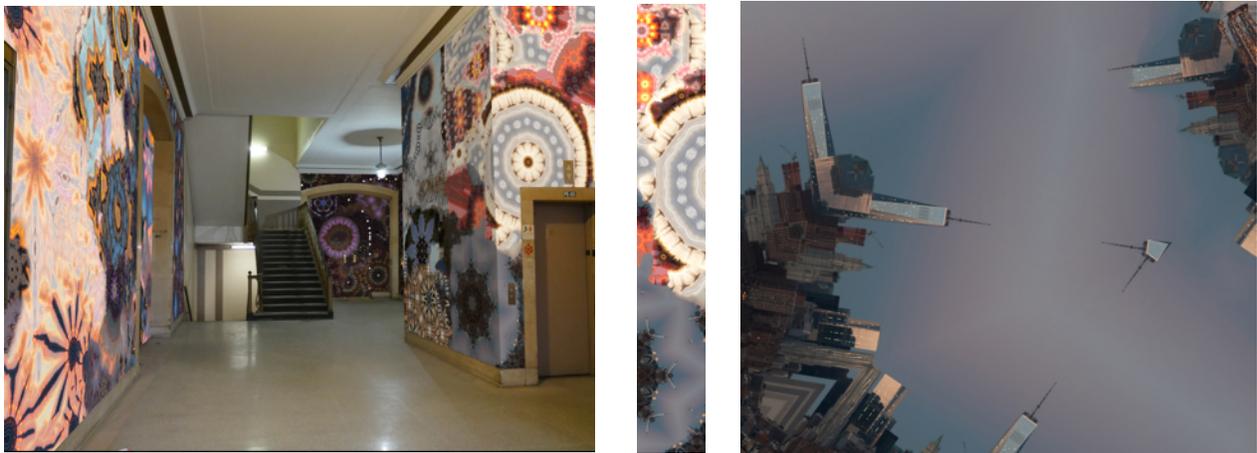


Anne Spalter transforms lobby of SPRING/BREAK Art Show into psychedelic portal with kaleidoscopic mural installation

Curated by Elizabeth Keithline, Precession is 3,000 square feet of “digital wallpaper” composed of algorithmically manipulated footage of New York City

New York, NY — February 23, 2016 — Visitors of SPRING/BREAK Art Show March 1-7 will enter the fair through *Precession*, a site-specific lobby installation for which Brooklyn-based digital mixed media artist Anne Spalter has shot and transformed high resolution footage of iconic New York imagery—specifically, the Manhattan skyline and Coney Island—into psychedelic, algorithmic kaleidoscopes digitally developed using proprietarily coded Adobe plugins.



Left to right: Installation mockup; sample panel (14' wallpaper strip); detail of strip

Covering the native curves, corners, and arches of the Beaux-Arts 34th Street Post Office Building's stairwell will be nearly 200 custom wallpaper strips punctuated by 12 interspersed screens playing video works of the same algorithmic production technique. The cross-media content selection, which also includes 32 digital paintings printed on canvas, is arranged by the original footage's time of day—adding an ombre transitional effect to the notions of speed, motion, and adrenaline evoked by the fact that the artist shot much of her first-person footage leaning out of a helicopter over the East River or from an in-motion amusement park ride at Coney Island.

Precession, literally meaning “a change in the orientation of the rotational axis of a rotating body” (like the wobble of a spinning top), references both the kaleidoscopic manipulation of Spalter’s first-person footage and the seminal writings of French philosopher Jean Baudrillard. The cultural theorist writes in *Simulacra and Simulation* (1981) that the human experience is a simulation of reality; that symbolic representations have come to *precede* organic perception – “the precession of simulacra,” he calls it.

“An amusement park is modeled on real-world artifacts—trains, airplanes, cities—while a distant or birds-eye view of the Manhattan skyline is quite fantastical with its colored lights, speeding vehicles, and lit-up skyscrapers,” said Spalter of her choice of source footage. “In *Precession*, I wanted to capture the perceptual, experiential, and emotional interplay of the two familiar landscapes.”

Precession will be on view at Skylight at Moynihan Station (421 Eighth Avenue at 34th Street) from March 1 – 7, 2016. The fair is open 5 – 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1 (VIP/press preview); noon – 8 p.m. from March 1 – 6; and noon – 5 p.m. on Monday, March 7.

Generous sponsorship for *Precession* comes from Spoonflower, which fabricated the custom wallpaper, and Electric Objects, which provided the installation’s video screens.

To view images and videos from the installation, please visit www.annespalter.com/precession.

ABOUT ANNE SPALTER

Anne Morgan Spalter explores the relationship between observation and algorithm to create modern landscapes. Permanent collections include the Albright-Knox Museum (Buffalo, NY); the Rhode Island School of Design Museum (Providence, RI); the Victoria & Albert Museum (London, UK); and others. With a longstanding goal of integrating art and technology, Spalter created and taught the first digital fine art courses at RISD and Brown, authoring the highly cited text *The Computer in the Visual Arts* (1999). Currently, Spalter’s work is part of the 2015/2016 Lumen Prize Global Exhibition tour. She holds an MFA in painting from RISD and a BA in mathematics and visual art from Brown. Her website is www.annespalter.com.

ABOUT ELIZABETH KEITHLINE

Elizabeth Keithline is an artist, curator and does business as Wheel Arts Administration. Her clients include the Rhode Island State Council On the Arts Percent For Art program, the Barr Foundation, the New England Foundation For the Arts, the Charles River Conservancy, the Governors Island Art Fair, Wheaton College, Art In The Park Worcester, and private artist clients. Keithline has contributed to Sculpture Magazine, Public Art Review, the Americans For The Art’s Public Art Network blog, and Art New England. She is currently creating a public art project for the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District. Her website is www.elizabethkeithline.com.