



To: "Eric Van Hove" <keepseekjp@yahoo.co.jp>

Subject: A Very Slow Rhythm

Date: Sat, 8 Dec 2007 15:41:09 -0500

Hi Eric,

I will blow a balloon up with a single breath of air in New York City and mail it to you in Tokyo for placement in the locker in Shinagawa. Once the international journey is complete, the focus of "A Very Slow Rhythm" will be the transference of the single breath of air from visitor to visitor. After popping the balloon, participants will breathe in the previous donor's breath, then fill a new balloon with their own exhalation. Instructions are printed directly on the balloons: わってください (pop) すってください (inhale) あたらしいふうせんにいきをはいてください (exhale into a new balloon). Used balloons will slowly accumulate in the locker forming a record of the communal breathing a simultaneously anonymous, yet intimate exchange.

At the conclusion of this project, the last balloon will return to New York in the box it arrived in and I will reclaim the original breath of air after being shared by numerous individuals. However, should visitors elect not to engage with the balloon, or return it, the balloon will naturally deflate over time, minimizing its presence, and eventually transforming into an empty vessel void of content.

We will see...

Stephan

