

尋找城市（緣起）

主題引申

城市--被挖開的身體

踩到像爛木瓜一樣的東西從鞋底面露出來，你會有聞到什麼臭似的嫌惡地把頭轉開；事實上可能根本沒味道。城市被挖開時是非常壯觀，那種景象不由得你不張望。當我要從北五堵的家前往台北，幾年來不斷在來回飛馳的窗格中目不轉 看著汐止與東湖 被挖開的身體。本是多數還種著零星蔬菜的綠地及磚造三合院立即被高速竄長的公寓替換成是該丟掉的死角；廟宇掛在一邊是新濬道路一邊是筆直華廈的隙縫，唯一能印證的輝煌是它的神聖不可遷移。

城市--慌亂的蹤影

號稱連地下管線都經過整體規劃的辦公大樓區內剛種還奄奄一息的棕櫚樹外是兩層樓高的汽車廢鐵堆置場，一片荒蕪中卻夾著植樹整齊的公園。路無限寬廣交錯、纏繞起伏，除了基隆台北還有往木柵、五股，道路在一個攀升後我的眼 就多跳進一些 城市的慌亂蹤影。

城市--正在翻攪的皮肉

我們的城市正把上面的土翻到下面，而在上面的土（或者說是下面翻上來的土）上加土。可惜城市並不全是草地，它連著一層人的大腦皮層回憶一層過往的集體身體溫度。挖開的身體使以前熟悉的反變成礙眼的，翻不到下面的只好留成一個不相干的疤。你一邊目不轉 一邊心裡全是翻攪的味道。

城市--尋找的身體

應整治的河道被大幅的拓深與加寬，起重機和挖土機在已難辨識的綠地上四處蠕動，尚差幾座柱墩就連線完成的高架橋詭異的倒映在火紅的夕照裡，幾乎消失的遠山上爬附著無止盡閃亮的方盒子住宅，它們都像一張鳥瞰圖般從我的眼角深處展現，我的身體飛出車子半浮在前往台北的路途上空。尋找城市，還是失落的城市正向我撲來？

尋找城市（計劃的結構）

轉借生物力學

尋找城市計劃試圖在創作上尋找可以擴張的工作方式以及工作群落，因此必要---持續保有論述中心與個體創作之間的能量，使原來有的東西在有意的拌攪下相互擴充美味。食譜中---烤到兩面金黃為止，注意攪動直到沸騰等等的描述，提供了有機協同上的許多聯想，也使我對照被各方怪手分別周開的城市。說城市是挖開的身體，要命的是城市卻沒有生物體中一種類「食譜」的配備：能夠不斷偵測現狀與目標差距的靈敏感應器、會反應感應器要求重新定義的反饋控制系統以及永不停歇的修補和再生的結構組織。

生物體的運作是精密協同的結局，尋找城市也尋求在計劃結構上做有效的借鏡。

擴張相異---有機感應

我們預備揚棄在共同地點展出的做法，反而任由參加者 *在自己能夠掌握的空間，按照自己所決選的方式來「發表作品」*，發表的形式與地理的版圖完全不予限制。只要它儘量是一種純粹的創作狀態。從作品構思到成形的這段期間，我們將開放所有參與者的電子信箱和傳真，歡迎彼此之間各種相互形式的合縱連橫、有機變化。

方法上的反饋控制

這些發出的作品將以論述的方式彈回，提供一個再次開始論述的中心。即以 *論談* 作為一種形式上展覽整體呈現的方式。尋找城市計劃以 *尋找城市* 作為參加者共同的出發點。論談也以由此共同點出發的歷程為始。

僅僅以一個出發點上的相似來作為方法上以及論述上的核心，卻要盡量放任結整的同一性，甚至鼓勵包容多樣性而且重視這種多樣性的結果。

在作品開始呈現期間，以每日定時於重要公眾場所進行的論談，造就位於台北的一個軸心區。

管道

連接作品的地理位置---區域媒體

連接談論主軸區-----具有影響力的公眾談論地點

連接再生的論述----出版與網路

再生論述

所有因 *尋找城市* 計劃而發生的論述，透過集結編撰之後，成為出版品。

它不是一本結論性的資料反而比較傾向是些能夠再次引發二次論述的元件；

包含有：

-- *原始資料*，由 參展者滋生的手稿、調查日記、物體片段、故事、塗鴉；由計劃總 主持人隨時收記的文件、紀錄、圖像。

--由 *參展者選擇與組合用以敘述自己作品的資料，以及論談上針對尋找城市的個人歷程敘述。*

--由 *論述總執行人選擇與組合，用以建立再生論述關係的資料與撰述。*

--論談中由 *觀眾引申出的資料以及具有虛構-衍生價值的資料與紀錄。*

City Body (Origins)

Theme Extension

City – A Body Carved Up

When we step in something that squelches under-foot like rotten papaya, it's a natural reaction to turn away as if smelling something unsavory, though in truth there is really no smell at all. When a city is being carved up it is often a magnificent sight, one that we feel compelled to stare at. As I have driven from my home in Peidu in the north to Taipei, I've observed over the years the way in which the bodies of Hsichih and Tunghu have been repeatedly carved up. In the beginning there were still many green areas where people planted vegetables and traditional Taiwanese three-sided courtyard homes, but rapidly growing high rise apartment blocks have now turned these into dead end spaces awaiting elimination. The temple to the side of the new highway hemmed in by high-rise blocks is a solitary testament to the fact that religious brilliance cannot be moved.

City – A Microcosm of Confusion

Beyond the recently planted but dying palm trees, in an office building complex which boasts of its carefully planned underground piping, is a two story high scrap metal yard, an orderly park with trees amidst the wilderness. Different roads crisscross, rise and fall without end, whether from Keelung to Taipei or to Mucha and Wuku. Having climbed to the top of a hill these roads seem to me to as if I've jumped into the confused remains of a modern city.

City – Skin and Bones Mixed Together

Our city is currently in a process of upturning the land on which we live, so that the upper levels are inverted and the soil on the surface (perhaps itself from some lower level) has still more dirt placed on top of it. Unfortunately the city is not all grassy areas, it comes with a cerebral cortex of human memories, a layer of past collective physical warmth. By carving up the body, places that were once familiar become an eyesore and earth that cannot be turned is transformed into some unrelated scar. On the one hand we are captivated by the image, on the other our mind is an ocean of confusion.

City – A Lost Search

Riverbeds that need to be dredged have instead been made deeper and wider as cranes and diggers hurry about their business on bits of almost unrecognizable green land. In the fire red light of the setting sun I see a bizarre inverted image of the yet to be completed elevated highway. On the disappearing distant mountains climb dazzling square box homes. All of this appears as from a bird's eye view from the corner of my eye, as I fly from the car and float suspended in the air above the road to Taipei.

Am I searching for the city or is the lost city leaping towards me?

City Body (Project Structure)

Utilizing Biomechanics

The City Body project seeks a work style and work groups that can be creatively expanded. As a result, it is necessary to maintain a link between an identifiable narrative center and individual innovation, so that the aesthetic of everything is expanded as different elements are mixed together. Recipes

often talk of the need to “cook on both sides until golden yellow”, “stir until it boils,” providing many associated ideas of organic cooperation and a stark contrast with the appearance of a city carved up by diggers. In describing the city as a carved up body what is immediately noticeable is that a city is not an organic whole made up of recipe-like elements. In the body sensitive sensors constantly measure the distance between the current situation and set objectives reflecting a feedback control that demands sensors are redefined and a structure based on constant supplements and rebirth

The operation of any bio organism is the result of precise coordination. In the same way, City Body is a quest for an effective model for the structure of the project.

We are prepared not to use a joint exhibition venue, allowing anyone who wants to take part to do so whenever convenient and to “present work” in whatever format they decide. No restrictions will be placed on either form of expression or geographical area. The only stipulation is that works must be as creative as possible. From the conceptualization of the work to its taking shape we will make public the telephone number, E-mail address and FAX number of all participants, welcoming a mixture of forms and organic change.

These issued works will be responded to through discussion, providing a point from which further debate can start. In other words, discussion will be used as a formal way of displaying everything. The City Body project takes as a shared starting point for all participants the search for the city. At the same time, the focus of our discussion will be the individual journeys taken from a common origin, utilizing this same starting point as a core focus for both methodology and narration whilst allowing maximum flexibility in conclusions, even encouraging diversity and the results it creates. When the works are exhibited, discussion will be held at a fixed time each day in a key public location in the Taipei area.

Connecting the geographical location of different works – area media
Connecting central discussion areas----Influential public discussion locations
Connecting reborn discussions----Publication and the Internet

All discussions that took place as a result of the City Body Project were edited and included in a published work detailing the experience. This is not however the last word on the material, focusing instead on the inclusion of subjects likely to stimulate still further discussion, including:

-- Original Material: Manuscripts, survey diaries, segments of objects, stories and graffiti produced by participants. Documents, records and images collected by the project coordinator.

--Data selected and used in combinations by participants to narrate their own works and individual arguments made during discussions on the City Body Project

---Data and selected comments chosen and blended by the project coordinator to stimulate further debate.

---Data from viewers that extend subjects discussed, together with data and records that possess virtual or derivative value.