

**INTRUDE 366**  
**PROPOSAL**

**TITLE: *EYE TO EYE***

**PARTICIPATING ARTISTS**

Anne LaPrade Seuthe, USA  
Alicia Hunsicker, USA  
Deborah Garner, USA  
Lola Baltzell, USA

**Proposed Venues:**

We propose that this performance take place in a public space that serves as portal for people entering, leaving, or moving about Shanghai. We have identified the following locations as potential venues: Hongqiao Airport, Shanghai Main Train Station, Shanghai Main Subway Station, Thumb Plaza in the International Pudong New Area

**Preferred exhibition date:** Any in, or past December 2008

This project has not been previously exhibited and was created specifically with the intentions of Intrude 366 in mind.

“*Eye to Eye*” is a North American expression that means two individuals (or groups) agree to acknowledge each other’s viewpoints. It is a courageous act to see “*Eye to Eye*”. It causes one to open oneself to the possibility of new thinking. It is a step towards standing on common ground and arriving at mutual understanding

In this time of cross cultural exchange, it is more important than ever that this concept of seeing “*Eye to Eye*” be promoted. For Intrude 366, four American artists using the simplest of means, and drawing on over 2000 years of Eastern and Western art history, will construct a strand comprised of 734 visual representations of eyes sourced from centuries of evolving culture. (366 on front and 366 on back)

In “*Eye to I*”, we will use standard 4.25 inch long shipping tags as surfaces. Onto the front and backside of each tag’s surface we will print or paint image of eyes culled from the canons of art history: From anonymous portraits painted in 3<sup>rd</sup> century c.e. Central Asian cave paintings to the expressive eyes of Picasso’s *Les Femmes d’Alger*, to the stylized eyes of Warhol’s celebrities, and to the piercing eyes of Frida Kahlo’s self-portraits, each of the participating artists will select eye imagery, enlarge them to fit the each side of a standard tag and transfer them to the surfaces using traditional and non-traditional painting and printing techniques such as linoleum block prints and Xerox transfers. Strong visual impact and unity will be produced through the use of the standard surface and by maintaining a restricted palette of blacks, reds, and golds. Each tag will have one Eastern eye and one Western eye - adding another layer of the original concept of *Eye to Eye*.

The resulting *Eye to Eye* strand will be held out at chest level with one of the participating artists holding the first tag at one end and a partner artist based in Shanghai holding the first tag at the other end. This will result in approximately 650 meters of these historic images

being exhibited. Once the entire strand is on display, pedestrians will be invited to cut a tag from either end. As this performance takes place the three accompanying artists will be documenting the performance through video and photography and inviting the public to participate, facilitating the cutting away.

Each cut tag that people take away will serve as a talisman towards seeing eye to eye. And with each tag that is cut, the two representatives from the East and the West will take one step closer to each other. When all 366 tags have been cut and given away, the two artists will stand firmly and confidently, physically and emotionally: *Eye to Eye*.

In Summary, the *Eye to Eye* project collapses the past with the future. It places us in the present to combine images that may be obscure with images that have saturated contemporary culture. *Eye to Eye* underscores the commonality between East and West.

Using the simplest of means, *Eye to Eye* offers profound possibility for forging a rich collaborative cultural vision for the future.