

ECOARTBLOG

ECOLOGICAL AESTHETICS
ART RESEARCH
LAND POETRY

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2009

EcoArtTech launches Eclipse App



EcoArtTech has created a new web-based application for turbulence.org that mashes up Flickr photos of national parks with real-time air quality data. It's a good effort and the air quality of national parks is something worth investigating. But as air-quality is beyond our individual control, I wonder what an effort such as this can accomplish. Yes, Ansel Adams photos led to the creation of new national parks in California's Sierras, but what can we artists do today? Hacks of existing data seem to only corroborate what already know, or at least what those of us paying attention to the environment already know.

I'm not trying to bash EcoArtTech's efforts, but a project such as this only makes me think of the bigger forces (i.e., government regulations) that need to be enacted to improve air quality. And personally, I'd rather see those efforts directed at the highly populated areas such as communities surrounding the Port of LA and Long Beach, where air pollution has serious, direct impact on hundreds of thousands of people.

If anything, a project such as this is a good representation of the futility I feel with so many of these issues. What can we do? At least a shout in the digital wilderness is a start.

> Experience the [Eclipse project here](#).

> More by [EcoArtTech here](#).

BY MATTHIAS MERKEL HESS :: [PERMALINK](#) :: 

LABELS: [AIR](#), [APPLICATIONS](#), [PARKS](#), [WEBSITES](#)

3 COMMENTS:

[George Goodwin](#) said...

While the government may have the power to effectively change things, it first has to know that these things (such as air pollution controls) need to be changed. Then it needs to know that there is citizen support for those changes. I.E. if it goes and does something unpopular by itself then it could get burned - imagine, for example, raising the tax rates 300%

MOST VIEWED POSTS

1. Cardboard Taxidermy, Redneck Craft and "Assquatch Aliens"
2. Green Porno with Isabella Rossellini
3. The Snuggle Vs. Eyes Wide Shut
4. Colbert and Hannity: America Is the Greatest Best Country Ever
5. Fluorescent Lighting Field
6. The Fate of Bananas, or Why It Pays to Have Sex
7. Foregrounding Trees
8. Jared Pankin: Bonsai
9. Art + Environment Conference in Reno
10. Bacteria Culture

BLOG ARCHIVE

- ▶ 2010 (1)
- ▼ 2009 (55)
 - ▶ December 2009 (2)
 - ▶ November 2009 (2)
 - ▶ July 2009 (1)
 - ▶ June 2009 (6)
 - ▶ May 2009 (9)
 - ▶ April 2009 (13)
 - ▼ March 2009 (1)
 - EcoArtTech launches Eclipse App
 - ▶ February 2009 (12)
 - ▶ January 2009 (9)
- ▶ 2008 (175)
- ▶ 2007 (12)

OTHER ECO-ART BLOGS

[Abigail Doan](#)
[Art and Sustainability](#)
[Arts & Ecology](#)
[Design Squish Blog](#)
[Eco Art Space Blog](#)
[Ecoviz](#)
[Free Soil](#)
[Greenmuseum Blog](#)
[Latitudes Blog](#)
[Strange Weather](#)
[The Center for Sustainable Practice in the Arts](#)
[Works In Progress](#)

ART BLOGS

[Anaba](#)
[Art 21 blog](#)
[Art Fag City](#)
[Art News Blog](#)
[Art To Go](#)
[Art.Blogging.LA](#)
[Beer and Sci Fi](#)

SEARCH THIS SITE



RECOMMENDED READING



Mammut Magazine

SPONSORED BY



WallArtForLess.com
 wall art picasso canvas art

ECOARTBLOG

without public support. There would be riots in the streets. True, air pollution controls aren't going to cause people to run amok in the streets, but the government still has to know that this is a topic with popular public support. I'd say getting the word out then petitioning your local congressman, EPA rep and possibly a few non-profit orgs would be the way to go. Get them connected and in touch with a bunch of people who care and watch the air pollution levels drop.

APRIL 1, 2009 12:16 PM

Matthias Merkel Hess said...



George, thanks for your comment. I agree!

APRIL 3, 2009 9:28 AM

Anonymous said...

Interesting blog and reading:

"It's a good effort and the air quality of national parks is something worth investigating. But as air-quality is beyond our individual control, I wonder what an effort such as this can accomplish."

I think it is important to remember that Ecoarttech's work is after all an work of art. And art does not have to have an agenda -- in fact art does not have to accomplish anything at all. With regards to "Eclipse" it seems to me (on one level) to be an exercise in experimental aesthetics governed by a real-time data source. Nothing more and quite interesting at that.

-JP

MAY 22, 2009 11:03 AM

[Post a Comment](#)

LINKS TO THIS POST

[Create a Link](#)

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)

- C-Monster
- Critical Spatial Practice
- Dough On the Go! (Doug Harvey)
- Eyeteeth: A Journal of incisive ideas.
- For Your Art
- i heart photograph
- LA Times Culture Monster
- Le Territoire des Sens
- Material Concern
- Modern Art Notes
- newsgrist
- Off Center
- The Expanded Field
- The Little Red Blog of Revolutionary Knitting
- The Museumist
- tryharder
- Unframed (LACMA)
- We Make Money Not Art

GREEN BLOGS

- Aguanomics
- BBC | The Green Room
- BLDG Blog
- Breakthrough Generation
- Breakthrough Institute Blog
- Chemists Without Borders
- Cities and Oceans of If
- Dot Earth
- Ecogeek
- Ecology of Absence
- Ecoshack
- Explore.org
- Green Daily
- green economics
- Green Is Sexy
- Homegrown evolution
- Inhabitat
- Lu 'n Am: Affordable Green
- Nature Trumps: An LA River Blog
- Po-Po-Mo Ho
- Pruned
- Real Climate
- Reality Sandwich
- Semiotics of The Ride
- Sustain Newsladder
- The Compact
- The Greenwashing Blog
- Treehugger
- Wired: Planet Earth

ARTIST PAGES

- Alan Sonfist
- Andrea Zittel
- Avant Guardians (textbook)
- Catherine Page Harris
- Chris Jordan
- Clorafilas
- Diane Burko
- EcoArtTech
- Elaine Bradford
- Eve S. Mosher
- Fallen Fruit
- farmlab
- Free Soil
- Fritz Haeg
- Future Farmers
- Hamish Fulton
- Harmen de Hoop
- Helen and Newton Harrison
- Joel Tauber
- Justin Marable



Groupon

Boston's Deal of the Day

50-90%

off the Very Best of Your City's Dining and Events

One Ridiculously Huge Coupon Each Day

[GET TODAY'S DEAL](#)

www.Groupon.com/Boston
Ads by Google



Sitemeter count
82,529

Ads by Google

- [Eclipse](#)
- [Air Pollution Water](#)
- [Eclipse IDE Plugin](#)
- [2010 Eclipse Manual](#)
- [Eclipse Java Help](#)

Justine Cooper
Karrie Hovey
Katie Holten
Ken Ehrlich
Los Angeles Urban Rangers
Lucrecia Troncoso
Maegan Hill-Carroll
Moisture
Otis Bardwell
People Powered
Pleistocene Revolution
Samantha Clark
Sebastian Lemm
Sierra Brown
Temporary Services
Temporary Travel Office
Terry Evans Photography
Tim Knowles
Xavier Cortada

ON VIEW: CURRENT AND RECENT SHOWS

Girona, Spain | Natural Balance
London | Radical Nature
Tucson | Trouble in Paradise
Montreal | Tools for Actions
LA | ecoLOGIC Los Angeles
Irvine, CA | Scalable Relations
Baltimore | Tract House
LA | Zone 5 in the City
Bronx | Sound the Alarm
Purchase, NY | Off The Grid

ECO ART ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Land Arts of the American West
(Univ. of New Mexico)
University of New Mexico Art &
Ecology

GREEN CURATORIAL/ART HISTORY

hibrids.net
Latitudes.org
Translocal.org

DOT ORGS

Architecture for Humanity
Center For Land Use
Interpretation
eco art space
Eco Arts
Friends of the Los Angeles River
greenmuseum
International Crane Foundation
LA Bicycle Kitchen
LA Post Carbon
Le Laboratoire
Livable Places
Machine Project
S. Florida Environmental Art
Project
Smockshop
Superuse
The Breakthrough Institute
The Land (New Mexico)
The Land (Thailand)
Women in the City

ABOUT ME

MATTHIAS MERKEL



HESS

I am an artist based in Los Angeles, California. For more info, please visit my

[website.](#)

[VIEW MY COMPLETE PROFILE](#)

[Ads by Google](#)

[Prices for Eclipse](#)

[Tomcat Plugin](#)

[New Eclipse Film](#)

[Eclipse Home Health](#)

[Eclipse a Saga](#)

[Ads by Google](#)

[XML Editor Eclipse](#)

[Eclipse Web Site](#)

[Testng Tutorial](#)

[Eclipse Fan Club](#)

[Eclipse Video Clip](#)