Digital Louisiana 
4.6.2002-6.9.2002
Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans
Lupin Foundation Gallery & 1st Floor Galleries

Stephen Beck and Michael Daugherty • Gerald Cannon • Christine Catsifas • Teresa Cole • James Dingle • Duane Dugas • Christopher Fischer • Lynda Frese • Michael Greathouse • Paul Higham • Debra Howell • Sharon Jacques • Terry Kennedy • Frahn Koerner • Leslie Koptcho • Robin Levy • Patrick Lichty • Joyce Harris Mayer • Jeff Prentice • Jim Richard • Analia Saban • Ann Schwab • John F. Simon, Jr. • Sam Still • David Sullivan • Clifton Webb
Digital Louisiana showcases the visual art of many local and Louisiana-born artists who incorporate computer technology into the production of their work. The use of computer processes to enhance and manipulate images is currently affecting many artists in painting, sculpture, printmaking, photography, video, and multi-media work. For some, computers are just part of the creative process, while for others, computers are integral to presentation. This exhibition is the first survey dedicated to investigating these developments in the state of Louisiana.

This project could not have come to fruition without the dedicated and expert assistance of Karl Hofmann, Graphic Designer; Ian Johnson, Administrative Assistant for Visual Arts; Laura Richens, Assistant Curator; and Bradley Sabin, Chief Preparator.

We are especially indebted to The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts for their commitment to Louisiana artists through the support of this exhibition, to members of the Business Arts Fund for ongoing support of our visual art programs, and to the artists who serve on the CAC Visual Arts Committee for their incredible encouragement and enthusiasm.

David S. Rubin
Curator of Visual Arts
Patrick Lichty

Introduced to electronic technologies at a very early age, Lichty has been creating art with the computer for more than twenty years. Believing that "digital art without expression is merely technique," he has not limited himself to one particular digital medium, but rather, has created works for many settings and in numerous formats—including photographs, presentations on hand-held computers, standard PC’s, video monitors, and room-size installations.

With Assoniations, Lichty turned a simple PDA into a personal literary device for a form of non-linear poetry. Viewers are invited to interact with a series of words and imagery associations by tapping the words or images to navigate through the poem, which relates to intimacy, touch, and personal journeys. 8 Bits or Less consists of video footage and digital pinhole photographs that were all shot with a Casio WristCam, a wristwatch that doubles as a recorder and camera. According to the artist, "the use of such a device for fine art purposes critiques the notion of elaborate equipment for digital expression, the social pitfalls for such technologies (such as security breaches), and the notion of personal privacy in public spaces."
Patrick Lichty

*Assoniations, 2001-02 (detail)*