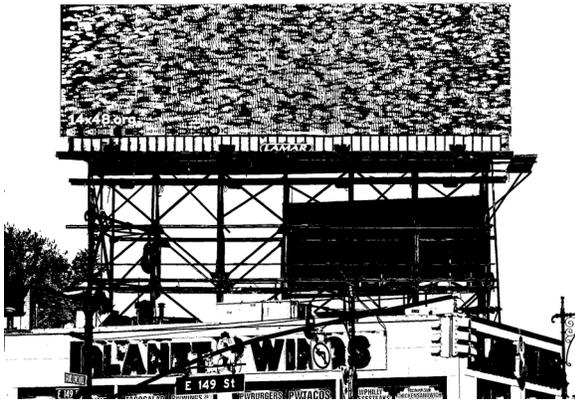




NEW PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION POSTED ON BILLBOARD AT GRAND CONCOURSE AVE

Kenneth Millington: *Static Fossil*
Press Release November 6, 2013
Grand Concourse Ave, Bronx, NY



New York, NY—**14x48** is pleased to announce its latest public art project, ***Static Fossil*** by Brooklyn-based artist and resident **Kenneth Millington**. Located on **Grand Concourse Avenue** in the Bronx, the installation is the artist's first public work in New York City. The billboard features the artist's painted reproduction of television static, transforming advertising space to one of contemplation.

The *Static Fossil* installation marks 14x48's fourth public art project in New York City. For the last two years, 14x48 has repurposed vacant billboards in an effort to create more space in public art for emerging artists, to challenge emerging artists to engage further with public art, and to enliven the vibrancy of our urban environment in the process. Previous projects have been located the Bronx and Queens and have touched on themes relating to healthy eating, multiculturalism, and respect.

Static Fossil was painted and then photographically reproduced for its billboard installation, a translation that mirrors the analog-to-digital conversion of television signals. As this analog switch-off reaches completion, televisions will derive their signals solely from digital services. The disappearance of familiar television static accompanies this transition. Television static was caused by lightning, solar flares, signal leakage and notably from Cosmic Microwave Background Emission, residue of the Big Bang. In that polluted signal, we see the echo of the origin of the universe painted in the phosphors of red, green and blue.

Frequently as outmoded as analog television, traditional advertising billboards are an appropriate public venue for this concept. With the abundance of vacant billboards around New York City, these displays can be seen as turned-off television screens. Posting an image of static could amount to turning on one TV but not broadcasting anything recognizable. It provides a banner for the passing of an archaic technology.

In concert with Static Fossil, 14x48 and artist Millington collaborated with a group of New York public high school students to contemplate the themes raised by the installation, recording “sound fossils” from background noises in their school. These recordings are available on 14x48’s website at <http://www.14x48.org/staticsounds.html>.

About The Artist

Static Fossil extends Millington’s interest in concepts of time, cosmology and artifact. In addition to public projects, he creates large-scale watercolors, drawings and digital fragments. He has recently exhibited his paintings at the Bronx Museum, Kunsthalle Galapagos in Brooklyn, and Bryan Miller Gallery in Houston. Kenneth has painted large- scale exterior murals throughout the Northeast. He has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship, Greenshields Grants and A.I.M Fellowship. He received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and a MFA from the School of Visual Arts. He teaches at Parsons the New School and lives in Brooklyn, New York.

About 14x48

14x48 repurposes vacant billboards as public art space in order to create more opportunities in public art for emerging artists, to challenge emerging artists to engage more with public art, and to enliven the vibrancy of our urban environment.

Support

Support for this billboard has been made possible by individuals and the NY Community Trust, Citizens Committee for NYC, and others. 14x48 is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a non-profit 501(c)(3) arts service organization.

Visiting The Installation

The billboard is located on the northwest corner of Grand Concourse Avenue and 149th Street in Bronx, NY, facing south. Subways: 2, 4, or 5 to 149 St-Grand Concourse. A map of the billboard location can also be found at www.14x48.org/campaigns.html#campaign4

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