



SITE SANTA FE PRESENTS

SITElab 9: R. Luke DuBois: A More Perfect Union

January 20 – April 4, 2018

OPENING EVENTS

Friday, January 19

Members Preview: 5-6 pm

Public Opening Reception: 6-7 pm

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE

Saturday, January 20

6:30 pm

R. Luke DuBois with Bora Yoon



For Immediate Release. In January 2018, SITE Santa Fe will present a solo exhibition of New York-based artist R. Luke DuBois. This exhibition will feature a range of new and recent works that explore democracy, elections, politics, and demographics.

Central to the exhibition is *Hindsight is Always 20/20* (2008), a work that synthesizes the State of the Union addresses by 41 US presidents, organizing their most frequently used words into the familiar descending format of the Snellen eye chart. Showing the top 66 words of each American presidents' State of the Union addresses from George Washington through George W. Bush, these word charts reflect the themes, ideals, language, and topics of their age, allowing viewers to experience American history through political rhetoric. Combining the format of the eye chart with the rhetoric of the American President, *Hindsight is Always 20/20* echoes and explores the metaphorical vision the electorate must hope for in each successive leader.

Image: R. Luke DuBois, *Learning Machine #1: Values*, 2016, AVM voting machine (large all-in-one, ca. 1945) computer, cameras, lights, screen, Courtesy of the artist and bitforms gallery, New York.

While *Hindsight* offers a particular kind of linguistic portrait of 41 presidents, this exhibition will also feature two more recent works profiling our current and most recent president. These works include: *facist.republican* (2016), a twitter-based portrait of Donald Trump, and *Obama* (2017), a portrait of our 44th president through fragments of his public addresses over eight years in office.

Exploring the mechanics and structures of the electoral process are DuBois's *Learning Machines*, repurposed mid-twentieth century voting machines that DuBois has hacked to create an interactive "voting" experience that highlights the lack of choice we can feel when presented with reductive choices in the voting booth.

Stepping up to one of DuBois's *Learning Machines* (originally made by the Automatic Voting Machine Corporation in the 1940s and 50s) participants use them to vote on a series of choices posed as dichotomies that range from the poignant to the absurd. Upon voting, the participant receives a unique video response as real-time results from voting are displayed in the gallery.

***R. Luke DuBois: A More Perfect Union* is generously supported by Elizabeth Sackler and by the patrons of SITE Forum. Additional support for the presentation of *Hindsight is Always 20/20* provided by the Thoma Foundation.**

About R. Luke DuBois

R. Luke DuBois is a composer, performer, conceptual new media artist, programmer, and teacher based in New York.

DuBois holds a doctorate in music composition from Columbia University, and has lectured and taught worldwide on interactive sound and video performance. His works have been exhibited in institutions around the world including: the Insitut Valencià d'Art Modern, Spain; Haus der elektronischen Künste, Switzerland; the 2008 Democratic National Convention, Denver; Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis; San Jose Museum of Art; National Constitution Center, Philadelphia; Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art; Daelim Contemporary Art Museum, Seoul; 2007 Sundance Film Festival; the Sydney Film Festival; the Smithsonian American Art Museum; PROSPECT.2 New Orleans; and the Aspen Institute.

DuBois has collaborated on interactive performance, installation, and music production work with many artists and organizations including Toni Dove, Todd Reynolds, Jamie Jewett, Bora Yoon, Michael Joaquin Grey, Matthew Ritchie, Elliott Sharp, Michael Gordon, Maya Lin, Bang on a Can, Engine 27, Harvestworks, and LEMUR, and was the director of the Princeton Laptop Orchestra for its 2007 season.

About SITElab

SITElab is an experimental exhibition series presented in a newly configured gallery space located off the lobby of SITE's building. SITElab showcases new directions in the work of established and emerging artists and feature new works out of artists' studios, experimental, interdisciplinary, and community-based projects. *R. Luke DuBois: A More Perfect Union* is the ninth exhibition in the SITElab series.

Image: R. Luke DuBois, *Learning Machine #1: Values*, 2016, AVM voting machine (large all-in-one, ca. 1945) computer, cameras, lights, screen, Courtesy of the artist and bitforms gallery, New York.

Public Program: Sound and Spectacle:

(((PHONATION)))

R. Luke DuBois and Bora Yoon

Saturday, January 20, 6:30 pm

Marlene Nathan Meyerson Auditorium

In conjunction with *A More Perfect Union*, SITE Santa Fe will present a performance by R. Luke DuBois and Bora Yoon. New media artist, programmer, and composer R. Luke DuBois will pair with composer, vocalist, and multi-instrumentalist Bora Yoon in an explorative performance. Yoon's found sounds, invented instruments, and voice will combine with DuBois' live video manipulations for a conceptual and immersive concert.

Tickets for Sound and Spectacle are \$15 general admission / \$10 all members, students. To purchase tickets, please visit [R. Luke DuBois and Bora Yoon](#) or call 505.989.1199. With the opening of SITE's new building and auditorium, SITE launches an exciting series of performance art and experimental music related to the themes of the exhibitions.

About SITE Santa Fe

SITE Santa Fe opened in 1995 to present what was then the only international biennial of contemporary art in the United States, and one of only a handful of biennials around the world. From the very beginning, SITE established a commitment to a risk-taking and visionary perspective that continues to drive its programs today. Year-round exhibitions and educational programs encourage the creative and intellectual potential of the audience and uphold the region's tradition of fostering avant-garde art.

As an institution with a year-round contemporary art program, SITE hosts an Art & Culture series of lectures and performances, as well as an extensive education and outreach program for local schools, all of which attract over 20,000 local, national and international visitors annually. Since its launch, SITE has presented over 100 exhibitions — including ten biennials — of works by over 750 international artists.

SITE's New Building

In October 2017, after a year-long construction and an \$11.5 million capital campaign, SITE re-opened with a bold and expanded building designed by SHoP Architects. This expansion added 14,000 square feet of interior and exterior space to SITE's original beer warehouse building, bringing SITE's new square footage to 34,000. SITE's expanded building features a new entrance lobby, an expanded SITElab gallery, a new museum store, a coffee and snack bar, a new Auditorium, an Education Lab, and several outdoor exhibition and gathering spaces.

sitesantafe.org

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