



CITY OF SYRACUSE PUBLIC ART APPLICATION

All applications for the installation of public art will be evaluated based on the seven (7) criteria enumerated below. It is understood that some criteria will have more relevance than others depending on the proposed artwork. This will be taken into account and the criteria weighted accordingly.

- Artistic merit and quality, as substantiated by an artist's past history of exhibitions or sales, awards or other recognition, or an outstanding first work, as well as the inherent quality in terms of timelessness of vision, design, aesthetics and excellence;
- Intentionality of the artist, concerning the meaning and proposed or desired effect of the work as Public Art upon the viewing public, as rationalized and elaborated upon in the project description;
- Local significance, creating a sense of excitement in public spaces and presenting fresh ways of seeing the community and city reflected;
- Representation of styles and tastes within the public art collection, acknowledging existing works in the public art collection and striving for diversity of style, scale and media;
- Safety and durability, including the ability of the artwork to withstand weather conditions, as well as structural and surface integrity;
- Unrestricted public viewing, primarily the opportunity for public access, but also suitability for public participation, social and political attitudes, and functional considerations; and
- Installation and maintenance of the work, from practicality of fabrication and transport, to installation and long-term care.

PROJECT NAME: *Leviathan*, Harvard Sensory Ethnography Lab, Lucien Castaing-Taylor and Véréna Paravel

PROJECT TYPE: Temporary installation, September 10- October 24, 2015

LOCATION: Urban Video Project, Everson Museum of Art (permissions have been granted)

ARTWORK TYPE:

Looping video projection, TRT: 87:00 (1 hr. 27 mins)

35mm w/ sound transferred to digital video

ARTWORK DESCRIPTION:

One of the most critically-acclaimed documentaries in recent years, LEVIATHAN is a groundbreaking, immersive portrait of the contemporary commercial fishing industry. Filmed off the coast of New Bedford, Massachusetts (at one time the whaling capital of the world as well as Herman Melville's inspiration for "Moby Dick") it is today the country's largest fishing port with over 500 ships sailing from its harbor every month.

LEVIATHAN follows one such vessel, a hulking groundfish trawler, into the surrounding murky black waters on a weeks-long fishing expedition. But instead of romanticizing the labor or partaking in the longstanding tradition of turning fisherfolk into images, filmmakers Lucien Castaing-Taylor (SWEETGRASS) and V  r  na Paravel (FOREIGN PARTS) present a vivid, almost-kaleidoscopic representation of the work, the sea, the machinery and the players, both human and marine. Employing an arsenal of cameras that passed freely from film crew to ship crew; that swoop from below sea level to astonishing bird's-eye views in the sky, the film that emerges is unlike anything that has been seen before. Entirely dialogue-free, but mesmerizing and gripping throughout, it breaks new ground in both cinema and anthropology, while presenting a cosmic portrait of one of mankind's oldest endeavors.

Leviathan was shown in an installation format at last year's Whitney Biennial, and has screened at prestigious arts venues and film festivals around the world, including the Highlights program of the New York Film Festival, the Toronto International Film Festival, Lorcano Film Festival, Ann Arbor Film Festival, International Documentary Film Festival in Amsterdam, the Viennale in Vienna, as well as having screenings at the Tate Modern, IFC Center in New York City, the Gene Siskel in Chicago, and Wexner Center in Columbus, Ohio, among many others.

VIMEO LINK TO VIEW WORK:

<https://vimeo.com/131608895>

PW: invalidepaire

ASSOCIATED EVENTS:

Thursday, Oct. 15 (tentative): filmmaker and Director of Harvard Sensory Ethnography Lab, Lucien Castaing-Taylor, in person; reception to follow.

ARTIST BIO:

Castaing-Taylor and Paravel collaborate as anthropologists, artists, and filmmakers in the Sensory Ethnography Laboratory, based in Cambridge, USA, at Harvard University, and in Paris, France. Their work conjugates art's negative capability with an ethnographic attachment to the flux of life. It is in the permanent collection of New York's Museum of Modern Art and the British Museum, and has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art, the Tate, London's Institute of Contemporary Arts, the Whitney Museum, the Centre Pompidou, the Berlin Kunsthalle, the Whitechapel Gallery, PS1, the X-Initiative, and elsewhere. It has formed the subject of symposia at the Smithsonian Institution, the Mus  e du quai Branly, and the British Museum. Their films and videos have been screened at Berlin, Locarno, New York, Toronto, and other film festivals.

Most of Castaing-Taylor and Paravel's collaborations are in film, video, and installation. Their works include *Canst Thou Draw Out Leviathan with a Hook* (2012—), a four-part project about humanity and the sea. Their film *Leviathan* was released theatrically in 2013, and won the FIPRESCI (International Film Critics) Award of Locarno International Film Festival, the Michael Powell Award of the Edinburgh Film Festival, New Vision Award of CPH:DOX, the Silva Puma for Best Film in FICUNAM, the Los Angeles Film Critics' Circle Douglas Edwards Independent and Experimental Film Award, and sixteen other awards. Additional awards for their work include the 2013 True Vision Award, the 2013 Albert Award in the Arts, and Guggenheim Fellowship (2012). *Still Life/ Nature Morte* and twelve of their other moving image works were included in the 2014 Whitney Museum Biennial. Retrospectives of their work include Film Society of Lincoln Center (2014), Filmoteca Española (2014), Viennale (2013), and Montreal RIDM (2013). They are currently at work on various installations of still and moving images set in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, including *The Last Judgment*, which will be installed in the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine Cathedral, New York City, in 2015.

Earlier works include *Sweetgrass* (Castaing-Taylor and Ilisa Barbash), a film that offers an unsentimental elegy at once to the American West and to the 10,000 years of uneasy accommodation between post-Paleolithic humans and animals, and *Foreign Parts* (Paravel and JP Sniadecki), a film that observes and captures the struggle of a contested "eminent domain" neighborhood before its disappearance under the capitalization of New York's urban ecology.

APPLICANT:

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