Riverscape Routes

Ruth Beer & Miles Thorogood

Exhibition: Sept, 2013 - May, 2014 Opening: September 27, 6-9 pm

Fraser River Discovery Center

788 Quayside Drive, New Westminster www.fraserriverdiscovery.org



The Fraser River Discovery Centre is proud to present the collaborative artwork of Ruth Beer and Miles Thorogood. Through both an interactive sculpture and projection they have evoked many aspects of the river.

The interactive soundpost stands like a pylon in the river that traces its flow and activity along its shore presenting the beauty and utility of the Fraser as it joins the coast and inland cultures and economies. It consists of sounds and images from Surrey Docks, Fraser River Piledriving and recorded during a Seaspan tugboat journey along the river - places that have a significant impact on the city. These auditory and visual elements provide a portrait of place.

In their interactive projection, viewers mirrored in the artwork become integral with it to underscore that their actions impact the life and sustainability of the river.

The artwork represents the river's height derived from real-time numerical data from Coast Guard sensors situated in the hut adjacent to FRDC. It also consists of images from nearby industries as well as text from poems referencing rivers. Visitors' movements disrupt the projected image creating new configurations, associations and meaning to highlight the dynamic nature of the river that is so central to the sense of "place" in the city's history and the present.

Ruth Beer is a Vancouver-based artist whose artistic practice includes sculpture, video, photography and interactive projections. She is interested in interdisciplinary approaches to artistic, collaborative and pedagogical practices. Her work has been shown in national and international exhibitions and she has been awarded several public art commissions. Her recent artwork addresses social history and geo/marine conditions focused on the Pacific Northwest region. She is a Professor of Visual Art at Emily Carr University of Art and Design.

Miles Thorogood is a doctoral researcher at the School of Interactive Art and Technology, Simon Fraser University, exploring relationships between machine learning, artificial intelligence, soundscape, and creativity. His works have encompassed sound installation, locative media, and variety of generative a/v manifestations shown in Australia, Europe and North America.

For more information contact The Fraser River Discovery Centre: (604) 521-8401