

PRESS RELEASE

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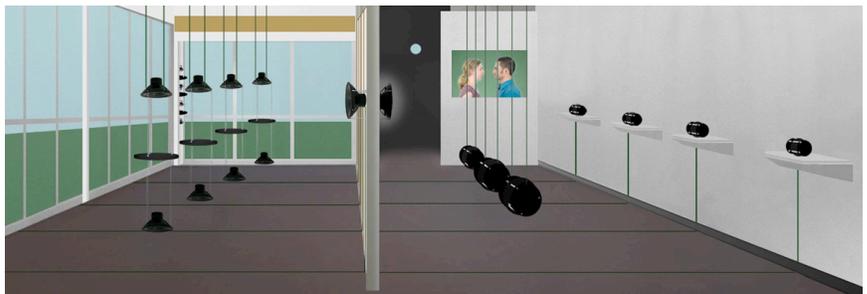
JEFF TALMAN: MOUTH-TO-MOUTH Immersed in the Resonance of A Kiss

International artist Jeff Talman's new installation features the intimate sound of a single kiss as the only sound source for a solo show at the Roger Williams University Exhibition Gallery. After recording the kiss sound in his studio in New York City, Talman digitally analyzed the sound and extracted its basic characteristics to then create a sonic environment charged with the nuance of an intimate, personal moment. The resulting 28 channels of sound are fed through sculpture constructed of loudspeakers, reflective sound diffusion discs and steel rods. Green cable and tape are striped throughout the gallery space.

Talman's installation further presents a symbolic code of human behavioral responses. Similar to attitudes of couples, paired loud speakers variously face or are turned away from each other. The reflective discs create an unvarying physical division between each pair of speakers. The speaker pairs project sound but the barriers block any direct communication. The barriers extend to the architecture of the gallery as central wall panels divide the gallery into two distinct spaces.

Seventeen brief scenes of projected video examine the same behavioral responses in slow motion. In each scene artist/actors Amanda Stark and Javier Garcera face towards or away from each other until one pivots to face a different direction. The couple remain apart in a continuous exposition of scenes until ultimately they yield to a spontaneous emotional outburst.

The opening reception for *Mouth-to-Mouth* is on September 9 at 7:30 PM. Earlier that evening at 6:00 the university 2009 Fall Lecture Series will feature the artist in *Resonance Kiss*, a presentation on the impact of natural spatial resonance in architecture. The lecture will be given in ARCH 132 in the School of Architecture, Art and Historic Preservation. The gallery is open 9 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday.



Mouth-to-Mouth (computer rendering)

September 9 – October 8, 2009

JEFF TALMAN has created installations in Cologne's Cathedral Square, Galleria Mazzini in Genoa, the Bavarian Forest, St. James Cathedral, Chicago, the MIT Media Lab, The Kitchen, Eyebeam, Bitforms Gallery and many others. His unique achievement is the decade-long examination of reflexive resonance, in which resonance extracted from the ambient silence (room tone) of a site becomes the only sound source for the installation. Cited as "a pioneer of the use of resonance in artworks" by the Intute technologies research group at Oxford University, he has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the New York Foundation for the Arts along with other numerous awards and artist residencies. Talman attended and eventually taught and conducted orchestras at both Columbia University and the City College of New York. Later he taught at the Massachusetts College of Art and Emerson College. For more info: www.jefftalman.com

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