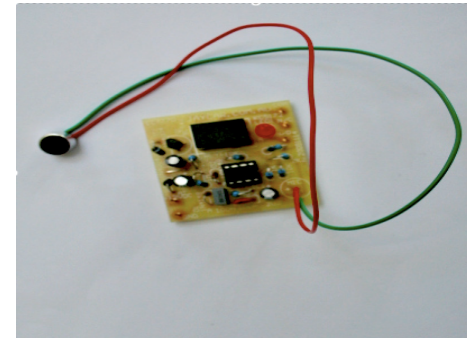


fig 4.3.13 Turner, R. Stains. 2008. Shellac watercolour on paper. Digital photograph



fig 4.3.14 Turner, R. Test performance. June 2008. Glass test tubes. Digital photograph

4.2.4 creation and collection of audio



Initially, I intended using a subsensory sound inaudible to the human ear, to shake seventy glass test tubes during my pauses between talking. I built a series of commands in Isadora to activate a sound feed onto a resonator speaker placed on a silver tea trolley table holding the glass pipettes and test tubes lying flat. The vibration moved the glass which rolled and clinked together. (Fig 4.2.4.1)

Subsequently I wanted to simplify the interactive components of sound and visuals by separating them into two systems. I learnt how to solder and put together simple electronic circuits, including a voice activated relay switch, a preamp, and a mono sound switch. These switched on the sound of a radio tuned to a talkback broadcast that played during pauses between talking. (Fig 4.2.4)

In collecting audio my interpretation of the symbolic signs of quotidian anxieties consisted of recording sounds from:
/The Ports of Auckland, New Zealand's largest commercial port where one of the major imports is used cars.
/Foghorns and sirens
/The truck drivers' protest against the overnight increase in road user charges, 2008
/My father's sleep apnea machine apparatus
/The sounds related to the declaration by America's elder statesman of finance, Alan Greenspan, that the motive for the 2003 Iraq invasion was largely about oil.

fig 4.3.15 Turner, R. Voice activated relay switch. October 2008, electronic circuit

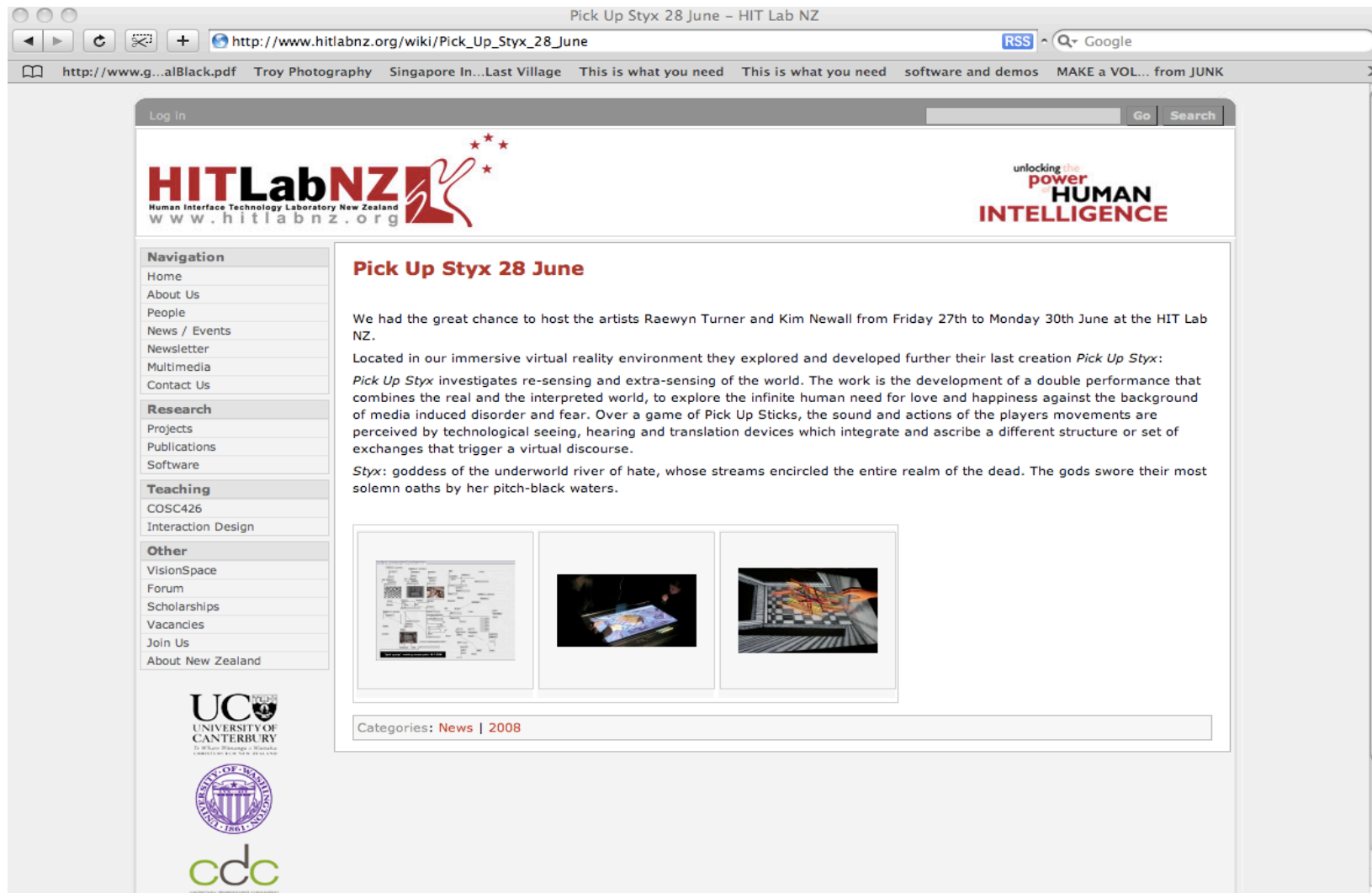


fig 4.4 HITLab NZ website

4.2.5 interactive technologies

Sourcing electronic equipment for an interactive work is a process of investigating commercially available products, raw materials, generosity, and do-it-yourself knowledge. The project is constantly adapting to creatively accommodate its technical challenges.

At the beginning of the year when I wanted to experiment with a touch screen Mark Billingham invited me to use the one at HITLabNZ in Christchurch. In June 2008, Kim and I spent seven days developing the project, working with various cameras for colour tracking, making and recording a test performance, and giving a presentation. Although the touch screen proposed a more cohesive interaction with the sticks, the sticks had to be raised above the screen because the triangulation of that system would only facilitate multi-touch when there were two or fewer objects on the screen. Our visit to HITLab encouraged and supported our further investigation into the possibilities of other technologies.

The limits of the optical touch screen are surpassed by multi-touch systems which are inherently able to accommodate multiple users simultaneously, something especially useful for collaborative scenarios such as interactive walls and tabletops. I was subsequently directed to instructions for a do-it-yourself multitouch screen using infrared, as an area for further investigation.



fig 4.4.1 Turner, R & Newell, K. At HITLabNZ. June 2008. Digital photograph



fig 4.4.2 Turner, R & Newell, K. At HITLabNZ . June 2008. Digital photograph

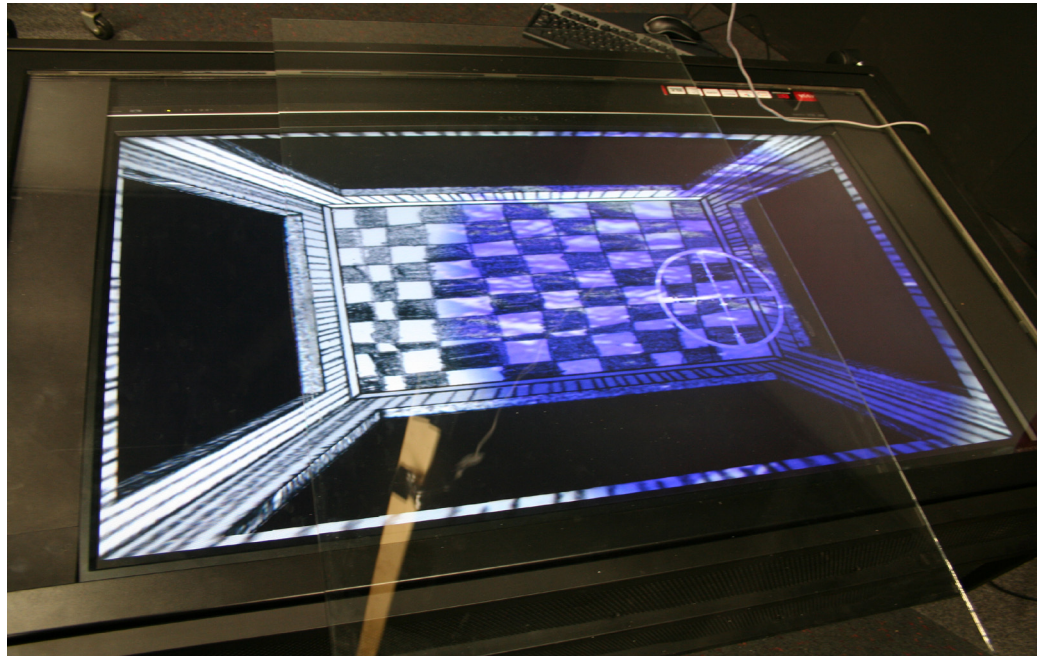


fig 4.4.3 Turner, R & Newell, K. At HITLabNZ. June 2008. Digital photograph
The sticks were placed on glass above the screen, which left the screen free to be used as a touch screen, and, for example to move a target around on the screen separately to the 3D visuals. Example of creation of a target and stain on touchscreen.



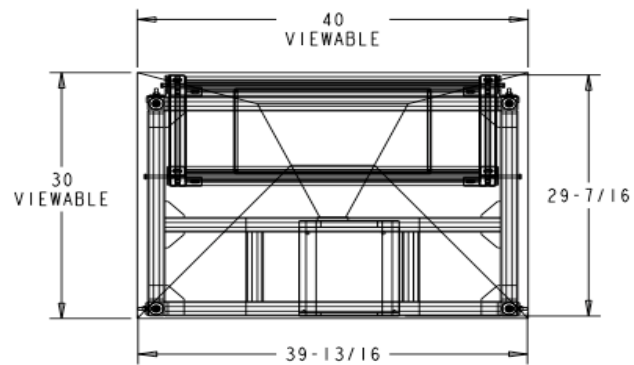
fig 4.4.4 Turner, R & Newell, K. At HITLabNZ. June 2008. Video still
Making targets and stains appear over the projected image.

PROJECTOR: TOSHIBA TLP-560
 LENS: STANDARD
 THROW DISTANCE: 40.500"
 20-1520
 CUSTOM MOUNTING PLATE (NO CRADLE)

RECOMMEND DA-100WA COATING

F357

PLAN VIEW



ELEVATION VIEW

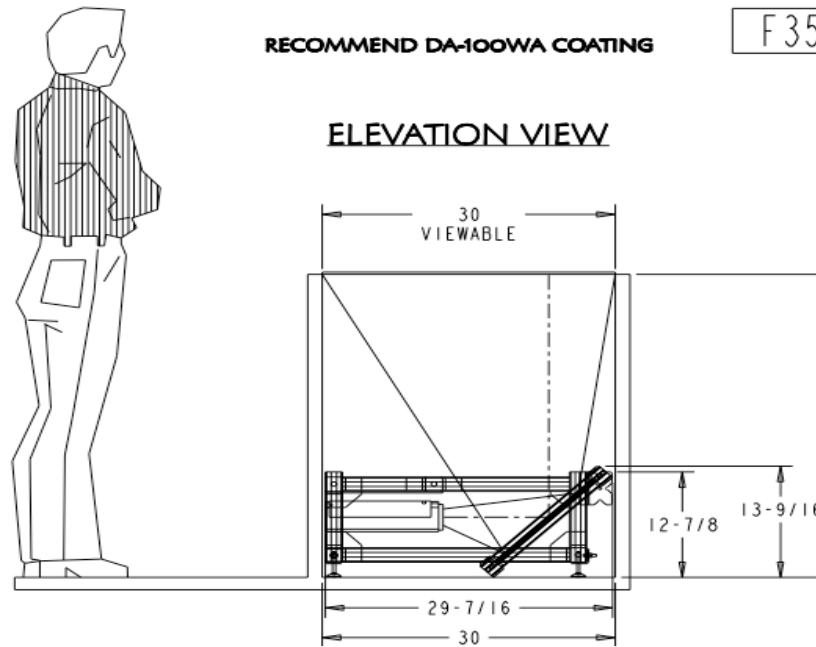


fig 4.4.5 Da Lite, Diagram. 2008.

The solution to the shadow of the projector being within the screen projector was offered by a commercial screen company.

4.2.6

the stage and the theatre

The design of the stage and theatre for performance involved a consideration of the re-use and recycling of available materials. For the initial tests I adapted an old touch screen which was being used as a video screen, by turning it on its back and stage dressing it. The images in the initial rear projector screen were sharp and bright. Due to the screening apparatus being a recycled metal freestanding TV housed in an ensemble, and placed on its back, it was necessary for participants to sit down when performing. The sitting position was both uncomfortable and didn't facilitate any shifts of position by the players around the table.

I subsequently borrowed the projector and mirror from the improvised table and fitted them into the new performance table prototype. (fig 4.2.6.1)

The adjustable components in the new table are designed for future experimentation with multi-touch screens, various projectors, and other interactive objects. (fig 4.2.6.2) The game is played whilst standing up, rather than sitting down as this allows for whole body movement and for participants to move around, join in or leave as they wish. The screen sits flush with the top, and the projector and mirror are housed in a freestanding adjustable table top for both experiments and performance. (Fig 4.2.6.3)



fig 4.4.6 Turner, R. The structure being made in the workshop. September 2008. Digital photograph.

Testing equipment : Infrared light emitting diodes, and a small stage light with double Congo Blue lighting gel and primary red, flood the tabletop stage. A camera captures hand movement.



fig 4.4.7 Turner, R. The stage and the theatre tested with camera, projector and lighting. September 2008. Digital photograph.



fig 4.4.8 Turner, R. Test Site performance. July 2008. Digital photograph Gallagher, S.
Testing the touche sticks, voice activated text in the graphical programming environment, and the 'discussion' around the olfactory experiences. My diaries had an authentic voice, so I decided to memorise and to deliver them as systematically retrieved monologues.

4.2.7

perfumes

The celebrity perfume collection is sampled from freely available, across-the-counter, commercial and contemporary perfumes at five retail outlets in Auckland. I posted the lists of perfumes to the perfumery department personnel of the stores, and followed up with telephone conversations and email. All of the stores generously assisted with the selection and free sampling of the fragrances. The sticks have been sprayed with perfume and will retain the fragrance if stored appropriately.

For the list of perfumes used see Appendix. To experience the perfumes refer to Prologue.

4.2.8

dialogue

I was quite uncomfortable with the idea of myself performing in the work, and initially thought that I could engage a voice chip or an actor to deliver the content. I made some experiments with pre-recorded voice answering systems, for example, Telecom, and decided that the voices may be ill-equipped to perceive what is being said, because it was too complex. I researched diaries of love, then blog writing styles, and my own love diaries written since 2001.

My diaries had an authentic voice, so I decided to memorise and deliver them as systematically retrieved monologues. (Fig 4.2.8) However, the long, fully developed poem of eight mini-works was stilted, lacking the expressiveness necessary for maintaining interest.

The nature of dialogue, however, is exploratory, so its meaning and its methods continue to unfold in a process of creative participation between peers. Consequently, I used dialogue for the performance.

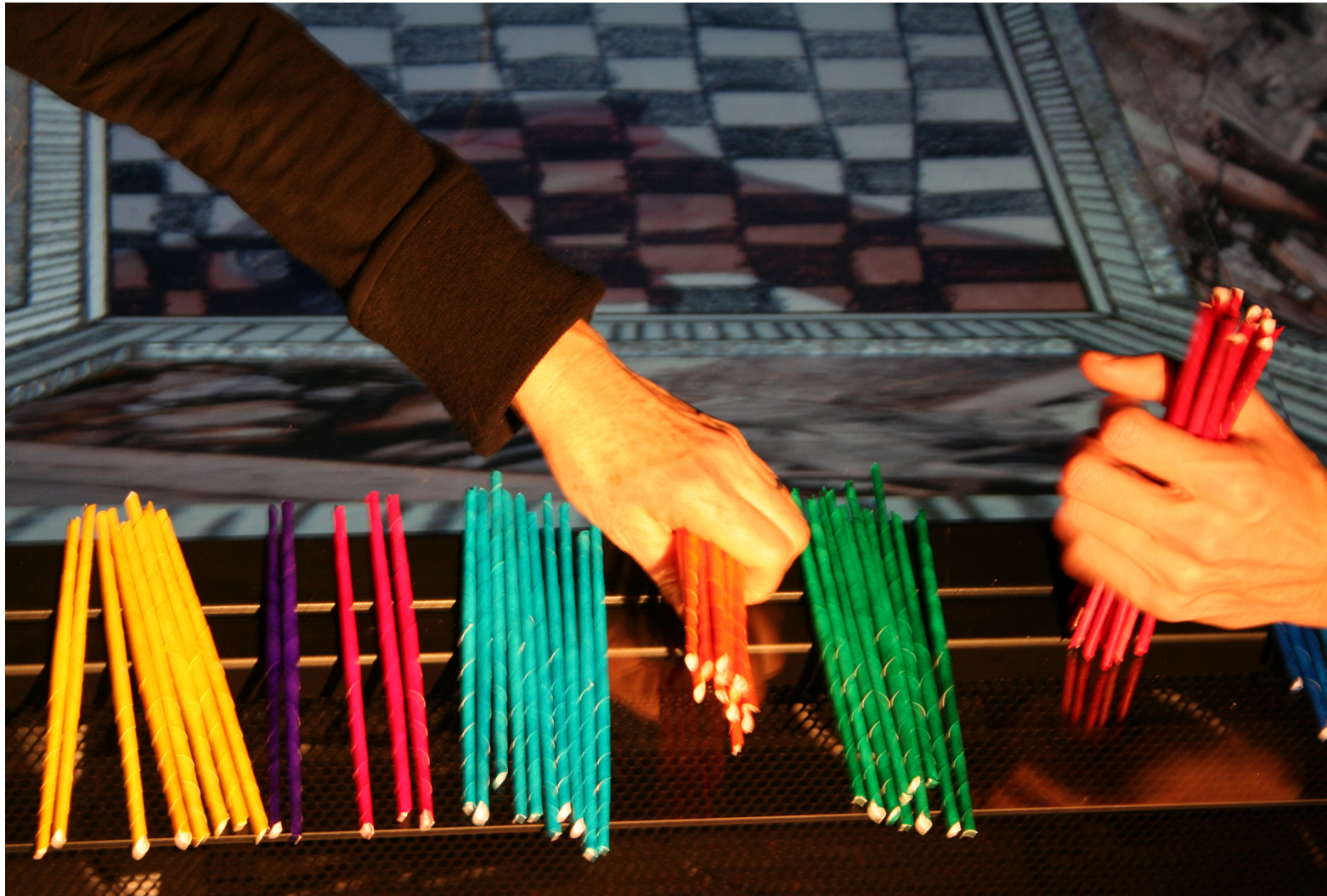


fig 4.4.9 Turner, R & Newell, K. Testing the dialogue. June 2008. Digital photograph

The following is the opening introduction to the game, including the question which initiates the dialogue:

You are a part of a national conversation designed to better understand the context in which we live, at this point, Latitude: 36° 52' 0 S, Longitude: 174° 46' 0 E, in September 2008, seven years along from 2001.

The game is a space for listening more deeply, and to explore more openly.

The basic idea is for us to play this game and to talk about the issues which are of national and international importance and which arise from my fundamental question.

I'm looking around me, at the people, the houses, gardens, the fields, the sheep

I'm making a breathing observation

The act of breathing in and perceiving the molecules of the world

Inhaling it in, exhaling it out

My dog smells me, he knows what I'm thinking

Will he be able to find me if I wear a new perfume?

You've heard the expression follow your nose? It means to just keep moving whichever way your attention is.

Here are the rules:

Each player takes turns to pick up a stick without disturbing the rest of the sticks.

One person speaks at a time

Listen carefully to what others say

Give others opportunity to speak

Let us search for common ground and build on it

the question:

These perfumes are made for love and happiness

If I put it on one of these perfumes and

go out walking could I find

a world of peace, respect and fun?

Enough good food and clean water?

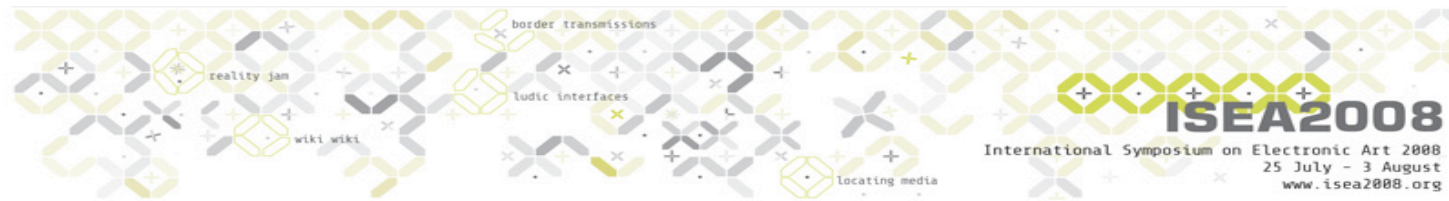
Freedom to share it?

Adequate housing, education, health care?

Social, economic, political justice?

Freedom to say what we want?

Co-operation?



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ISEA2008 25 July - 3 August

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fig 4.4.10 ISEA 2008, Singapore. Screen image of website, 2008
I presented Pick Up Styx at ISEA, July 2008

4.2.9 test performances and final performance

The test performances involved experimenting with various ways of presenting and delivering the project, and testing of elements of the work, for example, the pick up sticks game, aspects of performance presentation, the conversation/ dialogue, the interactions between gestures, sound and visuals, and the fine tuning of the perfumes.

The glass test tubes, perfume bottles and specimen jars in fig 4.3.1 thru fig 4.3.4. were used to create sound. They were collectively rattled by a sub-woofer speaker which was placed on the steel trolley. The audio to the speaker was from an Isadora patch which captured our voices as we conversed and transmitted audio to the amplifier in the pauses between our conversation. Although the 3D box with the checkerboard floor was visually effective we weren't able to use it to transport us through a series of scenes
The poetic monologue developed into conversations which developed further into a dialogue as the performers/audience engaged with the work. fig 4.3.5

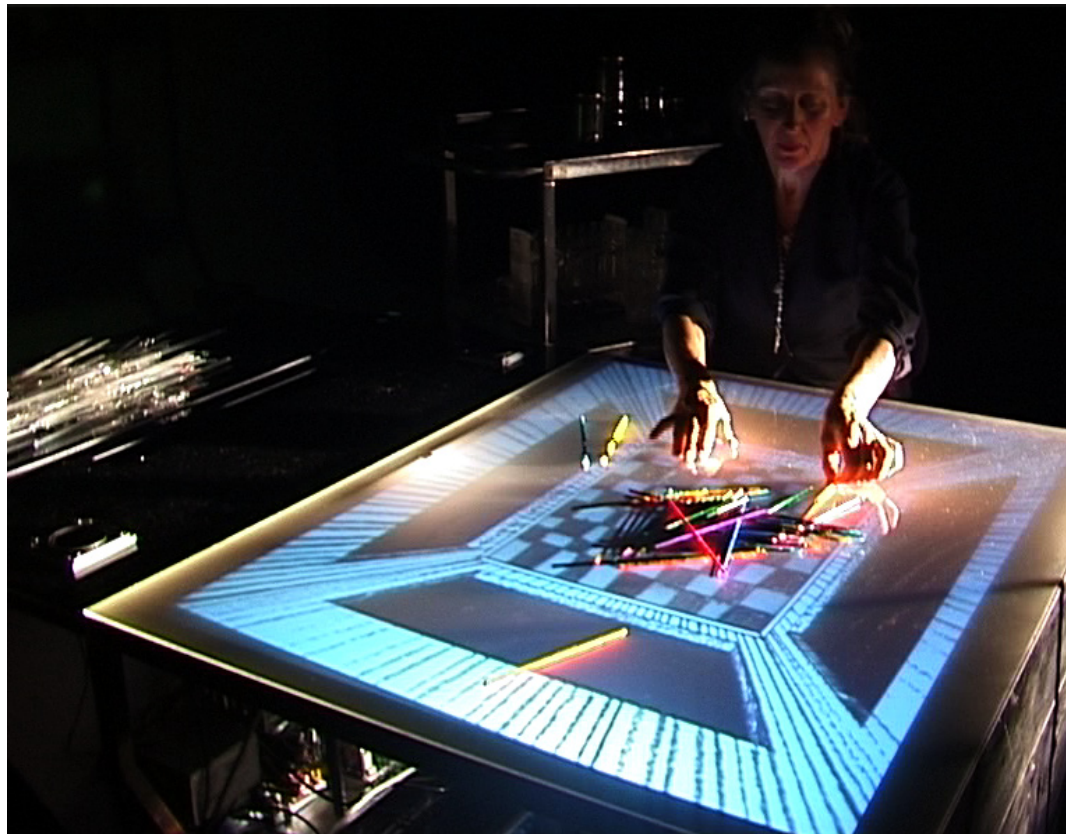


fig 4.5 Turner, R & Newell, K. First test performance. June 2008. Digital photograph

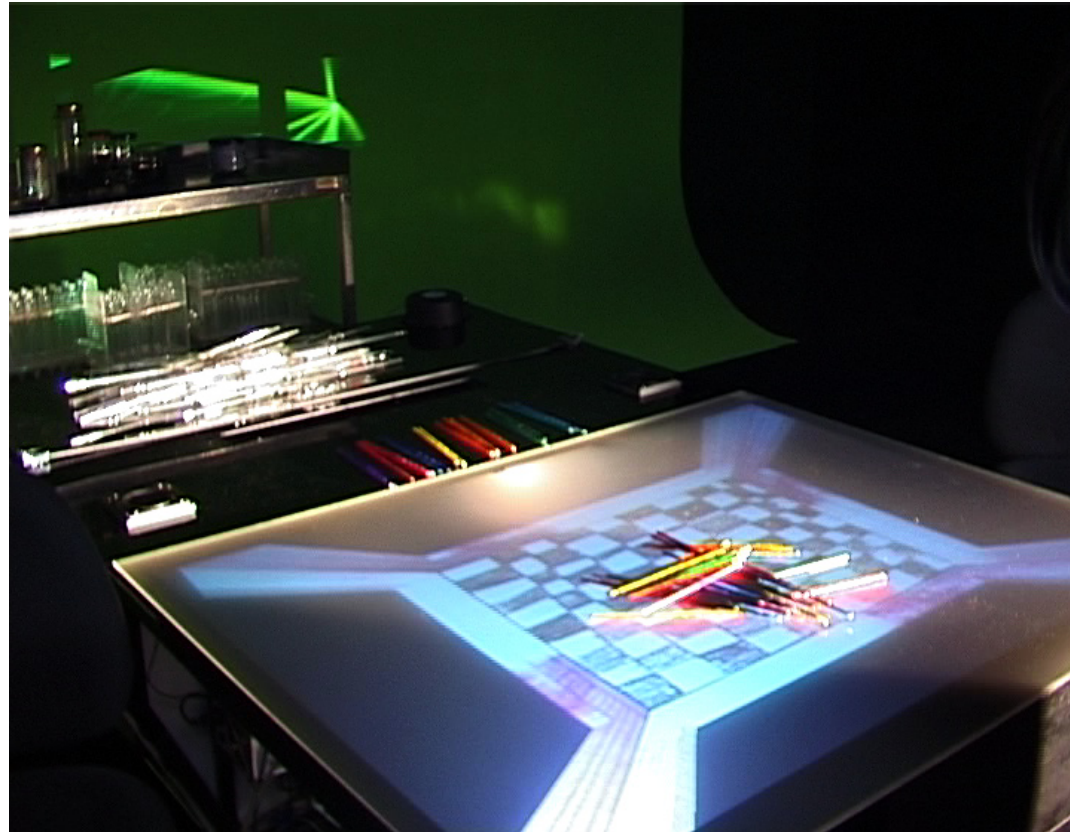


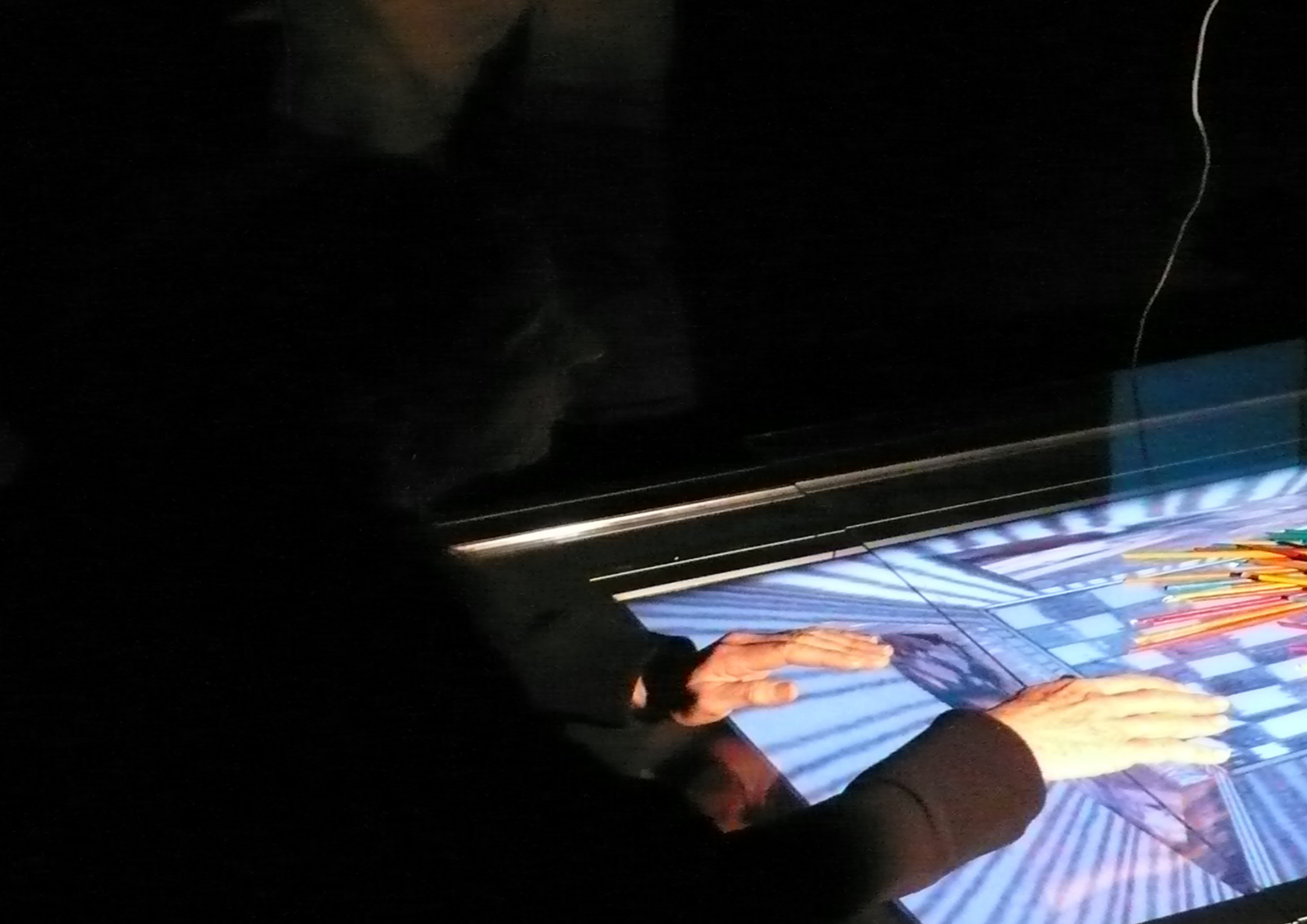
fig 4.6 Turner, R & Newell, K. First test performance June 2008. Digital photograph
To provide a contrast to the perfumes I experimented with a range of unpleasant odours in glass jars.



fig 4.7 Turner, R & Newell, K. Second test performance. June 2008. Digital photograph.



fig 4.8 Turner, R & Newell, K. Second test performance. June 2008. Digital photograph





final performance



fig 4.10. Rayner, H. Final performance invitation. 2008. Digital image

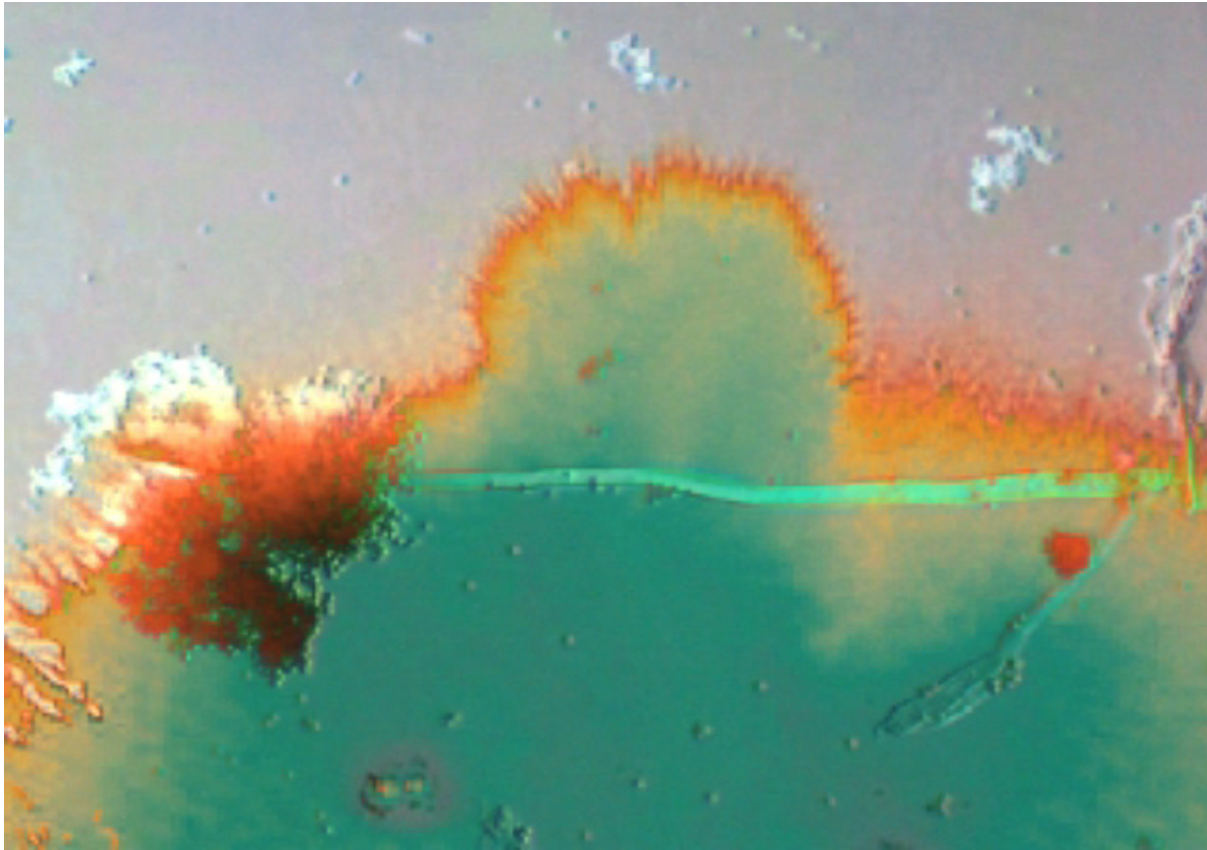


fig 4.11 Turner, R. Final performance: generated video output from movement over screen. October 2008. Digital still image

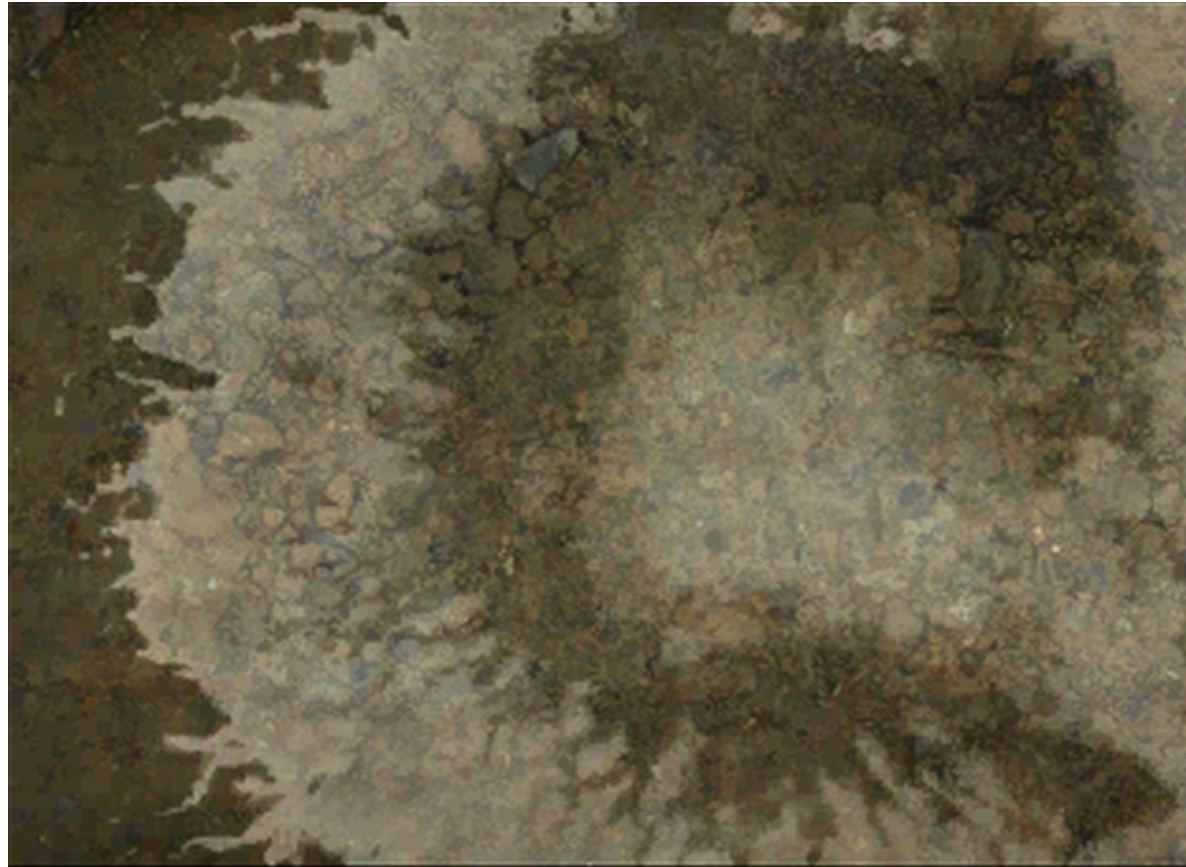


fig 4.12 Turner, R. Final performance: generated video output from movement over screen. October 2008. Digital still image

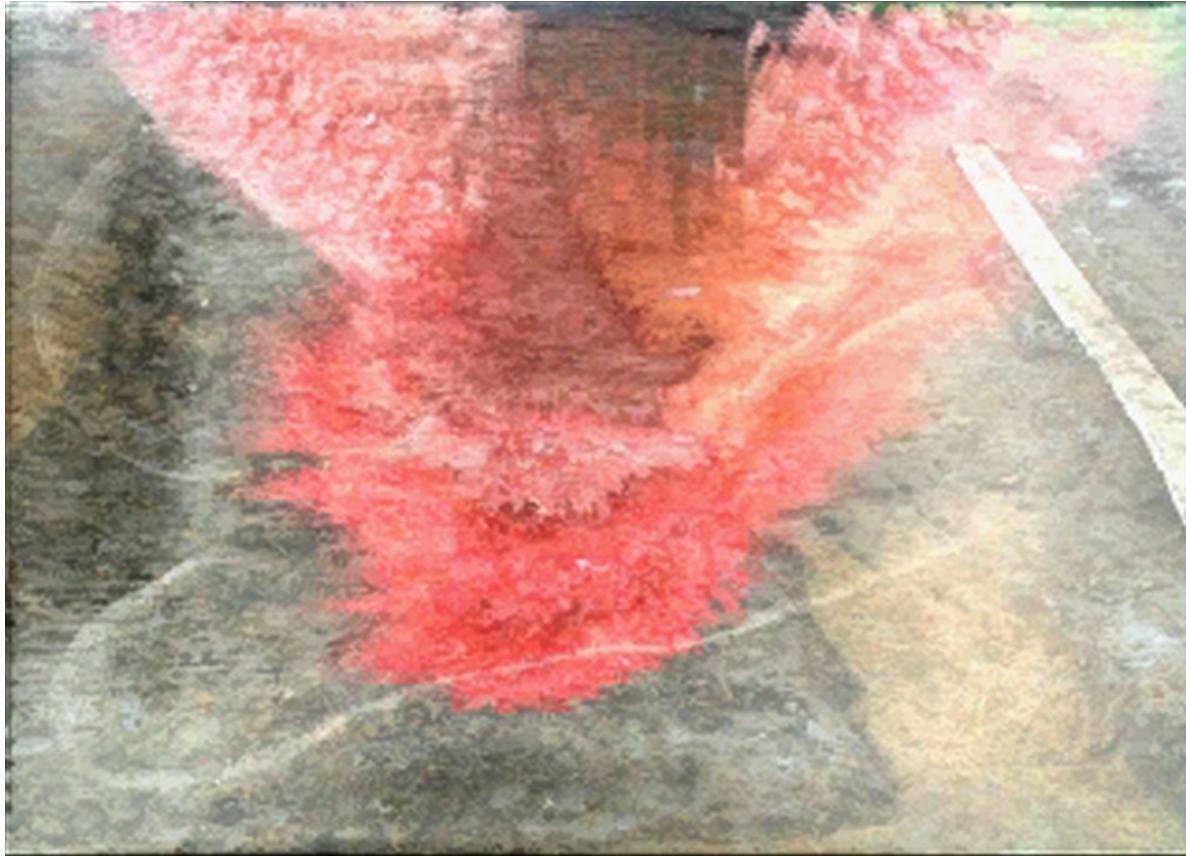


fig 4.13 Turner, R. Final performance: generated video output from movement over screen. October 2008. Digital still image

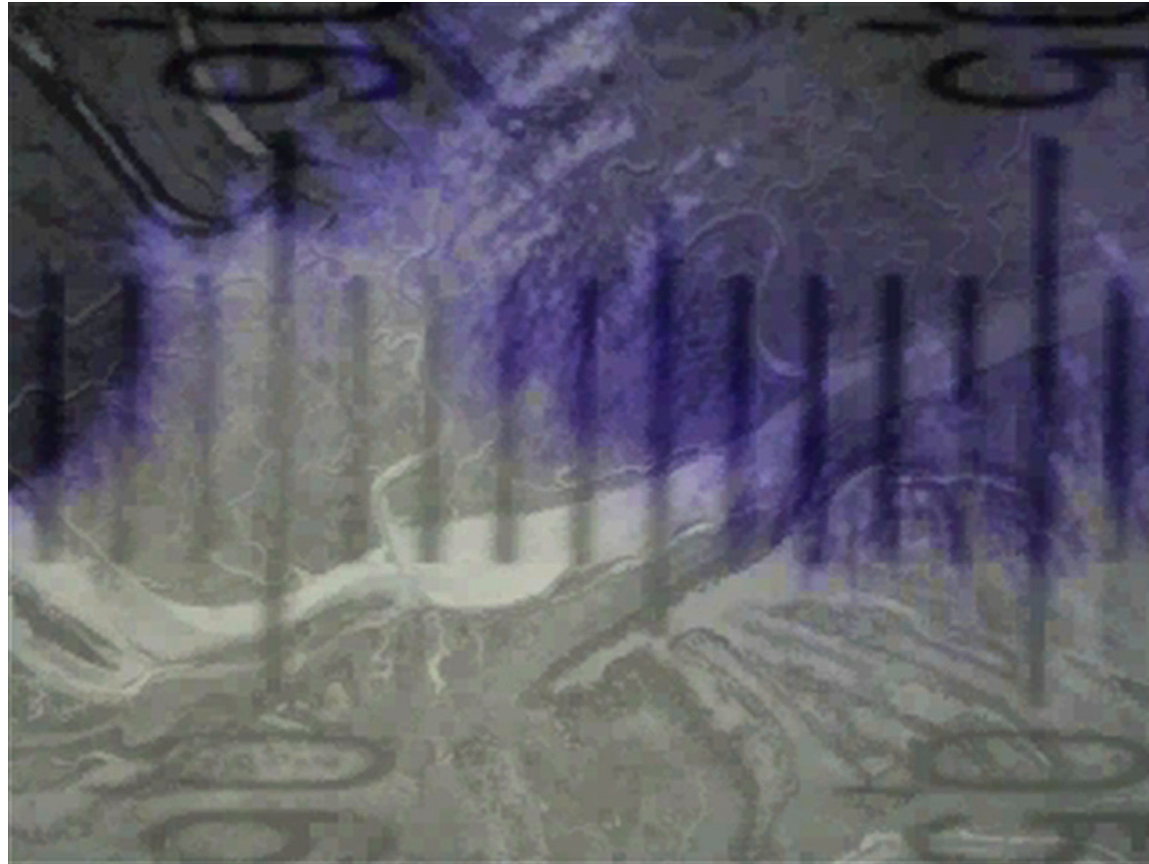


fig 4.14 Turner, R. Final performance: generated video output from movement over screen. October 2008. Digital still image



fig 4.15 Turner, R. Final performance. October 2008. Video still image
Documentation of the final exhibition performance is on DVD



fig 4.16 Turner, R. Final performance. October 2008. Digital still image

4.4 project evaluation and future development

The project was designed and constructed as elements to be put together for the performance. The simultaneous development of several separate elements is a practice employed in theatre performances as a way of testing new concepts procedural to live performance. The resultant tests along the way may be quite disparate, and the results unformed, but within such procedure the intention is held in the level vision of an imaginative frame. When I began my research project, I was concerned that we were required to present findings and tests along the way as part of our work, such tests can vary considerably in their quality and are not something that I feel comfortable about making ready for presentation. Although the attention placed on their presentation often changes the work itself, I have discovered that bringing the filtering down of the layers of a research project into conscious awareness, has allowed me to reflect on process and to apply a framework to my inquiry into the senses. During this project that process has opened my awareness of the relationships of the 'elements' to configurative practices.

The trial experiments with the game have provided material for deeper reflection on a range of subjects including connectivity, the function of time in games, channelling focus in dialogue, and multisensory and participatory performances. Unfolding the means and materials for expression has oftentimes been in conflict with the non-sensorial academic discourse. This research has foregrounded the importance of the development of a subjective language to capture the sensations of momentary experiences of the senses while working in a process with the senses. My investigations are towards the creation of double performances that combine the real and the interpreted world. These are based on the idea of actions in a performance triggering an interpretation by a technologically changing agent that acts upon them, ascribing meaning and form to the actor's movement. However, future development of the work may involve experimenting with and becoming a transport for the perfume to directly test its effects on all who perceive it.

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Three concurrent experimental works in progress
during the Skein masters project over 2007 and 2008
explore the notion of communications as signals:
Lucky, Indications, and Talking to Plants

Lucky : a documentary and magic artefacts touching
on issues about gambling, biotechnology and affective
intention, edited and completed in 2008

Appendix



fig 5 Turner, R. Lucky. 2007. Video Still

Lucky 2007

Lucky (2007) plays with the notion of the manipulation of living matter to create power objects intended for use as tools of practical animism. I allowed the question, one of luck, to determine the collection of the video footage. The material was generated from both chance encounters and prepared situations which would allow for improvised dialogue, but with an uncertain outcome. My Documentary Lucky (2007) plays with the notion of the manipulation of living matter to create power objects intended for use as tools of practical animism. I allowed the question, one of luck, to determine the collection of the video footage. The material was generated from both chance encounters and prepared situations which would allow for improvised dialogue, but with an uncertain outcome. In a section of the video my anticipated hopes expressed in the effectiveness of homeopathic remedies, is debated by a senior scientist who sets out a logical explanation which summarily dismisses the notion of memory-in-matter: 'You breathe air that Napoleon breathed...otherwise the world would be full of memories...' (Rush, M. 2006)

Indications : a translation of music in
to chocolate: exhibited in Prague 2007



fig 6 Turner, R. Indications 2007. Installation of video and chocolate fragrance at the 11th Prague Quadrennial of Scenography and Theatre Architecture 2007, Prumyslový Palace, Prague. A cross disciplinary approach to performance media: lighting, sound, projection, set design, costume, sensory, surface, body and space.

Indications 2007

The extended music translation was reliant on the photoperiodicity which produces a selection of plants which flower sequentially at the equatorial zone. For reference I made a chart of the daytime and nighttime hours and latitudes of the pollination period for a wide selection of flowering plants which are available as essential oils. I used the approximate central point of an area (mean latitude) [13.] World Book, Atlas, 1986, where those plants are harvested for their essential oil, and the time of harvest of those plants in that area, to find the mean daylight and night-time hours over that period [14.] The American Ephemeris Nautical Almanac Annual Publication (2002) 'Table of Sunrise and Sunset' (local mean time)

The proportion, 1.1 of sound/no sound in Brahms Hungarian Dances #10 equates with the photoperiodicity proportions of night and day time minutes which equal 1.1. at 10 degrees south latitude in December 2007. The plants thus selected were cacao, mangosteen and sugar cane. (installation Indications 2007).

Although different to biophotonic fields, the central connectivity of light was essential to my concept of translation of music into the fragrance of chocolate. I proposed that the pleasure and sorrow experienced in both music, gesture and chocolate are directly related in their manifestations and expressions. To support my notion that music could also be experienced as aroma and taste, I demonstrated a logical relationship of harmonious proportions between music and photoperiodicity.

Talking to Plants : looking for evidence of portals



fig 7 Turner, R. Looking for evidence 2008. Photo Maggie Buxton.
Inquires into the notion of communication between plant and humans.
'Looking for evidence of portals' workshop with primary school children, for Awhiworld ARG

Extrasensory Communication:

Parapsychological phenomena are categorized as follows:

Telepathy: Direct mind-to-mind communication.

Precognition: Also called premonition. Obtaining information about future events, where the information could not be inferred through normal means. Many people report dreams that appear to be precognitive.

Clairvoyance: Sometimes called remote viewing; obtaining information about events at remote locations, beyond the reach of the normal senses.

ESP: Extra-sensory perception; a general term for obtaining information about events beyond the reach of the normal senses.

This term subsumes telepathy, clairvoyance, and precognition.

Psychokinesis: Also called PK; direct mental interaction with physical objects, animate or inanimate.

Bio-PK: Direct mental interactions with living systems.

NDE: Near death experience; an experience reported by those who were revived from nearly dying. Often refers to a core experience that includes feelings of peace, OBE, seeing lights and other phenomena.

OBE: Out-of-body experience; the experience of feeling separated from the body, often accompanied by visual perceptions as though from above the body.

Reincarnation: The belief that we live successive lives, with primarily evidence coming from the apparent recollections of previous lives by very small children.

Haunting: Recurrent phenomena reported to occur in particular locations that include apparitions, sounds, movement of objects, and other effects.

Poltergeist: Large-scale PK phenomena often attributed to spirits, but which are now thought to be due to a living person, frequently an adolescent.

Psi: A neutral term for parapsychological phenomena.

Psi, psychic, and psychical are synonyms.

Retrieved 10 May 07 from Parapsychological Association website : <http://www.parapsych.org/>

'The amygdala has a central and critical role in enabling and modulating memory consolidation processes in other brain regions' (p 103)

'Clinical observations as well as observational and experimental studies have provided considerable evidence that emotionally arousing experiences tend to be well remembered.' (p 136)

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Terrorism and New Zealand

The News (Herald Daily Terrorism Headlines, Tuesday September 30, 2008, ABC News Oct 15, 2007, Higgie, Dell, 2005, NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade).

NZ Herald SATURDAY OCTOBER 4, 2008

Retrieved from the internet 4.10.08 [http://www.](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/terrorism/news/article)

[nzherald.co.nz/terrorism/news/article](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/terrorism/news/article).

Terrorism Headlines

Tuesday September 30, 2008

Pirates take on the big guns

Cricket: Clark wary about visiting New Delhi

Criminals try to open ATM machine ... with bomb

Monday September 29, 2008

Suicide bomb kills one, wounds eight in Sri Lanka

Car bomb kills 17 in Damascus

Policewoman dies in Afghanistan

Sunday September 28, 2008

Plane raid

Friday September 26, 2008

Irfan Yusuf : Islam isn't a synonym for terrorism

Thursday September 25, 2008

Venezuela foils suspected Chavez assassination

Obama camp wary of debates

Wednesday September 24, 2008

Outrage at Iraqi bomb cartoon

Police believed they had to shoot: coroner
Monday September 22, 2008
Dramatic CCTV footage of Pakistan bombing released
Sunday September 21, 2008
Minister calls Marriott bombing 'Pakistan's 9/11'
Saturday September 20, 2008
Official's death an 'Aussie blunder'

NZ Foreign Affairs and Trade Retrieved from the internet 4.10.08
<http://www.mfat.govt.nz/Foreign-Relations/1-Global-Issues/Security/2-Counter-Terrorism.php>Counter-Terrorism
Ongoing terrorist planning and attacks around the world reinforce the importance of effective counter-terrorism measures. New Zealand continues actively to support regional and international counter-terrorism efforts, and to work closely with regional partners on initiatives aimed at improving counter-terrorism capability, especially in the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

NZ Foreign Affairs and Trade Retrieved from the internet 4.10.08
<http://www.mfat.govt.nz/Foreign-Relations/1-Global-Issues/Security/0-Ambassador-Speech-1.php> Security
In a Speech given by New Zealand Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism, Ms Dell Higgie, (15 August 2005) said that it is not new for the international community to adopt global standards against terrorism but in the decades before 9/11 these were always responsive in nature, and sectoral in focus. The attacks against the US in September 2001 signal a change – both in the scale and nature of the terrorist operation and in the intensity and scope of the international response. The 9/11 attacks, and those attacks which have occurred subsequently, demonstrate an evolution in terrorism itself. It is now clearly trans-national in nature and global in reach. Advances in communications, technology, and transportation mean that terrorist organisations now have a far higher degree of sophistication in recruiting, gathering intelligence, organising and funding their activities. The internet, for example, has made it possible for terrorist groups to recruit, to disseminate information and propaganda, and to coordinate attacks without the need for

physical contact or geographical proximity....And, while we are fortunate that the threat of a direct attack against New Zealand remains low, we have not, as Commissioner Robinson recalled for us this morning, been untouched by terrorism. New Zealand citizens were victims of the 9/11 and Bali attacks, and most recently - with the tragic death of Shelley Mather - of the July bombings in London. The extensive New Zealand diaspora and New Zealanders' love of international travel make it unavoidable that we will continue to be at risk of being caught up in terrorist attacks in other countries....In short, New Zealand's response to the international and regional counter-terrorism agenda since 9/11 has been vigorous and thorough. At the same time, it is not only Pacific Island countries that have found the scope and complexity of the new counter-terrorism obligations daunting. For New Zealand, also, there have been challenges in implementing them.

ABC News Oct 15, 2007
Retrieved from the internet 4 10 08
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/10/15/2060269.htm>
NZ police arrest 17 in anti-terrorism raids
Posted Mon Oct 15, 2007 6:25pm AEST _Updated
Mon Oct 15, 2007 8:11pm AEST
This is the first time NZ authorities have acted under the Terrorism Suppression Act. (One News, NZ) New Zealand police have arrested 17 people and seized a number of weapons during a series of anti-terrorism raids throughout the country. More than 300 police were involved in the raids which were aimed at Maori and environmental activists rather than foreign groups. The raids in Auckland, the Bay of Plenty region, Wellington, Palmerston North and Christchurch, marked the first time authorities had acted under the country's Terrorism Suppression Act. Police targeted the mountainous region near Rotorua where it is believed guerilla-style training camps have been held.
Heisenberg 1927, Uncertainty Principle "The more precisely the position is determined, the less precisely the momentum is known in this instant, and vice versa." -Heisenberg, uncertainty paper, 1927 This is a succinct statement of the "uncertainty relation" between the position and the momentum (mass

times velocity) of a subatomic particle, such as an electron. This relation has profound implications for such fundamental notions as causality and the determination of the future behavior of an atomic particle. retrieved from 1998 - 2008 American Institute of Physics and David Cassidy the internet : 9.10.08. <http://www.aip.org/history/heisenberg/p08.htm>

The toroidal spiral

From a dream vision of spanners spinning on their axis while flying in an arc I subsequently discovered that the spinning motion was called cycloidal. This dream was significant because according to Bernoulli, J. (1696) if the cycloid curve is considered a SIGNAL rather than a function, its shape would embody the inverted cycloid curve shape, the brachistochrone, which is a curved path which is faster than a straight line (or any other line) for the fastest descent of an object under gravity. Bernoulli, J. (1696) (Wolfram Mathworld, 2007) The toroidal spiral belongs to the cycloid family of curves and examples of double toroidal spiral fields are found in a draining bathtub or sink.

"The physical mass gets compacted to a point beyond which it "dissolves" into its 'energetic form' or matrix, leaving the "space" and "energy" (from between the sub-atomic particles), which we call "vacuum" or "void", while resulting in negative pressure or suction. A biological vacuum is created, which again augments the suction. The natural mediums water and air have this intrinsic vortex motion. Our blood and the sap of plants, move in this way too" (Vladimir B. Ginzburg, 1998).

Bernoulli, J. (1696) (Wolfram Mathworld, 2007)

Retrieved May 31, 2007, from Weisstein, Eric W., Cycloid at MathWorld, Wolframs Mathworld , <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/>

SONY CORP investigations

NHNE News Brief 73

Friday, August 8, 1997

<http://www.nhne.com/newsbriefs/nhnenb73.html>

retrieved My 10 2007

SONY INVESTIGATING ESP

(Source: OMEGA DIRECTORY, 8/97)

SONY CORP. is taking a giant leap into the unknown with a multi-million dollar research program to investigate X-ray vision, telepathy and other paranormal phenomenon. "If we can understand the mechanism of telepathy, it would totally transform communication methods," says Yoichiro Sako, Director of SONY's Psychic Research Department, also called "The Institute of Wisdom." He claims the company is on the brink of a technological breakthrough. SONY is already building a machine to reveal psychic powers in people that uses little-known Oriental techniques. One of his most gifted subjects, a person only identified as "T.I.," has the ability to identify in which of two identical containers an object is hidden 70 percent of the time. The statistical probability is 50 percent. SONY says they have identified 100 other people who are almost as talented as T.I. (JG)

Teleportation (teletransportation) Fictional mode of change of place in which a person 'dematerializes' at one place, and merges at another. The thought experiment of imagining such cases has a place in the philosophy of personal identity, since if we concede that teleportation involves no contradiction, then we seem to think of our identity as potentially distinct from bodily continuity. "teleportation" The Oxford Dictionary of Philosophy. Simon Blackburn. Oxford University Press, 2008. Oxford Reference Online. Oxford University Press. Auckland University of Technology. 14 October 2008 <<http://www.oxfordreference.com.ezproxy.aut.ac.nz/views/ENTRY.html?subview=Main&entry=t98.e3058>>
quantum teleportation The teleportation of quantum states, i.e. sending the states across space. This cannot be done directly because of the no-cloning theorem . However, it can be achieved by using a system in which there is quantum entanglement . Quantum teleportation has been performed both for photons and for systems with electrons. "quantum teleportation" A Dictionary of Physics. Ed. John Daintith. Oxford University Press, 2000. Oxford Reference Online. Oxford University Press. Auckland University of Technology. 14 October 2008 <http://www.oxfordreference.com>

The legend of Giordano Bruno the martyr for modern science and the Copernican theory. (p298)

The seventeenth –century universal language enthusiasts are translating into rational terms efforts such as those of Giordano Bruno to found universal memory systems on magic images which he thought of as directly in contact with reality (pp 364) To arrive at universal knowledge through combining significant images of reality. Bruno—preparing the way for the finding of a Great Key.

Created the new religion of Love, Art, Magic and Mathesis

Yates, Frances A. The Art of Memory. Routledge & Kegan Paul (1966), Pimlico 2006.

Amidst Hermeticism and the Renaissance, Bruno's philosophy pointed to the unity of man, nature and the universe. Birx (1998) writes

'Breaking new ground in cosmology, Bruno's philosophy of nature depends upon the metaphysical concepts of plurality, uniformity, and cosmic unity along with the logical principle of sufficient reason...His new philosophy repudiated the Peripatetic terrestrial/celestial dichotomy and, instead, maintained that the same

physical laws and natural elements of the earth exist throughout this eternal and infinite universe. In doing so, Bruno was able to correct and surpass the planetary perspective expounded by Aristotle, Ptolemy, and Aquinas. He even advanced beyond the sun-centered astronomy advocated by some of his contemporaries. His own model of the world is free from any fixed point of reference. In retrospect, it may be claimed that his pioneering thought actually fathered modern cosmology.'

Giordano Bruno was martyred in 1600 for maintaining the Hermetic tradition as well as his support of Copernicus's heliocentric theory,

however, as Birx pointed out, Bruno emphasized that the use of symbolic logic and discrete geometry merely supplements the findings of rational speculations grounded in intuition and imagination...His interests in the art, magic, and numerology of ancient Egypt were essentially a reflection of his own fascination with change and memory as well as his view of the cosmos as a divine and living universe

Designing performance

Several sensate mediums for performance are dynamic pattern, colour, illusion, saturated coloured light, sound, audience participation, and smell. Examples of integrated sound and light performances are to be found in contemporary music performance, for example the Chemycal Brothers performance, 2007, where the audience were enveloped in an audio-visual experience which used LED saturated coloured light sources, and lasers which were SMPTE-timecode synchronised to the underlying soundtrack. The method used enables a digital synaesthetic (Bausbaum) experience of sound light synchronisation.

Theatre of the Oppressed

During the 1950's in Brazil, theatre director Augusto Boal started asking questions about why theatre had to be in the form of "monologue". He started experimenting with interactive theatre, creating instead a "dialogue" between the audience and the stage. Its criteria make dialogue suitable for establishing as a medium between experience and language. In Dialogue and Theatre of the Oppressed. Augusto Boal employs games and play for personal, social and political change. The Theatre of the Oppressed offers another realm of material to research for the performance of the game. In designing Games of the Oppressed, Boal, 2004, states 'All our senses, our perception of reality, and our capacity of feeling and reasoning, tend to become mechanical by every day repetition. We tend to become less creative, accepting reality as it is, instead of transforming it. Games of the Oppressed is a system of Games that help us to "feel what we touch", "to listen to what we hear", "to see what we look at", "to stimulate all senses", and "to understand what we say and hear"

Frasca, Gonzalo. 2004. Video Games of the Oppressed: Critical Thinking, Education, Tolerance and Other Trivial Issues

Wardrip, Noah and Harrigan, Pat. 2004. .Editors. First Person, New Media as Story, Performance, and Game, MIT Press, Cambridge.

Objects banned from Aeroplanes each year: (McLellan, 2008)

- 01 mace
- 02 fireworks
- 03 hand grenades
- 04 dynamite
- 05 aerosol
- 06 matches
- 07 turps in a bottle
- 08 torch lighter, gas cylinder

Osmotheque Versailles, France

A showcase for perfumes that are still in existence or have disappeared, the Osmotheque allows professional or amateur visitors to “smell” over 1300 scents which have been brought together for the first time in history and preserved using suitable techniques. In the room reserved for visitors , the so-called “Osmothecaires,” specialists from the Society Française des Parfumeurs, help them to discover the subtlety of perfumes with the help of “dipsticks” or olfactory samples

Celebrity Perfumes

The online home page of osMoz, which is a thematic website dedicated to perfume, in October 2007, is dedicated to Celebrity Perfumes “Actresses, singers, models... a whole galaxy of stars have come to the world of fragrance lately. Some are the faces of a fragrance or a brand, some have their own brand, and some do both... osMoz welcomes you to our Star Special, crammed with pictures of the rich and famous. We care about stars because we identify with them, and we do this variously. We identify in a wishful, wistful way with the grandeur of the stars' private lives, we identify in straight forward way with the creatures they become on the screen, and we identify with the difficulties and embarrassments that beset them in life and the tabloids out of genuine concern, salacious fascination, and of course schadenfreude. (We act, that is to say, from the usual bundle of post modern motives: we revere, we mock, we scorn, but most of all we participate.)' osMoz,

by Grant McCracken's post in Anthropology of Contemporary Culture.

'There is a deeper answer, one that no one glimpsed last night, and this might be the cause of the ambivalence and sloppiness of the occasion. (Some truths, as Nietzsche told us, are better left obscure.) Several of the interior subroutines (aka cultural scripts) that inform our experience of the world and our performance of the self were minted by Hollywood filmmakers. No one wants to hear this. It interferes with our self love, our sense of our seriousness, our belief in our own authenticity. Too bad. This is the simple truth of the matter. If you want a happier picture of yourself, go see a movie. Or, if you merely wish to obscure this truth, stage an “examination” like the one last night.

The game **Pick Up Sticks**, also known as jackstraws, or spillikins has been played for centuries and is thought to have originated in China. In the UK it is often known as Pick-Up Sticks while in Europe it is generally known as Mikado. It is also called Jackstraws in the USA, Jonchets in France and Chien Tung in China.

Mainly a game of skill, it is played by both children and adults, with thin wooden sticks or with straws or matches. In the early 18th century sticks were made of ivory or bone; later they were made of wood or plastic. To begin the game, 20 to 50 sticks are bunched in one hand and set vertically on a table or other smooth, flat surface then released suddenly so that they fall in a jumble. Each player in turn attempts to remove a single stick without disturbing any other. If he succeeds he may try again, but if another stick moves the player loses his turn. The player with the most sticks when the pile is totally reduced wins. Sometimes the game is played with a retriever hook, either made as part of the set or improvised with a bent paper clip or a bent straight pin stuck in a match. Some sets have sticks shaped like saws, hoes, rakes, ladders, and other implements, thus making the game more difficult. The game is supposedly of great antiquity, perhaps having originated in China. (Encyclopædia Britannica Online)

Perfumes used in the sticks and the preface

2001

Brilliant White Diamonds(Elizabeth Taylor)
Coco Mademoiselle (Kate Moss)

2002

Glow (Jennifer Lopez
M7 (tae kwon do champion Samuel de Cubber;) Yves St Laurent
Provocative Woman (Catherine Zeta-Jones)

2003

L.A.M.B (Love. Angel. Music. Baby.) (Gwen Stefani) Coty
Very Irresistible. woman (Liv Tyler)
Baldessarini Del Mar (Charles Schumann) Hugo Boss.
Stella (Stella McCartney)

2004

Curious (Britney Spears) Elizabeth Arden
Curious Heart (Britney Spears) Elizabeth Arden
Eternity Moment for men(Scarlett Johansson) Calvin Klein
Eternity Moment for women(Scarlett Johansson) Calvin Klein
Eternity Calvin Klein
Tommy (girl)
Tommy (boy)

2005

Unforgivable (hip hop musician Sean John Combs)
Very Irresistible for Men (Liv Tyler and Boris Beynet) Givenchy
Pleasures (men)
Live (Jennifer Lopez)
Fantasy (Britney Spears) Elizabeth Arden
Lovely (Sarah Jessica Parker)

Liberte (Gisele Bundchen)
Red Door Revealed (Catherine Zeta-Jones) Arden
Paris Hilton for Women (Paris Hilton)
Green Tea (Catherine Zeta-Jones) Arden

2006

Princess (Camilla Belle) Vera Wang
Live Luxe (Jennifer lopez)
Heiress Paris Hilton
Boss in Motion Hugo boss
Pure White Linen
Intimately Beckham for him (David & Victoria Beckham)
Intimately Beckham for her(David & Victoria Beckham)
In Control Curious (Britney Spears) Elizabeth Arden
With Love (Hilary Duff)
Covet . (Sarah Jessica Parker)
Insolence (Hilary Swank) Guerlain.
J'Adore (Charlize Theron:) Dior

2007

Unforgivable Woman (hip hop musician Puff Daddy). Estee Lauder.
Pour femme (Kate Moss) Bvlgari
M (Mariah Carey)
Can Can (Paris Hilton)
Cool Water Wave (Fernanda Tavares) Davidoff
RSVP (Jon Bon Jovi) Kenneth Cole
Midnight Fantasy (Britney Spears) Elizabeth Arden
Christina Aguilera (Christina Aguilera)Procter and Gamble
Glow After Dark, Limited Edition (Jennifer Lopez)
Baldessirini Ambre (Charles Schumann lifestyle collection). Hugo Boss
Believe (Britney Spears)
Midnight Poison (Eva Green) Dior
Sweet Darling (Australian-born pop star Kylie Minogue) Coty

2008

Wrapped With Love (Hilary Duff) Coty
Deseo . (Jennifer Lopez) Coty
CK IN 2 U (him)(Kevin Zegers) Calvin Klein
Hugo xy & Hugo xx (Jonathon Rhys Meyer) Hugo Boss
Polo Black (Ignatio Figueras) Ralph Lauren
Rose Essentielle (Kate Moss) Bvlgari
CK IN 2 U (her) (Kevin Zegers) Calvin Klein
Adventure (Ewan McGregor) Coty
The One for men, (Henry Cavill) Dolce and Gabbana
Rose Essentielle (Kate Moss) Bvlgari

Information on the perfumes and their selection from:

Now Smell This various and comprehensive information, reviews, perfume houses, creators, and links http://nowsmellthis.blogharbor.com/blog/_WebPages/AboutNST.html

Images de parfumes : various images fronting the perfumes <http://www.imagesdeparfums.fr/>

Fragrance.net for availability and year of launch <http://www.fragrancenet.com/f/net/index.html>