

Fault Whisper, 2014/2015

Living Lenses (Po Shu Wang and Louise Bertelsen)

Public Art Installation, Fault Line Park, San Diego

Living Lenses site-specific art installation for the Fault Line Park in downtown San Diego is titled *Fault Whisper*. Completed in phases, the installation is marked by two large-scale, mirror finished, stainless steel spheres positioned on opposite sides of the shallow fault rupture of the Rose Canyon Fault System that runs diagonally across the park. The west sphere is equipped with a viewfinder, through which park visitors can see the east sphere being exactly at the center of view at the time of installation in 2015. Any future fault movement will create an offset along the sightline, and will be noticeable to the viewer. An accelerator installed below the spheres deep into the fault rupture monitors the Earth's movements in real time. Its movement and data stream is processed into musical notes that are gently broadcast from the west sphere viewfinder. Park visitors can scan the QR code near the artwork and share it with friends to eavesdrop on the Earth, at the rupture, thereby creating a remote intimacy that connects the local fault line with the global tectonic reality.

The on-going exploration of the world is a major theme in the work of Living Lenses, an artist group founded in 1999 by Po Shu Wang and the late Louise Bertelsen (1973-2013). The multi-disciplinary collective focuses on both the physical environment and the societal or public aspect that invites interaction with artwork. Their aim in art is to encourage the public to be their collaborators. Most of their site-integrated artworks, therefore, are physical mechanisms that invite dynamic engagement and are in continuous evolution. Living Lenses has worked on public art projects both in the United States and internationally. Their numerous public art commissions include *Relativator* at the San Diego International Airport, as well as projects in San Francisco, San Jose, Sacramento, Charlotte, Seattle, Canada and Norway, among others. Living Lenses' core artist Po Shu Wang was born in Hong Kong and educated in visual art in Rome, Italy. He currently lives and works in Berkeley, California.

The City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture commissioned the artwork through a partnership with the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Diego, Civic San Diego, and Pinnacle International Development.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO COMMISSION FOR ARTS AND CULTURE

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