

Passages

There and Back in 4 Parts

By Steve Zieverink

Edited by Wendy Uhlman

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About the Author :

Steve Zieverink is an artist and musician currently working in Chicago, IL. This book was his Thesis project at The University of IL, Chicago, completed in 2009. Originally from the Cincinnati, Ohio area, in 2000 he founded the Unit 2 Art Collective, a network of artists who collaborate and organize community projects and exhibitions. Zieverink was awarded several Ohio Arts Council Fellowships, a Cincinnati Project Grant and a commission at The Contemporary Arts Center for his sound and light interactive installation work.

Within Unit 2 Zieverink continues to curate, exhibit, and bring together local artists in Chicago communities, recently showing a six channel video installation at the Hyde Park Art Center. His interests as an artist are vast and range from the tactile, such as painting and sculpture, to audio-visual subjects, performance, film and video, and the integration of all these mediums within installation. Zieverink received his B.F.A. in painting at the Art Academy of Cincinnati and his MFA in Studio Arts at The University of Illinois Chicago, where he was recently the recipient of the Provost Award for Graduate Research to travel and film in Alaska.

Note from the Author :

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Introduction

This book is a compilation of different aspects of my art projects, brought together to aid in the understanding of motivation, purpose, function and effect. The disparate elements are meant to add transparency to the mysterious and examination of the assumed. In addition to my research and sources, the bulk of information shared is in the form of audio recordings, done by me over the last few years, and documented in an effort to bring the reader closer to my true thoughts, inspiration, exploration, intention, means of working and execution.

Also included are reflections from performers, assistants, and friends, to once again attempt to show process, challenges and relationships. To take a step back and look at how we define a word is also very relevant to the understanding of intention. Definitions from various sources have been inserted in many places to not only add clarity, but to act as a moment in time of contemplation about perceived knowledge and supposed facts. Really I've tried whatever means possible to tell my story of experiencing, processing and consequential making of art.

Audio Transcript

Steve Zieverink
1.10.09
Connectivity

As an artist, it is my job to network among people and gain information regarding specific types of communities. Artists have the opportunity to engage in different places, spaces, and communities. Through becoming a manager, facilitator, organizer and communicator, we can connect the fragments and add meaning.

Connectivity is a concept which needs to be examined in more depth. In my work I attempt to explore mobility and connection through tracking systems, and looking at different types of sciences. Specifically Ecology, a science which studies all systems from atmospheric, biological, astronomical and technological. Also examined is Network Science, a new scientific discipline that examines the interconnections among diverse physical information - biological, cognitive and social. I then take these number of different disciplines and utilize the data to interconnect and achieve specific kinds of discourse. As we are entrenched in the computer age and it becomes the norm, questioned must be how all this information and access will influence the human - ease vs. overload.