

## VOICES

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### Daily Traces

by *Holly Willis*

on February 1, 2009 12:56 PM

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Zellen3.jpg

Zellen3.jpg

projects frequently explore the urban environment and she often uses words in some manner. *Ghost City*, for example, is a dense, interactive collage referencing the city and reinterpreting urban space for the space of computer screens. More recently, Zellen has been making animated projects. *Walking in the City* is a double-screen depiction of jaunts through city streets enriched with sentence fragments, while *Structured Time* sets words in motion to create kinetic poetry. With her newest project, Zellen creates another kind of collage. In this case, she collected versions of the comic strip *Real Life Adventures*, from which she removed all text; she has also been tracing portions from the front page of *The New York Times* as a daily practice. *Without a Trace* unites these elements in random assortments every day, bringing together the drawings, three words from the comic strip and a comic image. The result? Provocative koans that are at once enigmatic and compelling. The outlines of figures in the newspaper traces and the comics are haunting, while the text - today it's "Steep Slide in U.S. Economy as Unsold Goods Pile Up" - is grounded in the everyday world. There's room for contemplation and creative reinterpretation, as if you're reading tarot cards pulled from the world around us.

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Turbulence, an organization dedicated to commissioning and sponsoring networked-based art, just announced two new commissions, including *Without a Trace*, a project by Los Angeles new media artist Jody Zellen. Zellen moves across many different platforms - she works in photography, installation, artists' books and network-based art; her

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## Make Your Mouth Water

Soup is straightforward in theory. It's complexity lies in the execution... in how you build flavors and the first flavor layer can come from a mirepoix. Unlike "soup," "mirepoix" is fun to say and it's the colors of the Irish flag, which makes me like it even more. 

Jan 5, 2011 at 8:00 AM

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*Maryu commented on Federal Government Preparing a Crackdown on State Medical Marijuana:*  
I totally agree with saturnx311 - the people of California v...



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