

Dennis Childers
Installation Porposal
Created June 6th, 2011

“Manhole”

It is now a well-established fact that our natural resources are rapidly drying up causing irreparable damage to the environment. Nevertheless, we are inexorably dependent on comforts that rely on the exploitation of these natural resources. This relationship between humans and resources is evident everywhere in our environment by the abundance of cables, wires, and manholes that we have learned to ignore and make part of our daily landscape. These cables and manholes allow us to get the energy resources that we take for granted and are indispensable for modern life from electricity, water, and sewage to the internet and phone lines. The aim of this installation is to bring to the forefront of our consciousness how ingrained in our daily living the use of resources has become by highlighting the significance of these simple objects that we have grown to ignore.

This installation will consist of large prints 42”x 38” of manhole covers photographed in various locations in the US, Europe, and South America in the pasted 5 years. Hung below the prints will be monitors running my spinning manhole animations made with the hundreds of photographs taken in these locations. As always I like to leave room for expanding the installation once I actually start the piece but this pretty much gives you an idea of what I hope to do in this exhibition. Something I have been researching and plan to do with the manhole project is to create clear silicone castings of manholes and projecting video and lighting effects from behind. I also have been photographing wires dangling above us and may want to include this in this installation as well. As always I look forward to your response and hope you will consider my proposal in the coming gallery exhibitions of 2012. If selected once I receive notification I will start preparing all the details of this installation.