

HABITUAL SUSPECTS

OVER THE WIRE #06

OPENING
DEC.17.2010
17:00-19:00

DEBORAH STRATMAN +
STEVEN BADGETT/SIMPARCH +
YUKON SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS

SOVA GALLERY
944 3RD AVE
DAWSON CITY . YUKON TERRITORY . CANADA
DEC.17.2010 - JAN.17.2011

YUKON School of Visual Arts

OVER THE WIRE #06

Deborah Stratman + Steven Badgett/SIMPARCH with
 Yukon School of Visual Arts

HABITUAL SUSPECTS

SOVA STUDENTS:

JOANNE ANDERSON . KERRY BARBER . ELLEN FRIESEN
 SOLVEY JOHNSSGAARD . JACKSON LOVETT . KRYSTAL MANUEL
 AUBYN O'GRADY . KATHRYN PENNINGTON . GRAHAM RUDGE
 SARAH SEBURN . EMMA TIUS . THOMAS USHER

For the 6th edition of OVER THE WIRE – which pairs internationally acclaimed artists with the students at the Yukon School of Visual Arts to create an exhibition through correspondence – Deborah Stratman and SIMPARCH's Steven Badgett directed the students to intervene with the everyday under the premise that "architecture is frozen habit". With a project called **Habitual Suspects** students started off with the writings of George Perec and consciousness philosopher Alva Noë, then proceeded to decode a secret message sent by the artists in Chicago via morse code. In turn, the students created solo and collaborative works that interrupted their crystallised personal behaviours, cultural assumptions and established architecture. Using the SOVA gallery as a node, the exhibition includes records of performances in the domestic sphere, modifications to transportation, prosthetics on the verge of the ridiculous, hacks to the architecture of the school and interventions surrounding the building.

-Charles Stankieveh
 SOVA Instructor

Deborah Stratman is an artist and filmmaker interested in landscapes and systems. Her films, rather than telling stories, pose a series of problems – and through their at times ambiguous nature, allow for a complicated reading of the questions being asked. Many of her films point to the relationships between physical environments and the very human struggles for power, ownership, mastery and control that are played out on the land. Most recently, they have questioned elemental historical narratives about freedom, expansion, security, and the regulation of space. Stratman works in multiple mediums, including photography, sound, drawing and sculpture. She has exhibited internationally at venues including the Whitney Biennial, MoMA, the Pompidou, Hammer Museum and many international film festivals including Sundance, the Viennale, Ann Arbor and Rotterdam. She is the recipient of Fulbright and Guggenheim fellowships and she currently teaches at the University of Illinois at Chicago.
<http://www.pythagorasfilm.com/>

Steven Badgett is part of SIMPARCH – a collaborative practice involving large-scale, usually interactive installations and events that examine loaded geography, building practices, site-specificity and materials that may be salvaged, recycled or generally brought together with a kind of DIY attitude. Often collaborating with other organizations, like the Centre for Land Use Interpretation, and individual artists, builders, scientists, academics, filmmakers, and musicians, SIMPARCH works at exposing a site's history and use through social interaction and experimentation with vernacular design and materials. SIMPARCH has shown at Documenta XI, Venice Biennale for Architecture, Whitney Biennial, Tate Modern, Renaissance Society and Deitch Projects, NYC.
<http://www.simparch.org/>

OVER THE WIRE Series : : <http://media.yukonsova.ca/over-the-wire>

QUESTION THE HABITUAL

(ARCHITECTURE IS FROZEN HABIT)

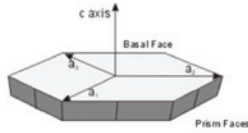
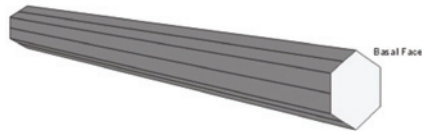
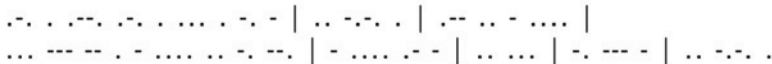


Diagram of the two primary habits of snow:
Plate (top) and Column (bottom)



1

WARM UP (decode and execute):



2

READ: *Approaches to What* by Georges Perec
The Habitual Brain by Alva Noe

3

Take account of, question, describe things that occur every day - the banal, the quotidian, the obvious, the common, the ordinary, the infraordinary, the background noise, the habitual.

Question what is so matter of course that you've forgotten its origins.

Catalogue your habits.

4

Create new frameworks around chosen commonplace actions, places objects or phenomena.

For example...

- Modify routine
- Alter physical space
- Shift social habits

Consider modifications in terms of...

- Accentuation
- Impedance
- Scale
- Ritualization
- Improved Function

You must document and/or physically manifest your modifications.

- A. DO YOUR PART - AUBYN O'GRADY
Combs, Mirrors, Studio Lighting, Stool, Camera
- B. INDECISIONS IN LIFE - KERRY BARBER
Wood and Sound Recording
- C. EVERY PRECIOUS MOLECULE - ELLEN FRIESEN
Bra, Plastic Bag, Tubing, and Mucus
- D. PARALLEL TANDEM CYCLE
GRAHAM RUDGE + JACKSON LOVETT
2 Bicycles, Wood, and Steel with Video
- E. UNTITLED (DOOR)
SARAH SEBURN + EMMA TIUS
Salvaged Door, Free Standing Frame and Spotlight

- F. RED HEAD - THOMAS USHER
Performance with Conceptual Model
- G. HORSE REFUGE - KATHERINE PENNINGTON
Performance with Collage
- H. REFLECTIONS - KRYSTAL M. MANUEL
Performance with Mirror and Journal
- I. OTW06 INSTRUCTIONS
DEBORAH STRATMAN + STEVE BADGETT
- J. UNTITLED (SLIDE) - SOLVEY JOHNSGAARD
Plastic, Rubber and Wood
- K. PRIVATE - JOANNE ANDERSON
Installation with Mixed Media

