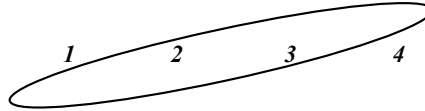


This text was part of the original installation

C h r i s t i n e W h i t t a k e r

Performance, Installations, and Multi-Media Sculpture



Balloon Sound Wave Installation
(Airwaves of Sound)

Proposal for Temporary Interior Placement

“Balloon Sound Wave Installation” is a sound sculpture to be placed in an interior space (controlled environmental light) 27’6”H x 36’W x 63’9”L. The sculpture is comprised of five 18’ diameter latex balloons, each inflated to a different dimension, inside each balloon is placed a sound transducer (sound microphone), which is activated when a viewer touches the balloon and starts sound waves. The sound is then carried through a speaker system (suspended from the ceiling) and reintroduced back into the environment. Above the speakers six projectors are mounted to generate visual images of color on and through the balloons.

The environment has little to no lighting. The balloons are mounted on foam under understructures where sound transducers are inserted to the base of each balloon. The balloons are placed so that the viewer passes by and touches the surface of the balloon, sound waves are generated which are picked up through the sound transducers (a sound which is similar to a synthesizer scale).

Depending on the diameter of the balloon, the pitch is higher or lower, so each balloon creates its own sound pitch (due to the vibrations of the sound waves). These myriad synthesized sounds are transferred back into the environment through the speaker system. At the same time, the projectors are synchronized to go off in order of 1 to 6, each of which is fully loaded with 36 solid color images. The images cascade across the surfaces of and through the balloons. An environment full of sound and sight is created, and consistently is changing with the interaction of the participant. Out of any context of the ordinary a “dream state” would be created.