

Apparitions in the Backyard

Apparitions in the Backyard is an interdisciplinary installation in which 32 cross-fading images are projected via dvd onto an orchestrated grouping of 18 manna-covered columns. This work is designed to embody and celebrate via a kind of spectacle the experiences of awe, sublimity, delight, and presence.

The ten-foot tall columns are covered with manna, food from heaven, made from every and any piece of 8 ½" x 11" printed matter that comes into one's midst – from the most prosaic to specifically selected material, from ads and solicitations received in the mail to world news to historical and liturgical material to personal photographs and writings. As well, the projection is comprised of a broad range of images including drawing, painting, photographs, hand-colored photocopies, and other assorted media.

Apparitions in the Backyard is conceived to amplify the space of being, that moment when we are so keenly aware of ourselves as weighted matter, of gravity, of being planted on the ground, and at the same time, the wonder of it all, that awareness that life and death are but one thing, that living is our calling, and that in that living we can overcome fear. The overall pace set by the film stands on a fulcrum, not too andante, not too allegro, just enough to bring one to attention. This kind of awareness comes at any time, any day, perhaps every day in the midst of everyday living, when a certain sensation emerges, where the confidence of human autonomy and the humility of gratitude meet.