RODEO SOUNDIAL (2009)

Microphone and hydrophone field recordings (each 12h 25m 12s), twelve types of sand collected on Rodeo Beach, nonconductive silicone oil, incandescent lamps, Cosco Busan *heavy bunker crude oil, personal effects of the artist used during* Cosco Busan *oil spill cleanup, construction materials, sound reproduction materials. Made possible in part by a grant from Richard and Shirley Thieme.*

On November 7, 2007, the *Cosco Busan* hit the Bay Bridge and dumped 50,000 gallons of heavy bunker crude oil into the San Francisco Bay.

Tide and current conditions spread the resultant slick around the Bay and beyond before it was contained.

Rodeo Beach, just down the road from the Headlands Center for the Arts, was one of the most heavily impacted sections of the coast.

Hundreds of gallons of oil were recovered along Rodeo Beach in the initial clean up, but much remains. Storms in mid-2008 brought oil to the surface and the beach was closed while crews removed thousands of pounds of contaminated sand.

Oil continues to be surface at the beach after storms.

Two days before the spill, the artist had visited Rodeo Beach.

Two days after the spill, the artist collected oil and tar on Ocean Beach in San Francisco in a volunteer cleanup effort.

It is believed that it will take decades for the Bay to recover.

On October 2, 2009, the artist sat one complete tide cycle at the south end of Rodeo Beach for the companion work *SITTING THE TIDE, RODEO BEACH (after Andromeda)*.

The tide cycle experienced that day, twelve hours, twenty five minutes, and twelve seconds long, was recorded with a microphone and hydrophone (underwater microphone).

RODEO SOUNDIAL presents twelve copies of that recording as a sounddial. Among other things, the work is a tidal clock.

NOTE ON TIDAL CLOCKS

This sounddial tracks lunar tidal time; it takes just under twelve and a half hours to complete one cycle. It therefore trails standard clocks by roughly fifty minutes a day, resynchronizing with standard earth time once only per lunar month.

Each station in the sounddial reproduces the same tide recording, but successively offset from its predecessor by one twelfth of the recording's length (one hour, two minutes, one second).

Walking the circle clockwise, advancing just over an hour at each station, one therefore encounters the entire tidal cycle. The full tide may thus be heard in two different ways: either by sitting at any station for its twelve and a half hour duration; or by walking the circle for a mere one hour, two minutes, and one second.

Each station is also itself a functional tidal clock: if started precisely at low tide, it will indicate low and high tides in perpetuity.