



corpus

You can see the paper as empty of words or full of space...for the blank paper, like the open mouth, is the possibility of speaking or writing.

In the main hall of Mass MoCA, forty ceiling mounted mechanisms pneumatically lifted and released single sheets of translucent onionskin paper. Moving at the pace of the breath, the machines inhaled to pick up a paper from a stack and exhaled to release it to the floor. With the passage of time, millions of sheets accumulated in piles on the floor, each blank page full of space and, like the open mouth, the possibility of speaking or writing. Twenty-four large horn-shaped speakers slowly descended and ascended from the rafters to meet the papers on the floor. A unique voice was present in each of the downward facing speakers, and the twenty-four voices created a chorus of recordings, reading texts composed from the intersections of found fragments, phrases underlined, and slips of words, creating a layered, complex and open context through which the blankness of the paper moved. —AH

Materials

40 ceiling mounted paper-drop mechanisms consisting of a computer-controlled, pneumatically-moved vacuum paper lift actuator, compressor, paper; recorded sound; amplifiers; 24 bell-shaped speakers; spinning speaker mechanism; silk covered windows; light