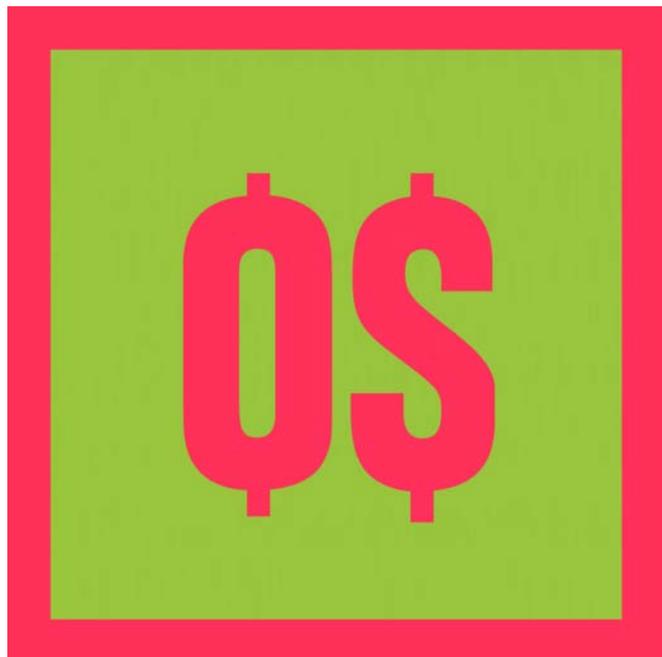


ON NOTHINGNESS / SPACEBUSTER ON SOMETHINGNESS / SPEECHBUSTER





SPACEBUSTER // On Nothingness

A performance that allows noise, confusion and illegibility to be something where there is nothing. The program will include a series of rotating site-specific installations and performances on the concept of “nothingness” inside the Spacebuster, a mobile, inflatable structure and expandable pavilion designed by Raumlabor.

12:00 - 12:15 PM: “Conference Call” by Pilot Projects Design Collective

12:15 - 1:00 PM: "Digital Serenity" by Chris Woebken & Daniel Goddemeyer

1:00 - 1:45 PM: "Urban Symphony" by David Rife

1:45 - 2:30 PM: "Zvieri TV" by Andrea Haenggi & Robert Neuwirth

2:00 - 4:00 PM: "Return (Welcome to the new paradise)" by Itziar Barrio

2:30-3:15 PM: "Social Mirroring" by Jon Santos

3:15 - 4:00 PM: "Noise" by Narcissister and Earthmasters

4:00 - 5:00 PM: "The Wrap in the Weave: Everything Frays My Dear" by Zefrey Throwell

5:00 - 6:00 PM: “Space Charmer” by Aaron Jones & Christopher Schanck





Spacebuster



SPACEBUSTER PERFORMANCES //
ON NOTHINGNESS
Schedule of Performances

12:00 - 12:15 PM

"Conference Call" by Pilot Projects Design Collective

Pilot Projects Design Collective is a company of designers, architects and urban activists who co-create intentional interventions to contextual systems. We focus on citizen-powered projects at the intersection of culture and infrastructure that support our vision for a more humane, sustainable and beautiful world.

"Conference Call" is an interactive performance confronting the ubiquity of digital information masquerading as social interaction. The piece used a combination of audience members' mobile phones and corporate customer service robots to paint an acoustic picture of a world where interpersonal communication was displaced by algorithms and machines.

Performers included Scott Francisco, Founder and Director at Pilot Projects Design Collective, James Wilson, intern architect, Pilot Project Design Collective, and Lauren Baier - interaction designer, Pilot Projects Design Collective.

12:15 - 1:00 PM

"Digital Serenity" by Chris Woebken & Daniel Goddemeyer

DIGITAL SERENITY

Current technologies that digitize our cities such as the omnipresence of mobile phones, their 'data trails', the 'always on' expectations and the accessibility and transparency of generally available data will influence the urban environment in ways that are yet unprecedented and unforeseen.

NYC Foresight is a hypothetical department of the City of New York that explores the impacts and effects of ubiquitous technology, data and connectivity on our interactions with one another and our daily routine in cities.

It is interested in the implications of this technology and aims to explore ways of designing services that acknowledges people's complexities, contradictions and superstitions.

Through pilot programs, probes and regulations it establishes regulated ways of disguise, dislocation and data trail manipulations that provide small pockets of anonymity in the age of ubiquitous exposure, tracking and objectivity to protect and preserve our citizens digital health.

During the installation in the Spacebuster the Department of Foresight held office hours to



showcase the outcomes of the 'Lower Manhattan Pilot' and invited participants to submit applications to request the developed services and regulations for their own neighborhoods.

About The Office for Hypothetical Futures

The Office for Hypothetical Futures is a research practice exploring the intersection of digital and physical infrastructure set up by Chris Woebken and Daniel Goddemeyer as a platform for research, exploration and development of stories, responses and scenarios.

By combining primary research in the present with the extrapolation of current technological and demographic trends we create narratives and experiential probes as starting points for discussion, reflection and feedback. In our projects want to challenge traditional notions of experiencing technology by researching often overlooked human needs and revealing previously invisible behaviors and patterns.

1:00 - 1:45 PM

"Urban Symphony" by David Rife

"An Aural Examination"

One may make the assumption that in the absence of all external sounds, there becomes a perceived nothingness, a deep black hole of absolute silence. What one will find, however, if a complete lack of environmental sound is attained, that there is somethingness in this assumed nothingness. The sounds that exist within the body are humanly perceivable in such conditions, a function of the brain adapting to a low noise floor and biological systems within the body keeping itself alive.

Conversely, everyday auditory environments keep us from realizing the body is a place where sound is created, exists, becomes trapped, or travels through. Beyond transient audible events like talking & singing, digestion, bone-popping, etc., it is easy to assume that no sound continuously exists inside the body, that it's mostly full of acoustic nothingness.

"An Aural Examination" explored these assumptions, using a toolbox of acoustic transducers to investigate the human body as a function between sonic input and the associated output. Spacebuster visitors were presented with the opportunity to inject various sounds into their own body, and to then capture and hear how the body acts as a filter for these sounds.

About David Rife

Dave Rife is an acoustic engineer and sound designer, working at Arup on a range of projects from the design of performing arts spaces to collaborations with sound artists. Dave's own installation work largely explores the relationship between space and sound, focusing on our collective interaction with sound and the perception of the aural environments surrounding us.



1:45 - 2:30 PM

"Zvieri TV" by Andrea Haenggi & Robert Neuwirth

Zvieri TV is an odd, performative half-hour TV talk-show in the notion of choreography, dance and discourse with the intent to challenge current deadlocked social structures and systems. Their first *Zvieri TV* talk-show was for Manhattan Neighborhood Network Cable Television on May 1, 2012 with the title *In Search of a Worker's Paradise*. For the Spacebuster, they explored the topic *The Terror of Nothing*. We will invite guests from diverse fields—a fortune teller, art and public policy—to explore and experience *The Terror of Nothing* and the potentiality of this terror as the potentiality of Capital.

Shortly before the show started they gave invited talking guests a suggested 'activities' list which had the potentiality to put their behaviors and patterns into question and opens new possibilities of what a TV-talk-show is, bringing *Zvieri TV* into the state of confusion. For *Zvieri TV The Terror of Nothing* at the Spacebuster they aimed for 'becoming nothingness' in the sense of becoming equals—all hosts, all simultaneously doing nothing and something, all dancing while appearing not to dance at all. To add another destabilizing element to the talk-show, the light was gradually dimmed to become darkness towards the end of the show, bringing the audience into a state of disappearance. *Zvieri TV* aimed to empower and activate viewers and participants to capitalize incoherence in a medium where conformity and coherence rules. Last year on May 1st *Zvieri TV* was broadcast live from the studios of Manhattan Neighborhood Network Cable Television. This year they expect to work with MNN again to broadcast our half-hour at the Spacebuster.

Zvieri TV takes its name from what the Swiss call the 4pm break of snack (derived from 'vieri', meaning "four"). A time to Rest. *Zvieri TV* is a project for the Direct Action Flaneurs, a politico/artistic effort initiated by Andrea Haenggi and Robert Neuwirth in which we invite ourselves into public social fabrics to create, spontaneously with anyone who will join in, temporary autonomous zones held together through committed movement, committed observation, and committed typing to challenge deadlocked social structures and present systems.

About Andrea Haenggi

Swiss-born artist Andrea Haenggi lives in New York City and works in the field of dance, visual art and the public realm as a choreographer, dance-maker and performer. She shares her experimental practice and creative process in multiple formats and expressions. She teaches as a Certified Movement Analyst at the Laban/Bartenieff Movement Studies in New York City and gives somatic-dance composition/techniques workshops nationally and internationally in Nigeria, Switzerland and China. Of late, her main artistic question is *How to be a dancing activist by not being a dancing activist?* With her own choreographic works, she has been active on stage, in museums and in public sites with her Brooklyn dance art company AMDaT since 1998, from solos to larger scale works, which have toured internationally.



About Robert Neuwirth

Robert Neuwirth is a writer and investigative reporter whose books and articles on social, economic and political issues are helping to frame a new conception of equitable urban development. His most recent book, *Stealth of Nations*, revealed the rise and promise of the underground economy and is currently being translated into Chinese, Japanese and Russian. *Shadow Cities*, published in 2005, argued that shantytowns are normal urban neighborhoods and that governments should engage with the residents of these informal communities.

2:00 - 4:00 PM

"Return (Welcome to the new paradise)" by Itziar Barrio

"RETURN (Welcome to the new paradise)" is a documentary video about an art piece temporarily displayed in public space and its effects in the community where it was exposed: Bedford–Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. The video addresses issues of paradise, vacation, migration and publicity industry, while also describing the neighborhood where the billboard was located, revealing its particularities through interviews with its neighbors and local professionals. "RETURN" was also the title of the billboard crowning a building in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn during 6 months in 2009 and 2010. At first sight, the billboard appeared to be a travel agency advertisement that attempts to lure the audience into buying an idyllic vacation package: "Welcome to the New Paradise. You, a lonely Wild Cat."

The video *RETURN (Welcome to the new paradise)* was shown last year for the first time at La Havana Biennial 2012. Since then it has been shown in different venues and locations: Loop (Barcelona), and Thomas Henry Ross Gallery (Montreal). The screening of this video as part of the program Nothingness and Untapped Capital was its premiere in NYC, making its way back into the city where it was produced.

At the end *RETURN (Welcome to the new paradise)* gives voices to the neighbors who create the social space of the place. This piece is about the city, about a specific neighborhood and its relation with its context – forging a dialogue between urban fixtures and the individual. The poetics of the text in the advertisement/billboard reflect peoples' daily day lives, bringing into light hidden meanings in the guise of quotidian advertising iconography.

The video was projected on the Spacebuster walls. Video length: 17min 29 seconds.

About Itziar Barrio

Itziar Barrio was born in 1976 in Bilbao, Spain and currently lives and works in New York City. She has been featured in solo shows internationally, outstanding: Abrons Arts Center, ARTIUM Museum in Spain, HVCCA, Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art and White Box in New York, Agenzia04 Gallery in Italy, Weekend Gallery and The Kunsthaus Tacheles in Berlin, Sala Libre, Completo in Barcelona and Catalogo General Gallery in Bilbao, Spain.



2:30-3:15 PM

"Social Mirroring" by Jon Santos

"Social Mirroring Workshop" was a multi-disciplinary performance workshop organized by Common Space that seeks to develop communicative dynamics within social group settings. Targeting specific ritualized settings and milieus specific to time of day, "Social Mirror" is a dynamic, multi-sensorial experience that integrated a laughter yoga session led by Lisa Levine of Maha Rose, choreographed movement by Juri Onuki, a projected video and soundtrack by Jon Santos of Common Space, and a real-time recording and processing composition by Abby Echiverri.

The goal of this workshop was to improve one's sense of self and relieve social anxiety when interacting with groups of people. The Project explored various social themes, rituals and processes intended to improve social skills within a leisurely context and ultimately achieve a pure sense of joy from the presence of other people.

About Jon Santos

Jon Santos is an artist living and working in New York City. He works in video, sound, performance and sculpture. Recent performances / projects include Telegraph at Storefront for Art and Architecture Gala, The Last Weekend with Peter Coffin and forthcoming Social Mirroring at the New Museum. He has exhibited widely in group exhibitions at BAM, NY, WalkerArt Center, MN and the Cooper Hewitt Design Museum, NY. Santos launched Common Space Studio in 2006 as a collaborative platform for design, art production, curation and idea formation.

Common Space combines both commissioned work and self-initiated projects, publishes art books, produces exhibitions, events, websites and videos. The aim of the studio is to stimulate the circulation of ideas and to find channels of communication that interconnect various artists, designers and disciplines. Santos is adjunct professor at Pratt Institute of the Arts, NY. Between 2000 and 2011 he was visiting artist at Sint-Lukas Academy, Brussels. He was adjunct professor at the California College of Arts, San Francisco and guest lecturer at the American Institute of Graphic Arts in Washington, DC. His work has appeared in TMagazine, Dossier, Paper, Casa Vogue, Bidoun, Casa Brutus, Communication Arts, +81 and I.D.

3:15 - 4:00 PM

"Noise" by Narcissister and Earthmasters

These sounds penetrated the space and created a rift within the consciousness of the listener. At times coarse, frequencies created a fear response within the body of the listener, while other moments soothed the listener. Producing a dynamic range of brain activity, these sounds drew the listener into an aural experience beyond the realm of [conscious](#) thinking, not unlike



achieving 'nothing' as a state of mind in the Buddhist tradition. As the performance ended the audience was placed back into a neutral psychological state.

About Narcissister and Earthmasters

Narcissister is a Brooklyn-based artist and performer. Wearing mask and merkin, she works at the intersection of performance art, burlesque, dance, and visual art. She actively integrates her prior experience as a professional dancer and commercial artist with her current art practices in a range of creative media, including collage, photography, video art, and music. In addition to being a featured performer at The Box, she has presented work in New York at The New Museum, The Kitchen, and at Abrons Art Center and at many nightclubs, galleries, and alternative art spaces. Narcissister was a re-performer of Marina Abramovic's Luminosity piece as part of The Artist is Present retrospective at MoMA. Narcissister has also presented her work internationally at the Music Biennale in Zagreb, Croatia, at Chicks on Speed's Girl Monster Festival, at The Festival of Women in Ljubljana, Slovenia, at Warehouse 09, Copenhagen's first live art festival, and at the Camp/Anti-Camp festival in Berlin, among many others. Her art videos have also been included in gallery shows and film festivals worldwide. Her film The Self-Gratifier won an award for "Best Use of a Sex Toy" at The 2008 Good Vibrations Erotic Film Festival. Interested in troubling the divide between popular entertainment and experimental art, Narcissister appeared on America's Got Talent in 2011. Narcissister was in FORE at The Studio Museum and had her first solo gallery exhibition "Narcissister is You" at envoy enterprises in February 2013.

Earthmasters (George de Moura) is a New York native, currently involved in the integration of sculpture, video, performance, sound and new technologies to produce work that explore aggression, enlightenment, and varied psychological states. His involvement in over a dozen collaborative sound and art ensembles has produced over 30 releases to date. Works are currently available internationally and at many retailers including Printed Matter and Family (LA).

4:00 - 5:00 PM

"The Wrap in the Weave: Everything Frays My Dear" by Zefrey Throwell

"The Warp in the Weave: Everything Frays My Dear" serves as a metaphor for the current capitalist system of wealth distribution under the guise of a friendly childhood game gone awry. It encourages greed and savage individualism at the cost of the very structure that holds us together.

A large circular piece of cloth held on the edges by 8 participants. At the beginning of the piece all hands are slack on the cloth sharing the weight equally. The participants then "parachute" up the piece of cloth numerous times and as it falls past eye level, becoming a massive tug-of-war. While most pulling games are to see who can win a certain amount of material, the object of this performance was to actually destroy the fabric itself. The performance continues until



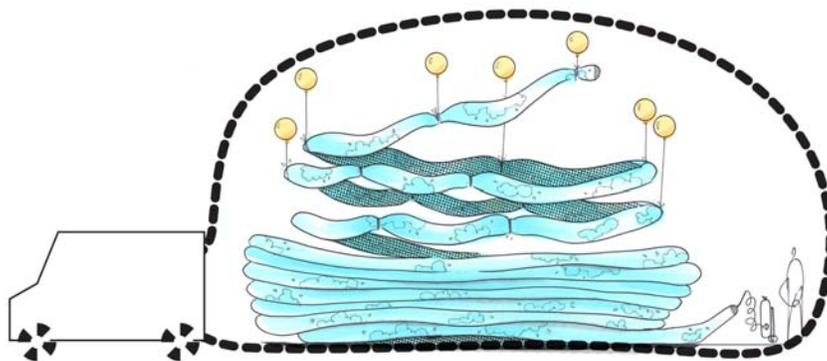
the cloth is shredded. This is not a friendly back and forth, but a turbulent and violent display of unchecked frenetic appetite.

About Zefrey Throwell

Zefrey Throwell's recent projects are rooted in astute social criticism, aggressively reclaiming private space for public use with a focus on convivial community spirit, aka fun. Often the performances involve massive groups of people, such as the largest and loudest symphony in history- the 1,000 car horn orchestration entitled *Entropy Symphony III* with LAND in Los Angeles and a weeklong strip poker critique of modern economics called *I'll Raise You One...* for Performa 11 at Art in General. Nine of Throwell's films, including *Ocularpation: Wall Street*, have been screened at the Museum of Modern Art for a special night honoring Throwell's work curated by Rajendra Roy, chief curator of film at MoMA. Throwell's first major museum presentation at the Leopold Hoesch Museum in Dueren, Germany 2012 included the film *Time Stau, At last...rest*. Throwell's new artist book "*Folding Space/Pressing Time*" is a collaboration with artist Dan Gluibizzi and can be acquired at the gallery or through the artist's web page www.zefrey.com. Throwell's projects have been featured in The New York Times, CNN, NPR, NBC, Artforum, Art in America and Modern Painters. Throwell has work in The Museum of Modern Art, NY collection and other major collections around the world.

5:00 - 6:00 PM

"Space Charmer" by Aaron Jones & Christopher Schanck



SPACE CHARMER is the temporary repurpose of the SPACEBUSTER into a pop-up dream. The performance was met through the clever marriage of innovative structure, environmental graphics, and crowd interaction - the combination of which offer alternative definitions for nothingness with their efficient use of materials and resultant phenomenological effect. The project inflated 2000' of polytube with compressed air and occasionally floated this



material with helium-filled balloons. Periodic painted shapes and colors strove to associate this unfurling thing with some terrific beast or tentacle or guts. Ultimately, this playful temporary installation furthers understanding on material, color, and scale as powerful agents of value.

About Aaron Jones

Aaron Jones is an architect, illustrator, and fabricator based in Detroit MI. Aaron is a 5th generation Oklahoman, having since practiced architecture in both Texas and Michigan. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Oklahoma State University and Master of Architecture from Cranbrook Academy of Art. Aaron was a summer Fellow within CEMAT - Centre d'Etudes Maghrébines à Tunis - based in North Africa and sponsored by the US Dept. of State. Professionally Aaron maintains his practice on Detroit's Eastside and teaches various architectural coursework within Lawrence Technological University's College of Architecture and Design. Recent accomplishments include solo exhibition within NEW PROJECT'S (Chicago) and summer tenure as Architect in Residence for the Bronx River Art Center. Currently, Aaron is developing work for the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.